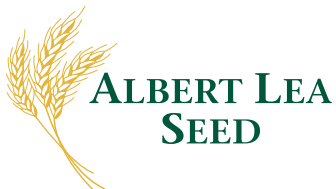


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FIELD DAY GUIDE 2017

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Introduction

Welcome to Practical Farmers' 2017 Field Day Season!

Thank you for your interest in our field days!

Field days are a mainstay of Practical Farmers, bringing farmers and the public together to learn, share knowledge and build a vibrant community of farmers and non-farmers working to strengthen farms and communities throughout Iowa.

FARMER-LED EVENTS

Practical Farmers field days are hosted by our farmer members. Why? Because farmers are the experts on their farming systems, decisions, challenges and solutions. Our farmers believe that sharing their knowledge, discoveries, mistakes and successes benefits everyone. They invite the public onto their farms to learn about topics that span the agricultural spectrum, as well as the intersections between farming and land stewardship, conservation, local foods and more.

FIELD DAYS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE

At Practical Farmers, we take pride in our big tent that includes farms of all sizes and production practices, as well as many non-farmers who support our work, values and the sense of community that membership brings. **You don't need to be a member to attend!** We welcome and invite anyone to attend and learn from our field days.

PFI field days are an excellent place for farmers who aren't members to see what their neighbors are doing, or to share their perspective and insights with other farmers.

They are also ideal outings for families and friends of farmers who want to learn more about the diverse scope of Iowa agriculture.

HOW TO READ THIS GUIDE

This guide is organized chronologically and is color-coded by geographic regions (see map on page 7). You'll find Practical Farmers events up front, events organized by friends of PFI in the back and a "Find Us at the Fair" section on page 41. On pages 62 – 63, you'll find a blank "Notes and Networking" section to record key points or contact details.

FIELD DAY LOGISTICS

Most PFI field days are free. **All PFI events occur rain or shine.** When traveling to our field days, look for this sign along your route. *(Please note: We have no control over changes to Friends of PFI events.)*



SPRING 2018 COVER CROP SERIES

Want to learn about cover crops in row crop and grazing systems? Stay tuned! We'll be organizing a spring field day series for next March and April.

WATCH FOR OTHER EVENTS THIS YEAR!

Practical Farmers routinely plans events throughout the year. Check our website (practicalfarmers.org) for updates – or become a PFI member to get notified about upcoming events.

★ QUESTIONS? Contact the PFI office at (515) 232-5661.

LOOK FOR THESE SYMBOLS IN THE GUIDE:



Learn about PFI Cooperators' Program research at this event



Enjoy food or a meal at the field day

List of 2017 Field Days and Events

Practical Farmers Field Days pg.

NOTE: Each event, except the trip to Dave Brandt's farm, is plotted on the map on pg. 7. The number in parentheses after the event title corresponds to the number you should look for on the map.

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MAY 30 • SIOUX CENTER 9
Grazing Cover Crops (2)

JUNE 8 • HOLLAND 10
Strip-Till and Cover Crop Field Day (3)

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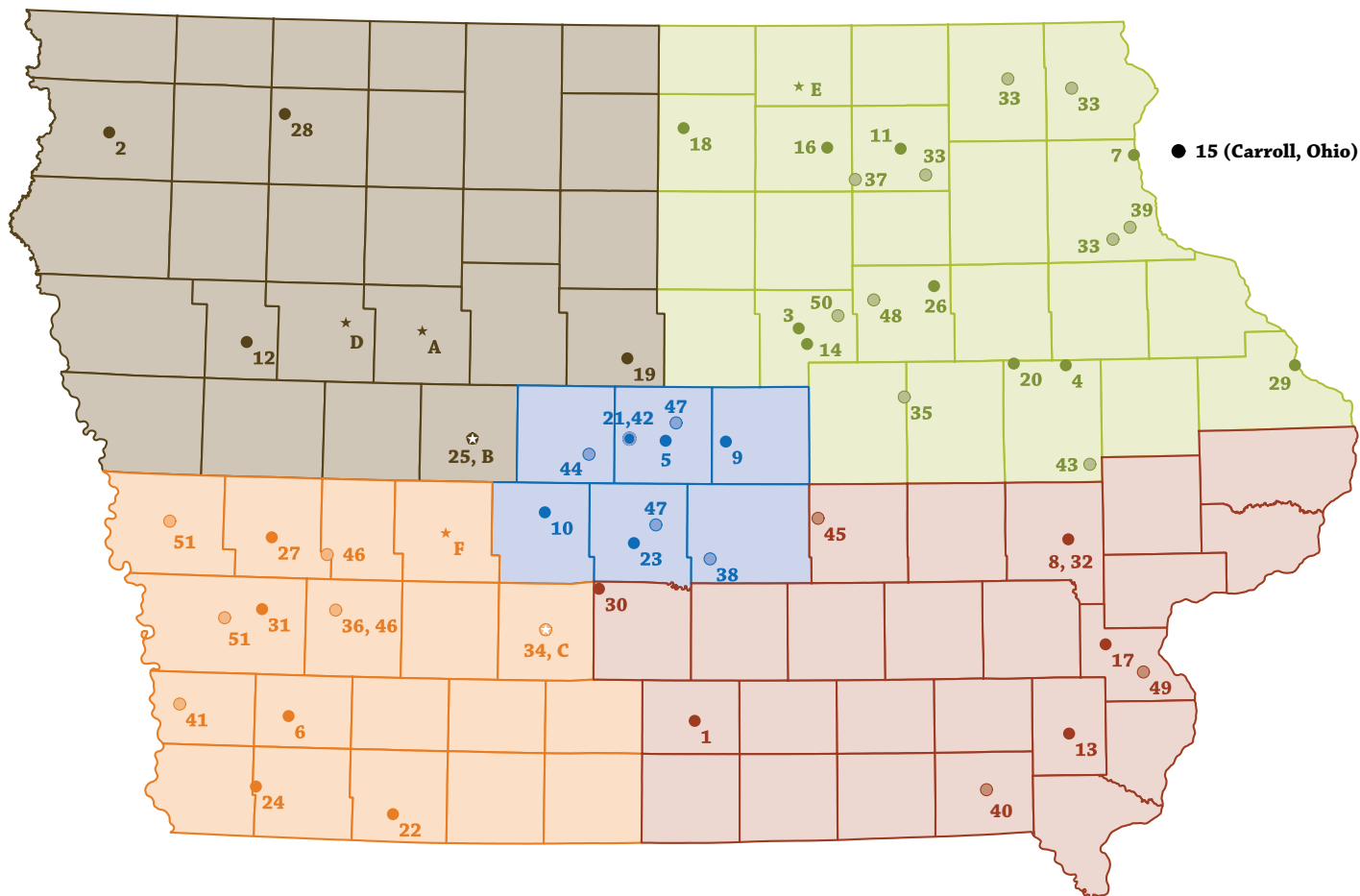
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MAP KEY

- = PFI Field Days and Events
- = Friend of PFI Field Days and Events
- ★ = PFI at the Fair locations



Two-Wheel Tractors: Old Technology, New Inspiration

Calling all weedslayers! Join Jill and antique implement expert Jeff Lauber to learn about a wide variety of antique and vintage-era two-wheel tractors, push seeders, wheel hoes and implements. Jeff will demonstrate and discuss the benefits and challenges of the specific models for current farm use, and will compare the antiques with newer models (where possible). Jill will share her experiences using “absolutely functional” antique and vintage equipment for vegetable production. If weather permits, attendees can try out the “old technology” in the field.

SUNDAY, MAY 21 • 2 – 5 p.m.

Light snack provided

HOST:

Jill Beebout • Blue Gate Farm

749 Wyoming St. • Chariton • 50049

(641) 203-1709 • mail@bluegatefarmfresh.com

bluegatefarmfresh.com

TOPICS:

- Two-wheel tractors
- Old-style seeders (push seeders)
- Wheel hoes
- Implements

SPEAKER:

- **Jeff Lauber** – expert in antique small farm equipment.

Jeff grew up on a 500-acre grain and livestock farm near Winfield and now lives in Columbus Junction. In his youth he had a truck farm, and he worked as diesel mechanic for many years. Jeff is a leading expert on small antique farm implements, both restoration and uses. His goal is to keep these valuable tools off the wall – and get them back into the field.

THE FARM:

Jill Beebout farms at Blue Gate Farm with her husband, Sean Skeehan. They steward 40 acres of family land in southern Marion County, where they raise Certified



Naturally Grown produce, laying hens, honey bees, hay and alpacas; their marketing is done primarily through their CSA and at farmers markets.

DIRECTIONS:

Blue Gate Farm is in Marion County, just over the northern Lucas County line, halfway between Chariton and Knoxville. At the intersection of IA Hwy 14 and Wyoming Street (County Line Road), turn west for 1 mile.

★ Note: Do not approach the farm from the west on Wyoming Street; it is a minimum-maintenance road that is often in poor shape.

Grazing Cover Crops



Matt Schuiteman has been growing a rye cover crop for more than 10 years. Matt, a crop and swine farmer, also raises 40 Shorthorn cattle. The rye provides forage for the cattle – either through grazing or fed as bales. Discussion will cover planting, grazing and baling rye, as well as experimenting with hairy vetch. There will also be a discussion of water quality and soil health, as several of Sioux Center's drinking water wells are located on his farm. The field day will start with lunch at the home farm. You'll then travel to a field 1 mile east to see rye baling.

TUESDAY, MAY 30 • NOON – 3 p.m.

Lunch provided before the program

HOST:

Matt Schuiteman • AJS Farms

3377 400th St. • Sioux Center • 51250

(712) 722-3272 • ajsfarms@premieronline.net

TOPICS:

- Grazing rye and hairy vetch
- Baling rye
- Growing cover crops for seed
- Water quality

THE FARM:

Matt is a fifth-generation farmer. He and his family raise row crops, cattle and swine on their Sioux County farm.

DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. 75 in Sioux Center, travel east for 3.3 miles on 400th Street. The farm is located on the south side of the road.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Friday, May 26.**



SPONSOR:

GREEN THUMB
COMMODITIES

Strip-Till and Cover Crop Field Day

In partnership with Iowa Learning Farms and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Cover crops and strip-tillage are two important tools for helping protect soil and reduce the movement of nutrients from the landscape. Learn how host Fred Abels has adapted his operation to use these practices together while maintaining yields.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Dinner served prior to the program; see details below



HOST:

Fred Abels • K & A Acres Inc.

(319) 640-2002 • farmerfred1981@hotmail.com

LOCATION:

Holland City Park

4th Ave. N. and Main St. • Holland • 50642

Questions and to RSVP: Contact Liz Juchems at (515) 294-5429 or ilf@iastate.edu; iowalearningfarms.org/page/fred-abels

Note: The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the shelter at Holland City Park. After dinner and discussion, attendees will walk to the field site just north of the park.

TOPICS:

• Strip-tillage • Cover crops

SPEAKERS:

- **Mark Hanna** – ISU Extension
- **Sarah Carlson** – Practical Farmers of Iowa

THE FARM:

Fred Abels and his wife, Vicki, farm about 400 acres. Fred acquired the farm from his uncle in the late 1970s after working for other farmers for a few years. He grows corn and soybeans, and also has a cow-calf operation.



DIRECTIONS:

Meet at the Holland City Park, near the intersection of 4th Avenue N and Main Street; it's near the ball diamond. After dinner and discussion, the group will walk to the field which is just 1.5 blocks east of the park.

DINNER DETAILS:

Dinner will be served before the presentation, at the Holland City Park. Beef burgers will be provided by PT Grillers in Morrison.

Tractors and Tools with T.D.

Growing up on a farm, T.D. knew about farm equipment but wasn't familiar with vegetable implements and machinery. As a beginning farmer, machinery was his first big investment. He thought he knew what he needed, but had no way to see or try out options. For this field day, T.D.'s goal is to help other beginning farmers expedite their machinery research. He'll show-and-tell his machinery and tools (he now has what he needs!) for attendees to see – and even try out – in the field. He'll also discuss the cost and process of building his walk-in coolers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9 • 4 – 6 p.m.

Snacks provided following the field day

HOSTS:

T.D. Holub and Sarah Gericke • Garden Oasis Farm, LLC

3262 York Ave. • Coggon • 52218

(319) 558-6481 • gofarmveggies@gmail.com

gofarmveggies.com

TOPICS:

- 50 hp tractors
- Allis Chalmers G
- Water wheel transplanter
- Williams tool bar systems: hilling discs, tines, sweeps
- Perfecta field cultivator
- Caroni rototiller
- 3-point sprayer
- Small square-bale shredder
- Bed lifter
- Jang seeder
- Valley Oak wheel hoe
- Seedling "grow room"
- Soil blocker
- 24-by-12-foot CoolBot cooler

THE FARM:

Garden Oasis Farm has grown from a half-acre farm with a small CSA to an 8-acre vegetable farm with pastured poultry and eggs. T.D. and Sarah hope to create a diverse and sustainable farm near where T.D. was raised. They market their products through CSA, farmers market, grocery stores and restaurants.



DIRECTIONS:

From Troy Mills: Drive north out of town on Troy Mills Road / Main Street. Follow the Main Street curve to the right to join Linn-Buchanan Road, heading east. At the Y-intersection, go left (north) onto Troy Mills Boulevard. After 1 mile, turn right (east) onto 330th Street and go 3 miles. Turn left (north) onto York Avenue.; the farm is 0.5 mile from the turn on the east side of the road.

Grafting, Summer Pruning and New Fruits at Berry Patch

If you're interested in learning about orchard fruits and berries, you won't find a better place to learn than the Berry Patch Farm. Dean will discuss the oft-neglected practice of summer pruning apples and cherries, and show comparisons of trees pruned in 2016 with those left unpruned. Joe Hannan will join Dean to discuss grafting, and they'll look at the success of some recent cherry tree bud grafts. Dean will also show attendees his blueberry, black currant, elderberry and honeyberry plantings, and discuss varieties and management.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Lunch will be provided

HOSTS:

Dean, Judy and Mike Henry • Berry Patch LLC

62785 280th St. • Nevada • 50201

(515) 382-5138 • dean@berrypatchfarm.com

berrypatchfarm.com

TOPICS:

- Bud grafting
- Top grafting
- Summer pruning
- Blueberry production
- Elderberry, honeyberry and black currant production

SPEAKER:

- **Joe Hannan** – ISU Extension

THE FARM:

Dean and Judy Henry have been growing fruit on their farm near Nevada since 1970. They now grow 14 acres of strawberries; 10 acres of blueberries; 6 acres of raspberries; 5 acres of apples; 2 acres of cherries, plums and black raspberries; and 1 acre of currants and gooseberries; in addition to other fruits. They also raise pumpkins, peas, and other vegetables outdoors and in greenhouses. They sell primarily through U-pick and farmers market.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Friday, June 9.**



DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. 30: Head south at the W 4th Street sign onto County Road S14 / 620th Avenue and go 3.9 miles. Turn left (east) onto 280th Street and go 0.75 mile. At the Berry Patch Farm sign, turn left into the driveway and drive up past the cherry trees. Find a map at berrypatchfarm.com

SPONSORS:



Gaining Resilience, One Conservation Step at a Time

Maggie and Steve, along with the speakers, will discuss how they are achieving their primary goal for Resilient Farms – to preserve and improve the property's resilience for the long-term. They are implementing multiple strategic conservation practices to improve soil health; reduce erosion and nutrient runoff; provide wildlife habitat; and increase overall farm diversity. Additionally, Maggie and Steve are updating the building site by demolishing dilapidated structures and increasing the energy-efficiency of remaining structures. Field day attendees will tour the farm's riparian buffer and STRIPS prairie plots.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15 • 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch will be served; the Mills-Montgomery County Cattleman's Association will grill

HOSTS:

Maggie McQuown and Steve Turman • Resilient Farms
1586 200th St. • Red Oak • 51566
(214) 394-4445 • mmcquown@visibleedge.com

TOPICS:

- Riparian buffer
- STRIPS and pollinator native prairie habitats
- Cover crops, no-till and other conservation practices
- Landowner-tenant and farm operator relations
- Conservation Station demo by Iowa Learning Farms

SPEAKERS:

- **Lindsey Barney** – Iowa DNR
- **Brad Riphagen** – Trees Forever
- **Tim Youngquist** – STRIPS program, ISU
- **Lisa and Bryan Huff** – Resilient Farms tenants and farm operators

THE FARM:

Maggie inherited her family's Century Farm in 2011. Her great-grandparents, J.E. and Retta Taylor, purchased the farm in 1899 and named it Pleasant Prospect. When Maggie and her husband, Steve Turman, moved to the farm in 2012, they renamed it Resilient Farms to reflect their goals of long-term sustainability and conservation.

RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Monday, June 12.**



The 170-acre farm features 130 acres of corn-soybean row crops, a farmers market produce garden, a 118-year-old Victorian farmhouse, a new Passivhaus energy-efficient home, several historic farm buildings plus multiple conservation practices dating back to the 1920s.

DIRECTIONS:

From the intersection of U.S. 34 and IA Hwy 48 in Red Oak: Drive west on U.S. 34 for 1 mile and turn left (south) on G Avenue. Drive south 0.75 mile and turn right (west) on 200th Street / County Road H34. Drive 1.2 miles, over two hills. Just over the crest of the second hill, at the mailbox, turn left (south) into Resilient Farms' driveway.

From the intersection of U.S. 34 and U.S. 59 near Emerson: Drive east on U.S. 34; go 3.5 miles and turn right (south) on Boxelder Avenue. Drive south 1 mile and turn left (east) on 200th Street / Co Rd H34. Drive 3.4 miles, passing Evergreen Avenue. Just before the crest of the next hill at the white mailbox, turn right (south) into Resilient Farms' driveway.

SPONSOR:



Using Managed Grazing and CSP to Enhance Biodiversity



Phil and Mary will talk about their on-farm research that examines rotational grazing practices for bobolink nesting success, including pasture management, pasture productivity and diversity, and soil health. They will discuss how they enrolled in Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) activities that promote livestock grazing for nesting grassland birds and allow planting of native warm-season grasses and prairie forbs in cool-season pastures and along farm borders.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 • 2 – 5 p.m.

After the program, stay for a potluck and bonfire to celebrate the summer solstice. Meat will be provided; please bring a side dish to share.

Following the bonfire, you are welcome to camp overnight to maximize birdwatching opportunities. Campsites will be primitive. Please indicate if you plan to stay overnight when you RSVP.

HOSTS:

Phil Specht and Mary Damm • Prairie Quest Farm
12082 Iris Ave. • McGregor • 52157

PHIL: (563) 873-2498 • demfarmer@alpinecom.net

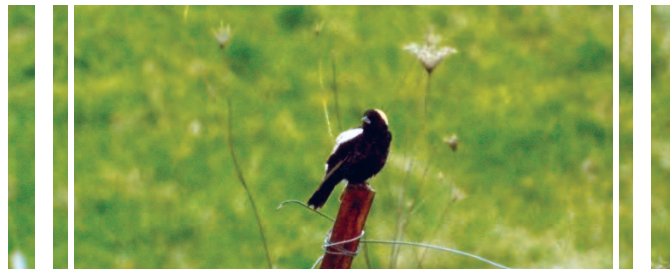
MARY: (563) 536-1170 • marydamm@gmail.com
prairiequest.farm

SPEAKERS:

- **Paul Skrade** – Department of Biology, Upper Iowa University
- **Helen Leavenworth** – Clayton County Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

THE FARM:

Phil Specht operates a grass-based dairy in the hills of Clayton County, using rotational grazing to produce high-quality pasture and build the soil. Mary Damm owns the farm of Phil's late brother, Dan, where Dan raised grass-finished beef cattle for many years. Since Dan's death in 2013, Phil and Mary have continued Dan's legacy of caring for the working landscape – producing beef and milk while protecting and



RSVP FOR MEAL AND CAMPING TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Monday, June 19.**



improving the environment, especially for Bobolinks and other grassland birds.

DIRECTIONS:

From Monona: Drive east out of town on County Road B45 / Pleasant Ridge Rd for 6 miles. Turn south (right) on Iris Ave and go 1 mile. The farm will be the first on the left (east) side of the road.

From Marquette: Drive west through Marquette on IA Hwy 18 and turn north on Co Rd B45 / Pleasant Ridge Road for 5 miles. Turn south (left) on Iris Ave and go 1 mile. The farm will be the first on the left (east) side of the road.

SPONSORS:



Earning a Living with Urban Farming: CSA and Lifestyle

Jon and Wren will lead a tour of their urban garden plots. Jon's goal for this field day is to show attendees how he makes a living on a small urban farm. He will explain his no-till system, discuss the neighborhood-focused CSA model and share the details of his business planning and financial goals for The Millet Seed Farm. Jon and Wren are committed to reducing their living expenses, producing their own food and scaling their lifestyle to match their needs.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24 • 4 – 6 p.m.

Snacks provided following the field day

HOSTS:

Jon Yagla and Wren Almitra • The Millet Seed Farm

911 S. 7th Ave. • Iowa City • 52240

(319) 471-0807 • jonyagla@gmail.com

themilletseed.com

TOPICS:

- Urban farming and homesteading
- Neighborhood CSA
- Farm financial planning
- No-till, permanent bed production

THE FARM:

Jon Yagla and Wren Almitra live and garden just three houses down from where Jon grew up. Jon grows food for a CSA on a fifth of an acre in multiple yards on their street. The shares – including vegetables, fruits, mushrooms and fermented foods – are mostly sold within the neighborhood, and members pick up buffet-style at the farm. Jon and Wren feel grateful to be in a community with so much support and enthusiasm for their urban farming efforts.

DIRECTIONS:

From I-80: Take Exit 246 for IA Hwy 1 / Dodge Street. Head south on IA Hwy 1 / Dodge Street for 2.5 miles and turn left (east) onto E. Jefferson Street. Continue on Jefferson Street, taking the right fork at the Y-intersection. In 0.6 mile, continue straight onto Glendale Road for 0.1 mile. Turn right



RSVP FOR REFRESHMENTS TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Wednesday, June 21.**



(south) onto S 7th Avenue and go 0.8 mile; The Millet Seed Farm is a red-brick bungalow on the right side.

Note: Please reserve parking on S 7th Avenue for those who need it. Plan to arrive early enough to park on an adjacent street and walk to the farm.

SPONSOR:



Parasite Management in Goat Production with FAMACHA Training

In the morning, a pre-field day workshop led by Dr. Paul Plummer will feature FAMACHA training. The two-hour training costs \$16 per person. Topics include how to take FAMACHA scores and keep records, and you'll get a hands-on opportunity to look at goats' eyelids for anemia. At the end of the training, you will receive a FAMACHA score card to use on your own herd.

The field day will start with lunch and continue with a hayrack ride to a pasture where goats have been grazing and browsing. Dr. Plummer will give a lesson on parasite management and Deb will explain how she uses pasture management for parasite control. We'll see sections of pasture that have been grazed for one year versus other areas that have been grazed two and three years. Deb uses electronet fence for internal fencing on a primitive piece of land with no power or water. Goats access the creek for water and are fenced out of certain areas so they cannot access trees in a conservation area. Deb will address managing grazing of open grasslands versus hilly land with lots of browse.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27 • 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

FAMACHA workshop – 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Registration is required. To register, contact Meghan Filbert, (515) 232-5661 or meghan@practicalfarmers.org, **by Tuesday, June 6**. The fee is \$16, which is payable directly to Meghan at the event.

Field Day – 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

A full lunch will be served

HOST:

Deb and Eric Finch • Finch Livestock

73860 280th St. • State Center • 50247
(641) 485-1378 • debfinch1977@gmail.com

TOPICS:

• Parasite management • Meat goat production • Grazing and browsing goats • Fencing for goats

SPEAKER:

• **Paul Plummer, DVM** – FAMACHA instructor

THE FARM:

Deb and Eric Finch started raising goats in 2001, and keep a herd of 125 Boer and Kiko crosses. To stay profitable, their main focus is direct-marketing meat, primarily to recent



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Friday, June 23**.



immigrant communities in central Iowa. Dealing with parasites is their number one priority to lower costs and keep the goat herd healthy.

DIRECTIONS:

From Ames: Head east on U.S. 30. When you are 4 miles east of Colo, turn right (south) on 740th Avenue. Drive 4 miles and turn right (west) on 280th Street. The farm is 200 yards west, located on the south side of the road.

Ridge-Till, Weed Management and Oat Production

Craig will talk about growing oats on some of his corn and soybean acres, and how he has recently made a push to try to improve yields and test weights on the oats. He will also share his experiences with combining steel and chemicals in a ridge-tillage system to control weeds effectively – which he hopes will reduce the rate of weed resistance.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 • 1 – 4 p.m.

Snacks and refreshments will be served

HOST:

Craig Fleishman • Cardinal Farm

17794 Quinlan Ave. • Minburn • 50167

(515) 975-6139 • cardfarm@minburncomm.net

cardinalconservation.com

SPEAKER:

• **Joel Thomas** – Crossroads Ag

THE FARM:

Craig Fleishman raises corn, soybeans and oats on a Century Farm. Conservation and profitability drive his farm decision-making, and he's working toward a balance between the two goals. Craig has been ridge-tilling since 1981; this system allows him to combine cultivation and herbicides to reduce both tillage and chemical use. Over the last few years, he has included oats into the rotation on some of his corn and soybean ground. He also maintains demonstration strips in a three-year crop rotation on one of his fields.

DIRECTIONS:

From Granger: Head west out of town on County Road F31 / 190th Street for 2.5 miles. Turn right (north) on Co Rd R22 / T Avenue and go 1 mile. Turn left (west) onto 180th Street and drive 2.25 miles. Turn right (north) onto Quinlan Avenue; the farm is the first on the right (east) side of the road.



From Minburn: Go north on IA Hwy 169 for 1 mile. Turn right (east) onto 180th Street and go 2.75 miles, then turn left (north) on Quinlan Avenue; the farm is the first on the right (east) side of the road.

SPONSORS:





Two New Grains and Their Uses: Hybrid Rye and Kernza

Can hybrid rye and Kernza be used for crop rotation and to improve weed control? Spend some time with the Frantzens and find out! They have introduced two new grain crops to their farm: Brasetto – a hybrid rye with disease resistance and the potential for higher yields; and Kernza – a perennial grain developed by The Land Institute. The Frantzens hope that both crops will help combat giant ragweed on their farm by smothering and disrupting the life cycle of the weed. Brasetto hybrid rye could also play a prominent role in their organic hog operation by providing feed and bedding. The Frantzens will show on-farm research on pelleting high-fiber feed grains – such as rye, barley and oats – and how that affects their value as pig feed.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29 • 2 – 5 p.m.

A light supper will be served following the field day, including food provided by Organic Valley / Organic Prairie



HOSTS:

Tom and Irene Frantzen; James Frantzen and Amanda Luna • Frantzen Farm

1155 Jasper Ave. • New Hampton • 50659
(641) 364-6426 • tfrantzen@iowatelecom.net

TOPICS:

- Hybrid rye for grain production
- Kernza perennial grain production
- Grow-to-finish organic pigs on corn-free diets

THE FARM:

The Frantzens own and operate a 320-acre certified organic farm, and raise finished beef, farrow-to-finish hogs (they market livestock through Organic Valley / Organic Prairie), corn, soybeans, hay, pasture and small grains.

DIRECTIONS:

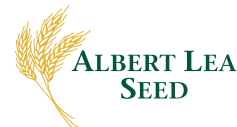
From the east: From U.S. 63, go 3 miles west on County Road B22 / 110th Street, turn left (south) onto Jasper Avenue and continue for another half-mile. The farm is on the west side of the road.



From the west: Go 3 miles east of Alta Vista on Co Rd B22 / 110th Street; turn right (south) onto Jasper Avenue and continue for another half-mile. The farm is on the west side of the road.

SPONSORS:

Chickasaw County
Soil & Water
Conservation District



Transitioning to Organic Crop Farming: Tips to Help You Succeed

In partnership with Iowa Organic Association

Thinking about transitioning part or all of your farm to organic? Learn the basics of making the transition. We'll cover what field or fields to convert; crop rotations, including small grains and cover crops; budgets; weed control; fertility; and record keeping. You'll tour an oat field underseeded with alfalfa and red clover, and view equipment associated with organic farming. Scott Ausborn, along with his father, Jack, will share some of the challenges and decisions that transitioning to organic can involve. Farmers Seth Smith and Paul Mugge will also share experiences with organic crop farming and weed control.

TUESDAY, JULY 11 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

A meal will be served

HOSTS:

Jack, Linda and Scott Ausborn

5388 210th St. • Ida Grove • 51445

(712) 210-0757 • scotta@blueriverorgseed.com

SPEAKERS:

- **Seth Smith** – conventional and organic farmer, Nemaha
- **Paul Mugge** – organic farmer, Sutherland

THE FARM:

Jack and Linda, along with their son, Scott, farm 600 acres north of Ida Grove. The farm consists of corn, soybeans, hay and pasture; they also raise sheep and cattle. Currently, 60 acres of the farm are in organic transition – crops grown include soybeans, oats, alfalfa and red clover. Scott, along with his wife, Melissa, and son, Tyler, live in Ames. He is currently employed with Blue River Hybrids, an organic seed company based in Ames, and he serves as board president for the Iowa Organic Association.

DIRECTIONS:

From Ida Grove: Head west on IA Hwy 175 for 6 miles and turn right (north) on County Road L67 / Eagle Avenue. In 5 miles turn right (east) on 210th Street and go 0.5 mile; the Ausborns' farm is the first on the right (south) side of the road.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Friday, July 7.**



From Holstein: Go west on U.S. 20 for 1.5 miles and turn left (south) on Co Rd L67 / Eagle Avenue. In 5 miles, turn left (east) on 210th Street and go 0.5 mile; the Ausborns' farm is the first on the right (south) side of the road.

SPONSORS:

SunOpta



GRAIN MILLERS



CHAPTER 1 OF IA

Ida
Soil and Water Conservation District

Vegetables: Growing Giants for the Fair . . . and “Regular” Ones, Too

If you’ve seen the giant produce at the Iowa State Fair and thought, “How do they do that?!” this is your chance to find out! Marty and Mary will discuss the intensive management required for growing giant vegetables, which can gain up to 50 pounds a day, and lead a tour through their “giant” high tunnel. They will also lead a tour of their outdoor fruit and vegetable beds, offer production and management tips, and answer questions.

SATURDAY, JULY 15 • 2 – 4 p.m.

Light snack following the field day

HOSTS:

Marty and Mary Schnicker • Schnicker Specialties

1673 Iowa Ave. • Mt. Pleasant • 52641

(319) 254-8817 • mnmschnicker@farmtel.net

TOPICS:

- Giant produce production
- Nutrient testing and management
- Cover crops and soil preparation
- Vegetable production for farmers market (regular-sized)

THE FARM:

What started as a hobby in 2003 is now a prize-winning feature of Schnicker Specialties. Marty and Mary, along with their six children, raise some of the largest produce in the state. They were even featured in the book “Blue Ribbon Vegetable Gardening: The Secrets to Growing the Biggest and Best Prizewinning Produce.” At the 2016 Iowa State Fair, the Schnickers took first place in the largest cabbage, longest gourd, largest squash and largest onion categories. In addition to their “specialties,” they grow fruits and vegetables for farmers market. Marty is the former president of the Henry County Master Gardeners, and is the current state record-holder for jumbo watermelon at 209 pounds.



DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. 218: Travel 7 miles north of Mount Pleasant, then head west on 170th Street. In 1 mile, turn right (north) onto Iowa Avenue (the first gravel road headed north). The house is on the left (west) side in 0.3 mile (it's the only house on the road).

SPONSOR:



Cover Crops: Different Methods for Different Folks

At this free workshop – which takes place at the Grundy County Fair – several farmers and soil health specialists will present planting methods that achieve different goals with cover cropping. Farmer speakers will also discuss diversifying cover crops with new varieties or planting at different times of the year, and their innovative strategies for limiting tillage. A soil health specialist from Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will discuss the science behind soil health benefits of cover crops. Admission is free to both the fair and the workshop.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19 • 9 a.m. – Noon

Lunch provided, including pork loin sandwiches, chips, bars and beverages



RSVP to Denise Freeseman, (319) 824-3634, ext 3 or denise.freese@ia.nacdn.net, by Wednesday, July 12 • grundyiaswcd.com.

Note: Alan Wedemeyer with NRCS will conduct soil nitrate testing during the workshop. Farmers are asked to bring in 2 cups of soil from their field to do the testing.

HOSTS:

- **Fred Abels** – Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District
- **ISU Extension**

LOCATION:

Grundy County Fairgrounds
1308 4th St. • Grundy Center • 50638

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Denise Freeseman – (319) 824-3634, ext. 3

SPEAKERS:

- **Denny Winterboer** – farmer and entrepreneur, Everly
- **Loran Steinlage** – farmer from Fayette County
- **Chris Teachout** – farmer from Fremont County
- **Doug Peterson** – NRCS

TOPICS:

- Diverse cover crops
- Under- and interseeding cover crops
- Zone tillage



- Strip tillage
- Impact of soil health on natural processes
- Establishing skip rows for next year's corn when planting cover crops

DIRECTIONS:

From the intersection of IA Hwy 14 and IA Hwy 175 in Grundy Center (near Rouse Motor): Go south 5.5 blocks on 4th Street; the fairgrounds will be on the left. The event will be held in the Alumni Building near the cattle barns.

SPONSORS:

- **Conservation Districts of Iowa**
- **Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District**
- **Grundy County Extension**
- **Iowa Learning Farms**

Bus Trip to Dave Brandt's Farm in Ohio

Join Practical Farmers on a bus trip to Dave Brandt's farm in Carroll, Ohio. There, we will spend one day at Dave's farm learning about diverse cover crop varieties, crop rotation, seed production, seed cleaning and soil health. We'll see a cover crop planting demonstration and a research plot growing new varieties of winter peas, oats, barley and rye. The next day, Dave will take us on a tour of Fairfield County, where we'll see a forage-finishing beef operation that plants Dave's cover crop varieties for winter feed. We'll stop at a few other agricultural points of interest along the way – including a restored gristmill from the early 1800s and a covered bridge.

THURSDAY – SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 – 6

HOST:

Dave Brandt • Dave Brandt Farm

6100 Basil Western Rd. • Carroll, Ohio • 43112
brandtsfarm@yahoo.com
walnutcreekseeds.com

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Meghan Filbert – meghan@practicalfarmers.org or
(515) 232-5661

REGISTRATION:

This event is open to PFI members only. If you are interested in going but are not currently a member, visit practicalfarmers.org for membership information or call the office at (515) 232-5661.

To register: Visit practicalfarmers.org or call (515) 232-5661. **You must register by Friday, July 14.** Seating is limited, so reserve your spot early!

DETAILS:

Cost: The fee, including lodging, per person is:

- \$250 per person for a two-person shared room
- \$167 per person for a three-person shared room

Times: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. (Thursday); 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)



Meals:

- **Travel days (Thursday and Sunday):** Snacks will be provided during the 10-hour bus trip, but lunch and dinner are not included.

You are welcome to bring your own food. There is space for coolers on the bus. There will also be scheduled stops to purchase food along the way.

- **Field days (Friday and Saturday):** Breakfast is offered at the hotel. Lunch is provided at Dave's farm. Dinner is your responsibility. There are restaurants nearby and refrigerators in the hotel rooms.

TOPICS:

- Cover crops
- Soil health
- On-farm research
- Grazing cover crops

THE FARM:

Dave Brandt grows grains and cover crops on 900 acres in central Ohio's Fairfield County. He began no-till farming in 1971 and started using cover crops in 1978. Dave is an on-farm researcher, conducting yield trials for row crops, small grains and cover crop varieties. He has just finished a new seed cleaning facility for corn, beans, small grains and grasses, and has a business cleaning and selling organic seed, Walnut Creek Seeds. He uses a no-till planter and a custom-built highboy seeder for planting cover crops.



DIRECTIONS:

Ames Departure: The bus will leave at 10 a.m. from Quality Inn & Suites Starlite Village Conference Center (2601 E 13th St.). **Note:** Please park on the east or west sides of the building, not in the front.

Iowa City Departure: The bus will leave at 12:30 p.m. from the Sharpless Auction parking lot, 5049 Herbert Hoover Hwy NE. **Note:** Please park in the north end of the lot.

Managing Potholes and Matching Conservation Efforts to Farm Goals

Wendy Johnson says, "Conservation methods are not that difficult to implement." At this field day, learn about conservation tactics for your farm, doing what's best, economically and environmentally, in marginal land while working within the parameters of your farm goals. Many farmers have low-lying areas that pool water during heavy rains. Research from Team Pothole at ISU shines light on what farmers can do with low areas that do not yield much during wet years. This information is especially valuable now, with the volatility that climatologists predict for weather patterns in the next 10 to 20 years.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Lunch will be served

HOSTS:

Wendy Johnson and Johnny Rafkin • Joia Food Farm

2038 March Ave. • Charles City • 50616
(562) 852-7044 • 207wendy@gmail.com
joiafoodfarm.com

TOPICS:

- Managing in-field potholes – options, impacts, profitability
- Matching farm goals with conservation planning

SPEAKERS:

- **Amy Kaleita** – Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, ISU
- **Andy VanLooke** – Department of Agronomy, ISU
- **Steven Hall** – Department of Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology, ISU
- **Luke Gran** – Prudenterra

THE FARM:

Wendy Johnson returned to Iowa to farm with her dad seven years ago. They grow conventional corn and soybeans, hay and sheep. They have been using cover crops for five years, and this year they have added oats into the rotation. Wendy and Johnny transitioned 30

RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Monday, July 31.**



acres to organic and as of 2016, those acres are certified organic. They also have their own livestock enterprises on their farm, including naturally raised farrow-to-finish pigs, and pastured broilers and layers. They have been making improvements to their pasture, including intensively rotationally grazing their grass-fed sheep flock.

DIRECTIONS:

From Charles City: Drive west on IA Hwy 14 for about 6 miles and turn right (north) onto March Avenue. The farm's purplish-colored barn roofs and a barn quilt with Iowa State colors are visible from the junction of IA Hwy 14 and March Avenue. Look for the first farm on the right (east) after going north on March Avenue from IA Hwy 14.

SPONSORS:

**Floyd County
Soil and Water
Conservation District**



Oyster Mushroom Production

Have you considered adding mushroom production to your farm enterprises? If so, this field day is a must-attend! Tyson Allchin will demonstrate and show every aspect of his mushroom farm, including substrate preparation; inoculation; the fruiting room; and harvest. Though he currently focuses on oyster mushrooms, he is happy to answer questions about cultivation of other mushroom species. Tyson also rents land to several Chin refugees, who will lead a tour of their fields at the end of the field day.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 • 4 – 6 p.m.

Snack provided

HOST:

Tyson Allchin • Allchin Acres

18352 140th St. • Columbus Junction • 52738
(563) 299-0312 • allchinacresllc@yahoo.com

TOPICS:

- Indoor oyster mushroom production
- Substrate block preparation and inoculation
- Outdoor beds for *Stropharia rugosoannulata* (winecap or king stropharia)
- Mushroom marketability

THE FARM:

Tyson grows mushrooms year-round on his farm, Allchin Acres, and markets to restaurants and grocery stores. His fruiting room is a 42-by-9.5-foot building built inside a high tunnel. Tyson primarily focuses on oyster mushrooms, producing over 100 pounds every week. In the past he has grown lion's mane, shiitake and pioppino, and still grows some wine caps in outdoor beds. Tyson is interested in helping new growers begin production. In addition to mushrooms, Tyson grows microgreens for a distributor in the Twin Cities.



(Photos courtesy of Muscatine Area Farmers Market)

RSVP FOR REFRESHMENTS TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Friday, August 4.**



DIRECTIONS:

From Columbus Junction: Drive east on U.S. 92. About 3 miles after crossing the river, turn right (south) onto O Avenue. At the T-intersection, turn left (east) onto 140th Street. The farm is the first house on the north side of the road, with a high tunnel in the backyard.

Farmer-Led Local Food Aggregation

Food hubs have received a lot of attention in recent years as a way to expand local food markets. Join the farmer-members of North Iowa Fresh and the staff at Opportunity Village to see what's involved with this young food hub. The field day will give you a chance to meet the farmers and the aggregation team. We will discuss the "business end" of the food hub development and ongoing work. We will also tour the Opportunity Village gardens, and end at Field House Restaurant, a new restaurant run by Opportunity Village featuring local foods from Opportunity Village and North Iowa Fresh. See how far farmer-led can go!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13 • 2 – 4:30 p.m.

Hearty snack will be provided at the Field House Restaurant following the field day

FARMER HOST:

Jan Libbey • One Step at a Time Gardens
(515) 851-1690 • libland@peconet.net
northiowafresh.net

LOCATION:

Opportunity Village
1200 N. 9th St. W. • Clear Lake • 50428

SPEAKERS:

- **Michael Mahaffey, Jim Jackson and Kathy Cobeen** – Opportunity Village
- **Andrea Evelsizer** – North Iowa Fresh
- **Joshua Frederick** – Field House Restaurant

THE HOSTS:

North Iowa Fresh is a membership-based food hub with its aggregation center at Opportunity Village in Clear Lake. Its mission is to connect producers and buyers; bring local, fresh and nutritional products to market; and support the sustainability of local producers.

Opportunity Village, a member of North Iowa Fresh and the site of the field day, has a 2.5 acre garden and 4 greenhouses that provide employment opportunities to individuals with disabilities.

RSVP FOR FOOD TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Thursday, August 10.**



Jan Libbey operates One Step at a Time Garden with her husband, Tim Landgraf. 2017 is their 22nd season raising vegetables and pastured poultry. In addition to CSA, Jan and Tim sell wholesale through North Iowa Fresh and Wheatsfield Cooperative in Ames

DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. 18 in Clear Lake: Turn north onto N 9th Street W (at the Fareway). After the road curves and becomes 10th Avenue N, turn left (north) onto Village Road; Opportunity Village is on the left. The field day will begin at the greenhouses, on the west side of the complex. From the entrance off Village Road, follow field day signs around the building.

SPONSORS:



**HEALTHY
HARVEST
of North Iowa**



Grass-Based Dairy Farming and Value-Added Cheese Production



The field day will begin with a tour of the cheesery and milking facilities, which were constructed in 2016. Kevin and Ranae will discuss the challenges of starting a new business – from designing and building facilities, to navigating regulations, to developing marketing and growth strategies, to managing scarce time and resources. During a pasture walk, Kevin will discuss his cattle genetics and breeding philosophy. We'll learn about stocking density, pasture residue and rest periods; see the Dietzels' water and fence set-up; and talk about nutritional management for a grass-fed system. Kevin and Ranae will also discuss how biodynamic production practices influence the flavor of their cheeses.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14 • 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

A potluck lunch will follow the field day, with meat and cheese provided by Lost Lake Farm; please bring a side dish to share

HOSTS:

Kevin and Ranae Dietzel • Lost Lake Farm

2366 295th St. • Jewell • 50130

(515) 291-2058 • lostlakefarmllc@gmail.com

www.lostlakefarmllc.com

TOPICS:

- Starting a grass-based dairy
- Operating a cheesery and marketing cheese
- Rotational grazing
- Dairy genetics, breeding and nutrition
- Fencing and water
- Biodynamic farming

THE FARM:

Lost Lake Farm LLC is a small grass-fed, start-up cow dairy that produces artisanal cheese in an on-farm cheesery. Kevin and Ranae Dietzel, along with their two children, operate the farm with low capital and a herd of 18 milk cows. The Dietzels focus on what they're good at: grazing cattle and turning milk into a high-value product. Their cows are a mix of breeds, but are bred to Normande, a French breed known to produce milk for great cheese. The farm includes 80 acres of pasture and



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Thursday, August 10.**



hay. Cattle are rotated through pastures twice daily and the Dietzels hire someone to make their hay.

DIRECTIONS:

From Jewell: From U.S. 69, turn west onto 330th Street. Go 4.2 miles and turn right (north) on County Road 38 / Neely Avenue. In 3.5 miles, turn right (east) on 295th Street and go 1.3 miles; the farm is on the south side of the road.

SPONSORS:

**Hamilton
County Soil
and Water
Conservation
District**



WELTER SEED & HONEY CO.
17724 Hwy. 136
Onslow, IA 52321-7549
(800) 470-3325
www.welterseed.com





Grazing Goats: From Pasture to Market

Got goats – or thinking of adding some? Learn about raising Boer and Kiko meat goats in a rotational grazing system, from kidding to marketing. The Hopkins will discuss their pasture management practices including fencing, watering and pasture mixes. Staff from the local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field office will talk about the Hopkins' conservation plan and funding from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) that helped with adding paddocks to their pasture. Throughout the day, the Hopkins will also discuss their research projects with PFI's Cooperators' Program, including using alternative free-choice minerals, and grazing to reduce parasite loads.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 • 9 a.m. – Noon

HOSTS:

Cheryl and Mike Hopkins • Frog Hollow Farm

4758 Spencers Grove Rd. • Walker • 52352

(319) 721-0269 • boerdoe@aol.com

TOPICS:

- Rotational grazing
- Set-up of pasture, paddock, fencing and watering
- Pasture mixes
- Free-choice minerals
- Reducing parasites by grazing
- Conservation plans with NRCS
- Alternative markets

SPEAKER:

- Staff from the local Marion NRCS field office

THE FARM:

In 2010, Cheryl and Mike Hopkins started Frog Hollow Farm, a 30-acre farm where they rotationally graze Boer and Kiko meat goats on pasture. They farm without using synthetic herbicides and pesticides. Cheryl and Mike worked with the NRCS using EQIP funding to add fencing, a watering system and paddocks to their pasture. The goats are primarily sold through a local sale barn to growing niche markets for goat meat in the Midwest.



DIRECTIONS:

From Walker: Take IA Hwy 920 / County Road D62 / Spencers Grove Road west for 2 miles; the farm is on the left.

Heading north on IA Hwy 150: Go 2.5 miles and turn right onto IA Hwy 920 / Co Rd D62 / 51st Street / Spencers Grove Road. Go 3 miles; the farm is on the right.

SPONSORS:



CONFERENCE: Rotationally Raised – Making Small Grains Work

This conference will cover the basics you need to add small grains to the rotation on your farm. The day will feature four 50-minute sessions led by farmers, researchers and industry representatives on topics ranging from small grains production and markets to extended rotations, green manure to nitrogen synchronization.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 • 11:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Lunch is provided



Registration is required for this conference

Please register online at practicalfarmers.org/small-grains, or by calling (515) 232-5661, by Thursday, August 10.

Free for PFI members; \$40 for non-members

If you are not currently a member but would like to join Practical Farmers of Iowa, please visit practicalfarmers.org for membership information.

Schedule:

- 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Registration
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. – Lunch with keynote speaker
- 12:30 – 5 p.m. – Breakout sessions
- 5 – 6 p.m. – Reception

HOST:

Practical Farmers of Iowa

LOCATION:

Quality Inn and Suites: Starlite Village Conference Center

2601 E. 13th St. • Ames • 50010

If you need room reservations, call (515) 232-9260.

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Contact Alisha Bower, alisha@practicalfarmers.org or (515) 232-5661

DIRECTIONS:

From I-35: Take Exit 113 (13th Street). Quality Inn and Suites is on the north side of the road.



Grazing Heritage Cattle & Sheep on Converted Crop Ground and Prairie

Russ' herd of Murray Grey cattle and St. Croix sheep are grazed together (with horses, too) using very little infrastructure. We'll hear about the process of seeding former crop fields to pasture species and how grazing former Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land has helped bring native prairie species back. Russ' local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservationist will discuss the fence and water system that was installed in 2013 with cost-share assistance. The day will also feature a pasture walk with Mary Damm, a plant ecologist, to identify prairie plants. We'll discuss plant characteristics and the value of these plants to soils, as well as their potential value to livestock. **This field day falls on the same day as a total solar eclipse and we'll have glasses on hand to get a good view of it!**

MONDAY, AUGUST 21 • 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

A "garbage-can" lunch will be provided, featuring vegetables and smoked sausages slow-cooked in a clean garbage can.

Bring solar eclipse viewing glasses, if you have them.

Attendees are invited to stay into the evening to continue the discussion. Overnight camping is welcome.

HOST:

Russ Wischover • Windswept Acres

2326 322nd St. • Bedford • 50833
(712) 438-0126

TOPICS:

- Grazing pasture and prairie • Heritage-breed livestock
- Prairie plant identification • Low-input infrastructure

SPEAKERS:

- **Mary Damm** – plant ecologist
- Staff from the local NRCS office

THE FARM:

Russ Wischover's land was farmed conventionally before he purchased it. In 2011, he planted a pasture mix with a winter wheat nurse crop, which was baled the next spring for hay. Soon after, he incorporated cattle, horses, goats and sheep onto his 120 acres. Half of this land is

RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Wednesday, August 16.**



in pasture, and half is prairie (formerly CRP for 25 years), and all of it is grazed by heritage-breed livestock. Russ' neighbors refer to his farm as a "weed patch" but Russ takes pride in his pastures, especially since he has started to see native Iowa prairie species return. Russ operates a grass-based, low-input, mixed-species livestock farm, letting animals and nature do most of the work.

DIRECTIONS:

From the intersection of IA Hwy 148 and Main Street (at the Casey's) in Bedford: Follow Main Street east. At the stop sign on State Street, turn right (south) onto Linwood Avenue / State Street. In 0.5 mile, you'll see the fairgrounds; 5 miles south of the fairgrounds, turn left (east) on 322nd Street and go 1 mile. At the T-intersection, turn right (south) onto Montana Avenue and go 0.25 mile. Turn left (east) when you see the field day sign, staying on 322nd Street. Russ' farm is located 0.75 mile down a dead-end gravel road.

SPONSORS:



WELTER SEED & HONEY CO.
17724 Hwy. 136
Onslow, IA 52321-7549
(800) 470-3325
www.welterseed.com



**Taylor
County Soil
and Water
Conservation
District**

Farmland Owner Legacy Award Celebration

Please join us in celebrating Angela and John Tedesco, Practical Farmers of Iowa's 2017 Farmland Owner Legacy Award recipients! This award is granted annually by Practical Farmers to landowners who use their land to help the next generation get started, advance land stewardship and promote long-term sustainability of farm businesses, environmental quality and rural communities. With this award, Practical Farmers calls attention to the important role non-operator farmland owners are playing in the future success of sustainable agriculture.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Award presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres will be catered by Trellis Cafe

Cash bar available



RSVPs requested: Please contact Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org or (515) 232-5661, by Friday, August 18.

HOST:

Practical Farmers of Iowa

LOCATION:

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

909 Robert D. Ray Dr. • Des Moines • 50309

ABOUT ANGELA & JOHN:

Angela operated Turtle Farm on a 20-acre parcel in Granger. She converted this conventional row-crop land into a certified organic farm to start one of Iowa's first Community Supported Agriculture businesses. After 17 years, Angela retired and began renting her farm to a beginning farmer, Ben Saunders. Angela and John wanted to see this land remain a farm for many more generations to come. In 2016 they made the decision to donate 13 acres of their farm to Practical Farmers of Iowa. Making this decision will support the next generation of farmers and conserve the farmland against the risk of future development.



DIRECTIONS:

From I-235: Take Exit 8B for East 6th Street and head south on East 6th Street. Turn right on Des Moines Street (corner with Alba restaurant). At the T-intersection, turn right on Robert D. Ray Drive and continue straight; you will pass under I-235. The road ends in the parking lot for the botanical garden.

★ **Special Notes:** The Grand Avenue bridge in downtown Des Moines is closed. Also, most GPS systems will not navigate you to the botanical garden. Please see the directions above for the best route to reach the botanical garden. Visit dmbotanicalgarden.com/visit-us/directions for more information.



A Look at Soil Regeneration With Jill Clapperton

In partnership with Green Cover Seed

The Teachouts welcome internationally renowned soil scientist Jill Clapperton to their farm to talk about soil regeneration and soil health. We'll see what soil health looks like in several soil pits on the farm. Chris will also discuss "Cover Crops 201" where he will discuss advanced cover cropping techniques he has tried over the past few years. After dinner, Jill will lead a Q&A session and panel discussion with several farmers.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 • 1 – 6 p.m.

A catered meal provided followed by a panel discussion

RSVPs are required. Register at practicalfarmers.org by Friday, August 25.

Free for PFI members; \$40 for non-members

SPECIAL OFFER: If you attend as a non-member and later decide you want to join, you can do so by paying the difference – \$10 for individual, 20\$ for farm/household – by Sept. 15, 2017.

If you are not currently a member but would like to join, visit practicalfarmers.org for membership information.

Questions: Contact Debra Boekholder, (515) 232-5661 or debra@practicalfarmers.org.

HOSTS:

Chris and Janenne Teachout

1653 400th Ave. • Shenandoah • 51601

(712) 370-2142 • teachout.chris@gmail.com

TOPICS:

- Corn with interseeded cover crops (legumes, cowpeas)
- Soybeans planted into cereal rye cover crop
- Spring-seeded cover crops
- Evaluating cereal rye varieties grown for seed
- Summer-seeded cover crop mixes after small grains harvest
- Farmer panel

SPEAKER:

• **Jill Clapperton** – Rhizoterra Inc.



THE FARM:

Chris and Janenne raise corn, soybeans and small grains, and have been using no-till practices for over 20 years. They began using cover crops on the farm starting back in the mid-1980s. Ultimately, the Teachouts are rebuilding and regenerating their soil with cover crops and biology.



Jill Clapperton

DIRECTIONS:

From Shenandoah: Go 2 miles north on U.S. 59 to 170th Street / County Road J26. Turn left (west) and go 2 miles to 400th Avenue / Co Rd M21. Turn right (north) and continue for 0.5 mile; the Teachouts' farm will be on the left (west) side of road.

From Red Oak: Take U.S. 34 west to U.S. 59 and go south toward Emerson. Continue south through Emerson for about 15 miles to 170th Street / Co Rd J26. Turn right (west) and continue for 2 miles. Turn right (north) on 400th Avenue / Co Rd M21 and go 0.5 mile; the Teachouts' farm will be on the left (west) side of road.

SPONSORS:



Profitability of Farming Prairie Potholes

Many farmers have low-lying areas that pool water during heavy rains. Research from Team Pothole at ISU shines light on what farmers can do with these low areas that do not yield much during wet years. This information is especially valuable now, with the volatility that climatologists predict for weather patterns in the next 10 to 20 years. Come learn more about this and other farm conservation techniques that benefit the soil, as well as the value of pollinator insects. Read more about the Team Pothole research group at sites.google.com/site/potholesisu.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Lunch will be provided

HOST:

Jerry Peckumn

1712 280th St. • Jefferson • 50129

(515) 370-0077 • jerrypeckumn@netins.net

TOPICS:

- Managing in-field potholes – options, impacts and profitability
- In-field prairie planting for erosion control and value for native bee habitat

SPEAKERS:

- **Amy Kaleita** – Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, ISU
- **Andy VanLoocke** – Department of Agronomy, ISU
- **Steven Hall** – Department of Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology, ISU

THE FARM:

Jerry farms with sons Tom and Ben in the Raccoon River watershed. They primarily raise corn and soybeans along with some hay and beef cattle. Part of the land is in native prairie, providing wildlife habitat and a refuge for native plants. Their goal is to make a good return on labor and management while trying to balance conservation practices.

RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Monday, August 28.**



DIRECTIONS:

From Jefferson: Take IA Hwy 4 south and turn left (east) on 265th Street / County Road P26. This curves right (south) and becomes P Avenue / Co Rd P26. Continue south and turn left (east) on 280th Street. Go for just over 1 mile; Jerry's farm will be the first drive on the left (north) side of the road after Q Avenue.



From IA Hwy 141 at Jamaica: Turn north off IA Hwy 141 toward Jamaica on Wink Avenue / Co Rd P30. Head north through Jamaica to the T-intersection at 305th Street. Turn left (west) on 305th Street and go 0.5 mile to Q Avenue. Turn right (north) and go 2 miles to 280th Street. Go right (east); Jerry's farm will be the first drive on the left (north) side of the road.

SPONSORS:



Oat, Hay and Feed Production and Direct-Marketing

The Canfield Family has spent the last two years relearning how to grow small grains in Iowa. They have researched machinery, production strategies and varieties, in addition to seeking potential market streams. One opportunity is to direct-market small grains to small-scale livestock owners as either whole grains or as part of complete mixed feeds.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 • 3 – 6 p.m.

Stay for a potluck. Main dish and beverages will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share (refrigeration is available). If the timing is right, fresh watermelon and sweet corn will be available.

HOSTS:

Canfield Family (Earl and Jane, Matthew, Hannah, Andrew and Elijah) • Canfield Family Farm

8717 Lester Rd. • Dunkerton • 50626

(319) 269-0739 • canfieldfamilyfarm@dunkerton.net
canfieldfamilyfarm.com

TOPICS:

- Small grains production
- Machinery for small grains and hay production
- On-farm feed milling business
- Direct-marketing of grains, hay and straw

THE FARM:

Earl Canfield farms with his wife, Jane, and their four children, near Dunkerton. Their children represent the sixth generation of the Canfield family to be on the land since the mid-1860s, for which they received a Heritage Farm Award at the Iowa State Fair in 2016. The Canfields are making a transition from growing strictly corn and soybeans for commodity markets to growing and direct-marketing a diverse mixture of value-added products, including whole grains, mixed feeds, produce and eggs. Future plans include selling meat from grass-finished animals.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Monday, September 4.**



DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. 20: Take the Dunkerton exit. Turn north onto IA Hwy 281 / Canfield Road and travel to Dunkerton. Go through town and continue north for 1.5 miles. Turn west (left) onto Lester Road, the first gravel road that goes west. The Canfields' farm is the first on the right (north) side of the road.

From U.S. 63: Take County Road C57 east to IA Hwy 281 (Canfield Road). Turn south (right) onto IA Hwy 281 and go 1.5 miles. Turn right (west) on Lester Road, the first gravel road that goes to the west. The Canfields' farm is the first on the right (north) side of the road.

SPONSOR:



**Black Hawk Soil and Water
Conservation District**


Organic Crop and Hog Production + Water Quality Practices



In partnership with Iowa Organic Association

This field day will focus on organic crop and swine production, and will be of special interest to farmers hoping to transition to organic. The Rosmanns have tried various housing options for farrowing pigs in their organic and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)-certified farrow-to-finish swine operation. After years of learning lessons, they have recently built a new hoop building for farrowing. The Rosmanns will also discuss water quality and edge-of-field practices such as field borders, buffer strips and agroforestry practices they use.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 • 1 – 4:30 p.m.

Meal following the field day, with food provided by Rosmann Family Farms, Organic Valley / Organic Prairie 

HOSTS:

Ron Rosmann and Maria Vakulskas Rosmann
David Rosmann and Becky Tompkins-Rosmann
Daniel Rosmann and Ellen Walsh-Rosmann
Mark Rosmann (USDA Foreign Agricultural Service)
Rosmann Family Farms and Farm Sweet Farm
1222 Ironwood Rd. • Harlan • 51537
(712) 627-4653 • farmsweetfarmiowa@gmail.com
facebook.com/rosmannfamilyfarms

TOPICS:

- Organic swine production
- Agroforestry practices
- Organic crops
- Water quality

SPEAKER:

- **Hanna Poffenbarger** – PhD candidate, ISU Department of Agronomy

THE FARM:

Rosmann Family Farms grows and markets diverse crops and livestock on 700 certified organic acres. The farm consists of cattle, hogs, egg layers and a range of crops, including popcorn, soybeans, corn, small grains, hay and pasture, annual forages and cover crops. Maria operates the farm store – Farm Sweet Farm. Ellen and Daniel operate FarmTable Delivery and a restaurant, Milk and



Honey in Harlan, featuring local foods.

DIRECTIONS:

From Harlan: Go 2 miles west on IA Hwy 44 to Ironwood Road and turn right (north). Go 2.25 miles until you see the farm on the left (west) side of the road.

★ **Note:** GPS or Google Maps may direct you to minimum-maintenance roads, which may be impassable during rainy conditions.

SPONSORS:



A Little Bit of Everything in Everly

Come enjoy some produce talk in northwest Iowa! Join Michael and Darla for a tour of the high tunnels, outdoor rotational vegetable fields and strawberry beds on their small farm. In their established production beds, the Eetens experiment with no-till, maintaining permanent walkways and mulching heavily. They also keep guinea hogs and chickens for weed management and manure. Michael and Darla keep the farm at a manageable size so they can do all the farm work themselves.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 • 1 – 3 p.m.

A light lunch will follow the field day

HOSTS:

Darla and Michael Eeten • GoodEetens Produce

1655 280th St. • Everly • 51338

(712) 348-4025 • darlaeeten@gmail.com

goodeetens.weebly.com

TOPICS:

- Chemical-free vegetable production
- Strawberry production
- Integrating animals into a small farm
- High tunnel production
- Managing a small CSA

THE FARM:

In 2010, Michael (the Brains) and Darla (the Brawn) started GoodEetens Produce Farm. Darla is a lifelong gardener and is also a professional cleaner, and Michael is the pastor at the United Methodist Church in Everly. Their mission with GoodEetens Produce Farm is to support healthy food in their community. They have a small CSA, and sell at farmers markets in Spencer, Sheldon and Everly. In addition to produce, Darla raises wildflowers, makes maple syrup and bakes bread for farmers markets.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Thursday, September 10.**



DIRECTIONS:

From Fostoria: Follow Main Street / 280th Street west out of town for 5.5 miles. The farm will be on the left (south) side of the road, just before the Little Sioux River (look for the GoodEetens Produce sign and the high tunnel).

Regenerative Grazing to Produce Gourmet Grass-Fed Beef

Jamie Hostetler's primary goal for this field day is to educate attendees on regenerative grazing and grass-efficient beef genetics. Enjoy a hayride through his pastures, stopping to see annuals interseeded in perennial pastures and a Plant-O-Vator minimum-till drill. Jamie's cattle are rotated every 12 hours and he will demonstrate a "five-minute move" into a fresh paddock. We'll see Jamie's finishing herd to learn what grass-finished beef animals look like when they're ready for market; and he'll discuss body style and structure of animals, and how genetics relate to grass efficiency and meat volume. Doug Peterson, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil health specialist, will also conduct an in-field rainfall simulator demonstration.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 • Noon – 4 p.m.

A picnic lunch will be provided, featuring grilled burgers from Rolling Meadows farm grass-fed beef

HOST:

Jamie Hostetler • Rolling Meadows Farm

18113 362nd Ave. • Bellevue • 52031

(815) 718-1100 • jamie@emypeople.net

TOPICS:

- High-density rotational grazing
- Grazing annuals and perennials
- Grass-finishing cattle
- Seed stock production
- Grass-fed beef genetics

SPEAKER:

• **Doug Peterson** – NRCS

THE FARM:

Rolling Meadows Farm is 300 acres of pasture used to produce grass-fed beef and Red Devon genetics. Jamie Hostetler keeps two herds – purebred Red Devons for seed stock sales and Red Devon crossbreeds destined for beef. In 2010, Jamie's land was taken out of row crop production and planted with pasture grasses. Since then, high-density grazing practices have been used to regenerate the soil and produce gourmet-quality, grass-finished beef.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Wednesday, September 13.**



DIRECTIONS:

From Springbrook: Travel 2 miles north of Springbrook on County Road Z15 / 362nd Avenue. The road curves to the east, and the farm is located on the right (south) side of the road. The farm is at the top of a hill; look for the Rolling Meadows Farm sign.

SPONSORS:



Dried Flower Production

There's never a dull moment at Howell Farm! Join Fred for a lively tour through the dried flower process on the farm, from production to finished dried arrangements. Fred will discuss perennial and annual flower production in the field and the greenhouse, and his preferred ways to harvest and store different types of flowers. Attendees will also see how the flowers are dried and how beautiful dried arrangements are created.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 • 3 – 5 p.m.

Snacks will be provided following the field day

HOST:

Fred Howell • Howell's Greenhouse and Floral

3145 Howell Court • Cumming • 50061

(515) 981-0863

howellfloral.com

TOPICS:

- Perennial and annual flower production
- Flower harvest, storage and drying methods

THE FARM:

Howell's Greenhouse and Floral is part of the six-generation Howell Farm, which covers 800 acres near Cumming. Fred Howell began raising flowers for dried arrangements in 1985, and today grows 2 acres of flowers for dried arrangements and wholesale. In addition to flowers, Fred, his wife Cindy, and their three children have a pumpkin patch, corn maze, retail garden center, gift shop and plenty of family fun.

DIRECTIONS:

From I-35: Take the Cumming exit (Exit 65) and head west on Cumming Avenue. Follow the pavement for 4.25 miles (road bends to the south). The farm will be on the left side of the road; look for Howell Greenhouse and Floral signs (and Howell's pumpkin patch).



Looking Back at the First Year of Farming With Experienced Eyes

Join beginning farmer Jayme Fowler as she wraps up her first season at Wild Furrow Farm. During a tour of the farm, Jayme and retired CSA vegetable farmer Susan Jutz will discuss production and management, the farm's layout, and harvesting and packing. Jayme will also share the experience of converting a tractor-based vegetable farm to draft power.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 • 3 – 5 p.m.

A potluck will follow the field day; please bring a side dish or dessert to share

HOST:

Jayme Fowler • Wild Furrow Farm

206 E. Denton St. • Hancock • 51536

(402) 290-5856 • jayme.fowler@gmail.com

TOPICS:

- Lessons learned from the first year of farming
- Vegetable production efficiencies
- Farm layout
- Packing shed tips
- Draft-horse power for market gardening

SPEAKER:

- **Susan Jutz** – retired farmer

Susan Jutz owned and operated ZJ Farm and Local Harvest CSA in Solon from 1996-2016. Susan has been a PFI member since 1994, is a past president of Practical Farmers' board of directors and is a valuable mentor to numerous beginning farmers. In May 2016, she transitioned her farm and business to a beginning farmer.

THE FARM:

Wild Furrow Farm is a vegetable, herb and flower farm. Jayme uses her Suffolk draft-horse team to power much of the hard work. In this first year, Jayme is marketing her produce through restaurants and farmers markets.



RSVP FOR MEAL TO:

Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org;
(515) 232-5661 by **Wednesday, October 18.**



DIRECTIONS:

From Avoca (from the north): Take U.S. 59 south toward Hancock. In Hancock, turn right (north) onto N Main Street and then another right (east) on E Denton Street; Wild Furrow Farm will be on the left (north side).

From Oakland (from the south): Take U.S. 59 north toward Hancock. In Hancock, turn left (north) onto N Main Street, then right (east) onto E Denton Street. Wild Furrow Farm will be on the left (north side of street).

SPONSORS:



Hand Tools and Implements for Small Vegetable Farms

In partnership with Grow Johnson County

At this “try before you buy” field day, Jason and Scott will show various hand tools and small implements, including wheel hoes, stirrup hoes, a BCS tiller and more. You’ll have an opportunity to try them out. Jason will show how he sharpens tools and adjusts the raised bed maker, and will discuss how they manage irrigation water pressure from a city hydrant. You can also check out the farm’s cold storage (Cool-Bot).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 • 2 – 5 p.m.

Snacks will be served

HOSTS:

Jason Grimm

Grow Johnson County

Johnson County Poor Farm

4811 Melrose Ave. • Iowa City • 52246

(319) 622-3264 • jason@ivrcd.org

growjohnsoncounty.org

TOPICS:

- Hand tools
- Labor efficiency
- Raised beds using plastic mulch layer
- Tool sharpening
- BCS and Troy-Bilt tillers
- Power harrow
- CoolBot cooler
- Plastic mulch versus ground-cover fabric

SPEAKER:

- **Scott Koepke** – Grow Johnson County

THE HOSTS:

Grow Johnson County has two missions: to reduce food insecurity in Johnson County and to serve as an educational farm for new growers. Produce from the farm’s 4 acres is distributed to food pantries, food banks and meal sites in the greater Johnson County community. In 2016, 12,000 pounds of produce were donated to the community.



Jason Grimm is the food system planner with the Iowa Valley RC&D in eastern Iowa. He farms with his family near Williamsburg. Grimm Family Farm produces dry beans, produce and pastured poultry.

DIRECTIONS:

Grow Johnson County Farm (at the Johnson County Poor Farm) is on the western edge of Iowa City. **From U.S. 218:** Take Exit 93 and head west on Melrose Avenue; the farm is on the south side of the road in 0.3 mile. Follow signs for Grow Johnson County.

SPONSOR:



Learn About PFI at County Fairs

Practical Farmers members are helping make PFI more visible across Iowa this summer by volunteering at their county fairs, and they would love to see you there! Enjoy your local fair, meet these volunteers and learn more about PFI.

WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY, JULY 5 – 9

Kathy Rose

Calhoun County Expo
Rockwell City
calhouncountyexpo.com

TUESDAY – MONDAY, JULY 11 – 17

Kathy Rose

Greene County Fair
Jefferson
greenecountyiowafair.com

WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY, JULY 19 – 23

Penny Perkins

Madison County Fair
Winterset
madisoncountyfair.net

WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY, JULY 26 – 29

Kathy Rose

Sac County Fair
Sac City
sacountyfair.com

WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 – 6

Michelle Janssen

Mitchell County Fair
Osage
mitchellcountyfair.org



Penny Perkins



Kathy Rose

THURSDAY – FRIDAY, AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 4

Kathy Rose

Guthrie County Fair
Guthrie Center
guthriecountyfair.com

★ More Dates May Be Announced! ★

Keep an eye on "Practical News" or check our online calendar for updates:

practicalfarmers.org/news-events/events

Want to Represent PFI at Your County Fair ?

By volunteering at your county fair, you'll be helping to increase Practical Farmers' visibility.

Contact Debra Boekholder, debra@practicalfarmers.org or (515) 232-5661 for details. We'll supply materials and a sign!

FRIENDS OF PRACTICAL FARMERS OF IOWA

The following pages showcase other agricultural events being held across Iowa this season. They are not organized or hosted by Practical Farmers of Iowa.

Please note:

- Practical Farmers has no control over changes to these events.
- For more information on these events, please contact the host listed.

Northeast Iowa Food and Farm Network

Northeast Iowa Food and Farm network is a gathering of local food farmers and friends building relationships, finding common interests, collaborating, learning and working together to strengthen the local food system. Are you an aspiring, beginning, transitioning or experienced local food or niche producer who wants to connect? Are you an eater who wants to help support local food growers? If so, this network is for you. Please join us for an afternoon of networking and a farm tour. Come to one, or come to all. Everyone is welcome!

MULTIPLE DATES

All gatherings begin at 4 p.m. with farm tours and a potluck following.



These events are facilitated by the Northeast Iowa Food and Fitness Initiative; Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Region 4; and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Local Food Team, with support from USDA Rural Development.

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Contact Kayla Koether (563) 382-2949, koether@iastate.edu for more information.

Sunday, July 16

Mari and Kyle Holthaus
Kymar Acres
2168 Winnmakee Rd. • Waukon
County: Allamakee

Sunday, August 20

Natasha Hegmann and Pete Kerns
Turkey River Farm
23719 Hazel Rd. • Elkport
County: Clayton

Sunday, September 17

Martha McFarland
Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch
2459 290th St. • Fredericksburg
County: Chickasaw



Sunday, October 15

Hannah Breckbill and Emily Fagan
Humble Hands Harvest
Hidden Falls Road (it's at the dead end!) • Decorah
County: Winneshiek

Greenhorn Grazing Series

This five-part series covers concepts relevant to all producers of grass-based livestock with topics including the importance of managing forage, soil fertility, water and fencing systems, forage species selection, legal fencing, lease issues and winter feeding plans. Developed by ISU Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and industry staff, this series delivers timely materials and hands-on workshops for producers interested in improving their forage management system. Producers will learn how to improve the productivity and protection of their land. Each session includes classroom learning and a pasture walk at a different producer's farm.

MULTIPLE DATES • 4 – 9 p.m.

Registration is required, and there is a \$50 fee, which includes the evening meal and educational materials for each session.



To register, please contact Joe Sellers, sellers@iastate.edu, (641) 203-1270 by Saturday, June 3. More information can also be found at iowabeefcenter.org

Organizers recommend that you attend all five sessions, but individual session registration can be considered.

- **Tuesday, June 6**
- **Tuesday, June 27**
- **Tuesday, August 1**
- **Tuesday, September 26**
- **Tuesday, November 14**

HOSTS:

**Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
Madison County Cattlemens Association
Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture**

STARTING LOCATION:

Madison County Extension office
117 N. 1st St. • Winterset • 50273



TOPICS:

- Managing forage
- Soil fertility
- Water and fencing systems
- Species selection
- Leasing issues
- Winter feeding plans

Establishing and Evaluating Native Prairie Plantings

Come learn about the benefits that native prairie can provide on farms for water quality improvement efforts and pollinator habitat. Learn about the process for adding prairie strips, how to evaluate prairie plantings and best practices for maintaining them. This event is for landowners, managers, technical service providers, conservation planners and those interested in learning more about a successful prairie planting.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20 • 9 – 11 a.m.

Coffee and pastries will be provided prior to the event.

RSVPs are preferred, but not required. Please contact Ashley Kittle, ashley.kittle@uni.edu, (319) 273-3828, by Tuesday, June 13. For more information on the Tallgrass Prairie Center, visit tallgrassprairiecenter.org.

HOSTS:

**Tallgrass Prairie Center • University of Northern Iowa
Randy Luze • Luze Family Farm Corp**

LOCATION:

Luze Family Farm Corp.
5718 12th Ave. • Dysart • 52224

TOPICS:

- Evaluating prairie seed mixes
- Site preparation and planting
- First- and second-year maintenance and weed control
- Stand evaluation
- Side-by-side comparison of three seed mixes

THE FARM:

Luze Farm Corp is a fourth-generation family farm. Randy raises seed corn and soybeans under contract for DuPont Pioneer with his father, Larry. Randy is an accredited farm manager with Peoples Company and works with his daughter, Mollie, also a farm manager, to incorporate conservation projects for their absentee landowner clients.



DIRECTIONS:

The Luze Farm is about 3 miles northeast of Dysart. From IA Hwy 8, turn north onto 12th Avenue and go about 1 mile; the farm will be on your right (east).

SILT Showcase Day – Rolling Acres Farm

This event, organized by the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT), is designed for farm and acreage owners who want to permanently protect their land from encroaching development while leaving a legacy for Iowa of affordable farmland and healthy food. Farm host Denise O'Brien will describe the thought process behind protecting their farm, and an attorney and an appraiser will discuss how to protect a farm and what impact that has on its value. Solutions for keeping the farm in the family, as well as passing it on to a reliable steward beyond the family, will be covered. Farm tour and lunch included.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Light lunch included; **RSVPs required**

HOST:

Denise O'Brien • Rolling Acres Farm

59624 Chicago Rd. • Atlantic • 50022

(712) 249-3197 • rollingacres76@gmail.com

rollingacres76.com

TOPICS:

- Protecting land through conservation easements
- Tax incentives available to landowners
- Impact of conservation easements on land values
- Opportunities for sustainable food farmers

SPEAKERS:

- **Sheila Knoploh-Odole** – executive director, SILT
- **Dan Dvorak** – appraiser, Iowa Appraisal and Research Corp.
- **Suzan Erem** – president, SILT

THE FARM:

Denise and her husband, Larry Harris have been involved with organic production and cultivating local food for 41 years. Denise has been active in many roles including: founder of Women Food and Agriculture Network, grandmother, candidate for Iowa Secretary of Agriculture and former agriculture adviser in Afghanistan. She is also a co-founder of SILT.

As Denise states, "Our family has begun discussions



RSVP FOR EVENT AT:

silt.org by **Monday, June 19.**



about the land we will be leaving them. While only one of our children is interested in farming, all of us feel the importance of an easement on the land for food production. Come visit our farm and learn about how families can leave a legacy of the land they have cared for."

DIRECTIONS:

From I-80: Take Exit 54 south and follow 590th St / IA Hwy 173 for about a mile. Turn left (east) on Chicago Rd and go 0.5 mile; it's the first house on the left (north).

Establishing and Evaluating Native Prairie Plantings on Farms

Come learn the benefits that native prairie can provide on farms for water quality improvement efforts and pollinator habitat. This event is for landowners, managers, technical service providers, conservation planners and those interested in learning more about a successful prairie planting.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 • 9 a.m. – Noon

Lunch will be provided

RSVPs are preferred, but not required. Please contact Ashley Kittle, ashley.kittle@uni.edu, (319) 273-3828, by Tuesday, June 13.



HOST:

Tallgrass Prairie Center • University of Northern Iowa

LOCATION:

ISU Research and Demonstration Farm Borlaug Learning Center

3327 290th St. • Nashua • 50658

TOPICS:

- First- and second-year maintenance and weed control
- Stand evaluation
- Side-by-side comparison of three seed mixes
- How to determine the proper seed mix for site-specific locations

THE TALLGRASS PRAIRIE CENTER:

The Tallgrass Prairie Center is an advocate for progressive, ecological approaches using native vegetation to provide environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits for the public good. The center is located in Cedar Falls on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa. For more information, visit tallgrassprairiecenter.org.



DIRECTIONS:

The Borlaug Center is west of Nashua, less than 5 minutes from the Avenue of the Saints / U.S. 218. At Nashua Exit 220, go west on County Road B60 for 1 mile. Turn south on Windfall Avenue and go 1 mile. At the T-intersection, turn east on 290th Street and go approximately 0.25 mile.

Iowa Forage and Grassland Council Summer Grazing Field Day

This event is an opportunity for Iowa Forage and Grassland Council (IFGC) members and others to tour forage management plots and exchange ideas about grazing management. IFGC members include forage producers, and industry and public sector representatives who promote profitable production and use of forages.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29 • 3:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Meal provided



RSVPs requested. To RSVP, or for more information, please contact Luke Wilson, lwilson@barusa.com or (319) 883-1717, by Tuesday, June 27.

HOSTS:

**Iowa Forage and Grasslands Council
Iowa Beef Center
Luke Wilson**

LOCATION:

Prairie City Church of the Brethren
12015 Co Rd S6G • Prairie City • 50228

TOPICS:

- Grazing annual cover crop mix in rotation with corn and soybeans
- Pasture mixes (novel endophyte fescue, endo-free fescue, diverse mix)
- Forage production on winter feeding areas
- Forage crabgrass following winter rye
- Weed control and chaparral test to suppress tall fescue seed heads



DIRECTIONS:

The event will take place at the Prairie City Church of the Brethren (6 miles south of Prairie City). The event will be held outdoors in the pavilion, weather permitting. In the event of bad weather, the event will be held in the church basement.

SILT Showcase Day – Oak Savanna Mushrooms and Veg

This Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT) event is for farm and acreage owners who want to permanently protect their land from encroaching development while leaving a legacy of affordable farmland and healthy food to Iowa. Farm host Steve Beaumont will describe how and why he donated his land to SILT, and we will hear from an attorney and an appraiser on how to protect a farm and what impact that has on its value. Solutions for keeping the farm in the family as well as passing it on to a reliable steward beyond the family will be covered. Farm tour and lunch included.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

A light lunch will be provided

RSVPs required

HOSTS:

Steve Beaumont and Will Lorentzen

Oak Savanna Mushrooms and Veg

35217 Jupiter Rd. • Garber • 52048

oaksavannamushrooms.com

TOPICS:

- Protecting land through conservation easements and donations
- Tax incentives for landowners
- Impact of conservation easements on land values
- Opportunities for new sustainable food farmers

SPEAKERS:

- **Sheila Knoploh-Odole** – executive director, SILT
- **Jim Jensen** – appraiser, Jensen and Jennings Appraisals
- **Suzan Erem** – president, SILT

THE FARM:

Located in the ridges and bluffs of Clayton County, Oak Savanna Mushrooms and Veg is a diverse vegetable farm with a focus on shiitake production. Steve Beaumont, who still lives on the property, donated his 22 acres to SILT in 2016, providing this opportunity to farmer Will Lorentzen.



RSVP FOR EVENT AT:

silt.org by **Monday, July 10.**



DIRECTIONS:

From Colesburg: Drive north on Main Street (becomes Colesburg Road / County Road X3C) to Kettle Road. Turn right and go 1.2 miles to Jupiter Road. Turn left and go 1.3 miles; it will be the first house on the left.

From Garber: Find the Anchor Inn Tavern on Front Street at the base of the hill (906 Front St.). Across the street is Jupiter Road. Take it across the Turkey River, (bear right at the fork) and drive 3 miles; the farm will be on the right.

J40 Farm Crawl

The J40 Farm Crawl is a celebration of all things local. Several businesses showcase enterprises ranging from family farms to local artisans, crafters and history. Discover the great products and services offered by small family-owned farms and businesses along Highway J40 in the scenic Villages of Van Buren County in southeastern Iowa! Start your day with a homemade breakfast at the Lebanon Amish School. Meander down the road to explore the art and history, tour farms, ride a horse-driven wagon and watch glass blowing demonstrations. Taste wine, cheese, homemade ice cream and clay-oven baked bread. Event details can be found at bloomandbark.com/events.

SATURDAY, JULY 22 • 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

An Amish breakfast (biscuits and gravy, pancakes, sausage) will be served at the Lebanon Amish School from 8 a.m. – noon. Free-will donation



HOST FARMS:

- Bloom and Bark Farm
- Crane Winery
- Lengacher's Greenhouse
- Lebanon Amish School
- Yoder's Indian Creek Furniture
- Milton Creamery
- Troy Academy

EVENT INFORMATION:

Contact Bloom and Bark Farm (641) 233-8210, bloomandbark@netins.net. Or visit bloomandbark.com/events for complete details and a map of all participating farms and businesses along the way.

TOPICS:

- Greenhouse growing
- Natural building techniques for structures and clay ovens
- Artisan bread
- Amish culture
- Award-winning cheese creamery
- Glass blowing
- History of education
- Amish-made furniture workshop
- Locally made wines
- Various folk art trades and demonstrations



DIRECTIONS:

A map of all farm locations can be found at bloomandbark.com/events.

Night at the Harvest Table

Come enjoy an evening at Bodega Victoriana, our local winery. We'll have live music and an amazing meal including foods from local producers. It will be a time to socialize and experience all that Mills County and southwestern Iowa have to offer, from food to music! Dress will be semi-formal. Purchase tickets online at brownpapertickets.com.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 • 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

A meal will be provided by local producers.



Cost: The cost for the dinner is \$45 for a single ticket, or \$80 for a couple.

Registration is required. Tickets must be purchased online at brownpapertickets.com by July 31.

HOST:

Mills County Local Foods

(712) 527-3316

LOCATION:

Bodega Victoriana

60397 Kidd Rd. • Glenwood • 51534

DIRECTIONS:

Head west on IA Hwy 34 (Mills County). Before you reach Glenwood, turn left on Kidd Road. You will go approximately 2 miles; Bodega Victoriana will be on the left (east) side. We will have signs near Kidd Road on IA Hwy 34 to indicate where to turn.



2017 ISU Fruit and Vegetable Field Day

The field day will provide a face-to-face opportunity to interact with ISU researchers and evaluate research projects focusing on high tunnel pepper production, organic vegetable production, asparagus production, pest management in cucurbit crops, viticulture, high tunnel tomato grafting, hop production and honey bee health and behavior studies. The field day will also provide an opportunity to view equipment and tools needed in small-scale fruit and vegetable production systems. It will feature research-based information on tools, techniques and practices employed in commercial fruit and vegetable production. Although geared toward commercial growers, the event would be helpful to master gardeners and homeowners who are interested in enhancing their production skills and diversifying their gardens and acreages.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7 • 2 – 6:30 p.m.

Stay for supper after the program



This event is **free**, but **RSVPs are required** by Wednesday, August 2. Please register at extension.iastate.edu/vegetablelab/2017-fruit-and-vegetable-field-day

HOSTS:

Ajay Nair and Diana Cochran • Department of Horticulture, Iowa State University
(515) 294-7080 • nairajay@iastate.edu

LOCATION:

Horticulture Research Station
55519 170th St. • Ames • 50010

THE RESEARCH STATION:

Iowa State University Horticulture Research Station is located on 230 acres of land that includes topography of flat areas, rolling hills and waterways, with a 12-acre lake. Research projects range from work on fruits, vegetables and herbaceous ornamentals, to work with trees, shrubs and turfgrass.

DIRECTIONS:

From Ames: Drive north on U.S. 69 and take a right on 170th Street. The research station is in 2 miles, on the left side of the road.



FUNDING:

Funding for the event is provided by United States Department of Agriculture Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program and Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Specialty Crop Block Grants. Organized in partnership with the Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Practical Farmers of Iowa.

SILT Showcase Day – Abbe Hills Farm

This Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT) event is designed for farm and acreage owners who want to permanently protect their land from encroaching development while leaving a legacy of affordable farmland and healthy food to Iowa. A farm tour and light supper are included. Farm host Laura Krouse will discuss her thoughts about permanently protecting her farm, and an attorney and an appraiser will discuss how to protect a farm and what impact that has on its value. Solutions for keeping the farm in the family as well as passing it on to a reliable steward beyond the family will be covered.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13 • 2 – 6 p.m.

Light supper will be provided

RSVPs required

HOST:

Laura Krouse • Abbe Hills Farm

825 Abbe Hills Rd. • Mt. Vernon • 52314

(319) 895-6924

abbehills.com

TOPICS:

- Easements and land donations
- Tax incentives for landowners
- Impact of conservation easements on land values
- Opportunities for sustainable food farmers

SPEAKERS:

- **Sheila Knoploh-Odole** – executive director, SILT
- **Jim Jensen** – appraiser, Jensen and Jennings Appraisals
- **Suzan Erem** – president, SILT

THE FARM:

Laura owns 72 acres in Linn County, between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, where she grows open-pollinated corn for seed, hay, laying hens and vegetables for Abbe Hills Farm CSA. 2017 is the 21st year for the CSA, which serves about 200 families in the Mt. Vernon, Lisbon, Cedar Rapids and Marion areas. Laura is a long-time



RSVP FOR EVENT AT:

silt.org by **Thursday, August 10.**



commissioner of the Linn Soil and Water Conservation District and a Sunday school teacher at First Mennonite Church in Iowa City.

DIRECTIONS:

From Mt Vernon: Take Springfield Road / County Road X20 north to Abbe Hills Road and turn left (west). The farm is the first one on the left side of the road. Follow the parking signs.

Ag Technologies for Max Yield in Organic and Conventional Systems

Please join Genetic Enterprises International (GEI) for this two-part field day. Part 1 will include presentations and discussions related to maximizing yield of specialty corns in organic and in conventional production systems. Part 2 will involve field observations of GEI specialty and conventional hybrids used for both production systems.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 • 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

A meal will be provided with food prepared using GEI specialty corns.



RSVPs are required. This event is limited to a maximum of 50 attendees. Please RSVP to paezgei@mchsi.com or (515) 278-1170 by Tuesday, August 29.

HOSTS:

Alix and Mary Jane Paez
Genetic Enterprises International
 3 Boone St. • Luther • 50152
 (515) 278-1170 • paezgei@mchsi.com
geicornseed.com

TOPIC:

- Agricultural practices used in maximizing yield

SPEAKERS:

- Alix Paez – GEI corn breeder
- More speakers to be announced. Check website prior to event

DIRECTIONS:

The event will be located at the intersection of IA Hwy 17 and County Road E57. The site is 6 miles north of Madrid or 6 miles south of U.S. 30.



Fall Field Day – Middle Way Farm

This field day is Middle Way Farm's annual open house for customers and friends of the farm. Come and see where and how your produce is grown in the company of friends, community members and fellow local food eaters – and, of course, enjoy good food! The event is free and open to the public. Children are welcome. The farm tour will cover all aspects of the operation, including the greenhouse; field; and washing, packing and cooler areas. You will see produce in the field, learn about the farm's growing methods, hear about the season's successes and challenges and find out about new techniques the farm is using.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 • 4 – 7 p.m.

Farm tour at 4 p.m.

Potluck picnic at 5:30 p.m.; see details below



HOST:

Jordan Scheibel • Middle Way Farm

3633 IA Hwy 146 • Grinnell • 50112

(641) 821-0753 • jordan@middlewayfarm.com

middlewayfam.com

TOPICS:

- Market gardening
- Chemical-free and organic vegetable production
- Small-scale no-till and minimal-till bed preparation
- Weed control
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

THE FARM:

Middle Way Farm is a 2-acre market garden located just north of Grinnell, operated by Jordan Scheibel since 2013. The farm produces over 40 varieties of vegetables, herbs and flowers for sale directly to customers through the Thursday Grinnell farmers market; an 80- to 100-member CSA, with shares available in Grinnell, Newton, Marshalltown and Ames; Relish and McNallys Foods in Grinnell; Farm to Folk in Ames; and the Iowa Food Cooperative in Des Moines. The farm is transitioning to organic in 2017. Jordan has been a PFI member since 2011 and is a graduate

of the 2014 Savings Incentive Program (SIP) class. He has participated in several research trials through PFI's Cooperators' Program, and serves on the Labor4Learning committee. He previously worked for Grinnell Heritage Farm and is a graduate of Grinnell College. Jordan has been farming full-time since December 2015.

DIRECTIONS:

The farm is located .66 mile north of Grinnell.

From the south: Take IA Hwy 146 north; Middle Way Farm is the second farmstead on the right after leaving town. **From the north:** From IA Hwy 146 and 350th Street, Middle Way Farm is the first farmstead on the left after passing under the railroad trestle.

Take the driveway heading toward the big blue barn and find the Middle Way Farm sign.

POTLUCK DETAILS:

Main dishes (including vegetarian and vegan) will be provided. Please bring a drink, side dish, salad or dessert to share, preferably with local ingredients. Please label your dishes and list major ingredients (and possible allergens), including what ingredients are locally grown.

Bringing your own tableware is encouraged, but not required. Potluck dishes may be stored in the cooler or heated prior to serving at 5:30 pm.

Local Food & Farm Celebration

The Local Food & Farm Celebration is a farm crawl involving several farms located along IA Hwy 173 between Atlantic and Elk Horn, and is all about celebrating local farms raising food for local consumption. The event is organized with families in mind and is meant to connect consumers and farmers in a fun and meaningful way. At the top of each hour (1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m.), a farmer will give a 20- to 30-minute guided tour of his or her farm, with time for questions before and after the tour. The farms are diverse in items produced and methods of production, and are at different stages in their farming adventure. Guests will get to experience vegetable, beef, pork, poultry and dairy production with all five senses, including touch! Farmers may also have farm products for sale. Admission is free and all are welcome!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 • 1 – 5 p.m.

HOSTS:

- **Denise O'Brien and Larry Harris – Rolling Acres Farm**
- **Gil and Ardy Gillespie – Harrisdale Farmstead**
- **Nathan and Emily Paulsen – Brun Ko Farm**
- *More farms may be added!*

LOCATION:

This is a farm crawl. Please visit brunkofarm.weebly.com/farmcrawl.html for the most up-to-date information on farms and designated routes.

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Contact Nathan and Emily Paulsen at brunkofarm@gmail.com or (712) 249-3187, or visit brunkofarm.weebly.com/farmcrawl.html.

THE FARMS:

Rolling Acres Farm – Larry Harris and Denise O'Brien operate Rolling Acres Farm, the farm on which Larry grew up. They have been using organic practices for 40 years, and are certified organic by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. The farm has 2 acres in production with a wide variety of vegetables. A moveable high tunnel is used to grow produce early in the spring

and late in the fall. This Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm has nearly 40 members in southwestern Iowa and the Omaha area. Larry and Denise also sell produce in Atlantic each week at Produce in the Park.

Brun Ko Farm – Nathan and Emily Paulsen own and operate Brun Ko Farm, growing a variety of vegetable crops, and raising beef and pork. They plan to add milk and yogurt to their offerings in the next 3 to 5 years. Nathan and Emily want to be very transparent about their farm. They are excited about sharing farm details, and have worked with EHK-Exira school district and other local organizations to welcome children and tours onto the farm. Emily and Nathan currently sell produce and baked goods at Produce in the Park in Atlantic and the Elk Horn Farmers Market. They are also adding a roadside stand to the farm.

Harrisdale Farmstead – Ardy and Gil Gillespie are in their second year selling vegetables, fruit and herbs at Produce in the Park in Atlantic and the Elk Horn Farmers Market. They are working to establish a diverse planting of nut and fruit trees, berry bushes, vines, brambles and asparagus, as well as growing annual crops. Their goal is to cultivate the local community and people's well-being through healthful foods produced in a highly productive system that builds soil, is resilient to weather extremes, fosters beneficial organisms for resistance to diseases and pests, and is consistent with organic principles.

Farm Cruise

Farm Cruise is a self guided tour of farms in Story and Polk Counties. Visitors will be able to take a hayrack ride through an orchard and pick apples, visit a high tunnel vegetable farm with a commercial kitchen, and learn about grass-fed livestock production. Guest vendors at some farms will offer locally crafted goods for sale and demonstrate their methods.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 • 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Food will be available for purchase at the various farms

This is a no-pets event



Event Questions: Contact Marilyn Andersen
(515) 460-7273 • marilyn@farmtofolk.com, or visit
farmcruise.com

LOCATIONS AND HOSTS:

Berry Patch Farm – Dean, Judy and Mike Henry

Seven Pines Farm – Dan and Julie Beougher

Cory Family Farm – Tom and Mary Cory

Remnant Hills Farm – Tom Wilson and Taylor Williams

Two Cedars Weaving and Farm-to-Folk – Marilyn Andersen

DIRECTIONS:

Access a map and directions at farmcruise.com



Establishing and Evaluating Native Prairie Plantings on Farms

Attendees will learn the benefits that native prairie can provide on farms for water quality improvement efforts and pollinator habitat. This event is for landowners, managers, technical service providers, conservation planners and those interested in learning more about a successful prairie planting. The field day will highlight the installation of an in-field prairie strip in a state-identified priority watershed (Dry Run Creek).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 • 9 a.m. – Noon

Lunch will be served at 11 a.m.

RSVPs are preferred, but not required. Please contact Ashley Kittle, ashley.kittle@uni.edu, (319) 273-3828, by Wednesday, September 13.



HOSTS:

**Tallgrass Prairie Center • University of Northern Iowa
Black Hawk Soil and Water Conservation District**

LOCATION:

Renewable Farm

1572 S. Union Rd. • Cedar Falls • 50613

TOPICS:

- Evaluating prairie seed mixes
- Site preparation and planting
- First- and second-year maintenance and weed control
- Stand evaluation
- The Dry Run Creek Watershed Improvement Project

THE TALLGRASS PRAIRIE CENTER:

The Tallgrass Prairie Center is an advocate for progressive, ecological approaches using native vegetation to provide environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits for the public good. The center is located in Cedar Falls on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa. For more information, visit tallgrassprairiecenter.org.



DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. Hwy 20: Take Exit 220 and go north on University Avenue. Turn right (south) on Union Road; the farm will be on the east side of S. Union Road.

SILT Showcase Day – Red Fern Farm

This Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT) event is for farm and acreage owners who want to permanently protect their land from encroaching development while leaving a legacy of affordable farmland and healthy food to Iowa. Farm hosts Tom and Kathy will describe the process of protecting their farm, and an attorney and an appraiser will discuss how to protect a farm and what impact that has on its value. Solutions for keeping the farm in the family as well as passing it on to a reliable steward beyond the family will be covered. Farm tour and lunch included.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

A light lunch will be provided

RSVPs required

HOSTS:

Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice • Red Fern Farm

13882 I Ave. • Wapello • 52652

(319) 729-5905 • kathy@redfernfarm.com

redfernfarm.com

TOPICS:

- Protecting land through conservation easements
- Tax incentives available for landowners
- Impact of conservation easements on land values
- Opportunities for sustainable food farmers

SPEAKERS:

- **Sheila Knoploh-Odole** – executive director, SILT
- **Dan Dvorak** – appraiser, Iowa Appraisal and Research Corp.
- **Suzan Erem** – president, SILT

THE FARM:

Red Fern Farm is a family-owned nursery and farm run and owned by Tom Wahl and Kathy Dice. It is the site of ongoing research on a variety of tree crops and forest farming systems. Tom and Kathy raise and sell container-grown tree seedlings and medicinal planting roots well-suited for the Midwest.



RSVP FOR EVENT AT:

silt.org by **Monday, September 18.**



DIRECTIONS:

From U.S. 61 (south of Grandview): Turn east at 145th Street. and go 1.6 miles. The road will curve south. You'll see a large tree planting and house on the right. Turn left and park along the lane, facing the electric fence. There is limited parking for the elderly and disabled near the house.

Establishing and Evaluating Native Prairie Plantings

Topics of the field day will include the installation of prairie strips and a saturated buffer. The Tallgrass Prairie Center staff will discuss proper seed mix design techniques, and proper prairie establishment and management techniques. Researchers from the ISU STRIPS team and saturated buffer team will discuss project results and discuss the water quality benefits these conservation practices provide. Learn about the process of adding prairie strips, how to evaluate prairie plantings and best practices for managing them. The STRIPS project, Science-based Trials of Row-crop Integrated with Prairie Strips, focuses on planting a small percentage of a field into strips of perennial prairie plants to reduce soil erosion, and water runoff, and to create habitat for pollinators.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 • 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Meal served following the field day

RSVPs are preferred, but not required. Please contact Ashley Kittle, ashley.kittle@uni.edu, (319) 273-3828, by Wednesday, September 13.



HOST:

**Tallgrass Prairie Center • University of Northern Iowa
ISU STRIPS Team • Iowa State University**

LOCATION:

J.H. Roadman Memorial Park

The park is located 1.5 miles west of Dike on County Road D19 (160th Street), in Grundy County.

TOPICS:

- Site preparation and planting techniques
- Evaluating prairie seed mixes
- First- and second-year maintenance
- Benefits perennial prairie provides

THE FARM & TALLGRASS PRAIRIE CENTER:

The farm site is adjacent to the J.H. Roadman Memorial Park and is managed by Hertz Farm Management.

The Tallgrass Prairie Center is an advocate for progressive, ecological approaches using native vegetation to provide environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits for the public



good. The center is located in Cedar Falls on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa. For more information, visit tallgrassprairiecenter.org.

For more information about the STRIPS program, visit nrem.iastate.edu/research/STRIPs.

DIRECTIONS:

The field day site will be at the J.H. Roadman Memorial Park, located 1.5 miles west of Dike on County Road D19 (160th Street). The park is located on the north side of the road.

Harvest Spoon Tour

Enjoy autumn in Iowa's western hills with a tour of Loess Hills local farms and businesses. The tour features locally grown businesses and organizations that promote, enhance and increase the awareness of and passion for local foods and food culture in Harrison and Pottawattamie counties. At each tour site, the featured businesses will offer unique events or activities created with attendees in mind. Local foods and products will be highlighted to sample, purchase and experience.

The tour features a lavender farm, a greenhouse, a historical farm and welcome center, a sheep and goat dairy, a nature area, a beekeeper, and a chicken ranch and herb farm. Each location will present programs pertaining to the farm and the products crafted.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 • 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.



FARM HOSTS:

- Doe's and Diva's Dairy
- Harrison County Historical Village & Welcome Center
- Hitchcock Nature Center
- Hodge Greenhouse
- Loess Hills Lavender Farm
- Wild Rose Farms & Van Sickle Bees

EVENT QUESTIONS:

Contact Doe's and Diva's Dairy at doesanddivas@gmail.com or (402) 594-5111

THE FARMS:

For more information on the host farms, visit sites.google.com/site/harvestspoon.com.

DIRECTIONS:

Find a map at theharvestspoon.com. Some of the farms are located on gravel roads.







**600 Fifth St.
Suite 100
Ames, IA 50010**
(515) 232-5661
practicalfarmers.org

 facebook.com/practicalfarmers

 youtube.com/user/pfivideos

 twitter.com/practicalfarmer

 linkedin.com/company/practical-farmers-of-iowa

