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Join us at a field day near you

Thank you for joining us at our field days in early June – the turnout so far has been enthusiastic!

Pictured left is our first field day of the year with **James Hepp** at Hepp Farms in Rockwell City, Iowa. Guests explored how cover crops make sense financially, and they received practical advice for getting started with cover crops.

Pictured right are **Caleb Akin** and **Noah Wendt** of A&W Farms in Cambridge, Iowa, who hosted a field day last Tuesday. Attendees learned how Caleb and Noah relay-crop rye and soybeans in their organic no-till system.

Will you join us at a field day this summer? [View our interactive map online to find field days in your area.](#)

NEWS

[Cost-share your cover crops with PFI](#)



Though corn and soy are just taking off, it's time to start thinking about fall cover crops!

About 72% of farmers in our 2022 cover crop cost-share program reported that cover crops positively or very positively impacted their financial goals. They also experienced **less weed pressure, better long-term yield stability and extra forage or grazing value.**

PFI offers \$10 per acre cost-share on unlimited acres. [Learn more and enroll.](#)

Match livestock with land on the Midwest Grazing Exchange



Find the livestock or land match that's right for you on our [Midwest Grazing Exchange.](#)

This site is a free matchmaking service that aims to **connect graziers and landowners** in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin.

Graziers can search for forage for their animals, and landowners can search for livestock to graze their land. [Create an account to get started.](#)

Welcome Kyleigh Meyeres to PFI staff



Kyleigh Meyeres joins PFI as an office assistant. In this role, Kyleigh assists with a variety of projects, including front office activities, data collection and coordinating the welcome committee for new PFI members.

Kyleigh is a senior at Iowa State University and will graduate next spring with a Bachelor of Science in technical communication and a minor in English, with a focus on grant writing and nonprofit organizational structure. [Learn more about Kyleigh.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Field day: Creating On-Farm Habitat



Wednesday, June 21 | Noon-3 p.m.

Join **Bev and Dwight Rutter** of The Prairie Flower Farm in Spencer, Iowa, as they explore the multitude of ways to create wildlife habitat on working lands.

The Prairie Flower is a 640-acre farm specializing in native seed production and agrotourism. The farm originally began as a traditional corn and soybean acreage before being converted to native grasses starting in 2002. [Please RSVP online.](#)

Meet us in Hampton, Iowa, for our next Spanish social



Thursday, June 22 | 1-3 p.m.

Please join us for our upcoming Spanish community social at La Luz Centro Cultural in Hampton, Iowa.

This is an informal gathering for producers of all experience levels to connect. Registration is not required but is appreciated. [RSVP online here.](#)

Refreshments will be provided by La Chozita, a local Mexican restaurant.

Beginning farmers: See you at our social in northeast Iowa

Saturday, June 24 | 5 p.m.

Enjoy pizza on us at Luna Valley Farm on Saturday, June 24 starting at 5 p.m. Gather and get to know beginning farmers near you.

[Visit our website to see other beginning farmer socials](#) happening in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Blair, Nebraska, this year.



To RSVP, please email
rachel.burke@practicalfarmers.org.

Field day: Rematriating Iowa's Historical Prairie



Wednesday, June 28 | 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Join prairie rematriation advocate and consultant **Shelley Buffalo** of the Meskwaki Tribe on a prairie tour.

Shelley will discuss how to holistically manage prairie landscapes to support biodiversity. She will also discuss the cultural relevance Iowa's prairie had, and still has, to the Meskwaki and other local Tribes.

The outdoor trail is paved and wheelchair-accessible.

[RSVP online here.](#)

More upcoming events

July 7: Field Day – [Drilling Down on Oat Varieties](#)

Hosted by: Neil & Elizabeth Peterson and sons Paul & Timothy
10 a.m.-Noon. | Fonda, IA

July 8: Field Day – [Closing the Loop With Complementary Enterprises](#)

Hosted by: Brice & Melanie Hundling
3-5 p.m. | Breda, IA

July 8: Field Day – [Sheep Sheering](#)

Hosted by: Greg Padget
11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. | Newton, IA

[View our events calendar](#)

Members in the News

Helen Gunderson of Ames, IA, was featured in [The Gazette: Who owns Iowa farmland?](#)

Matt and Jocelyn Vermeersch of Council Bluffs, IA, were featured in [Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development: Featured Farm: Mud Ridge Ranch](#)

Ross and Cassie Kurash of Fort Atkinson, IA, were featured in [Decorah News: Registration is being taken for a soil health workshop](#)

Landon Plagge of Latimer, IA, and **Lydia English**, PFI's field crops viability manager, were featured in [Civil Eats: Bringing Oats Back to American Farms](#)

Fred Abels of Holland, IA, was featured in [The Gazette: To help lessen flooding risk, Cedar Rapids looks upstream](#)

Kate Mendenhall of Okoboji, IA, was featured in [Okoboji Magazine: Okoboji Organics raises food that's good for people and the environment](#)

Ethan and Carly Zierke of Calmar, IA, and **Barb and Peter Kraus** of Decorah, IA, were featured in the [Driftless Journal: Young farmers find ag opportunities a perfect fit](#)

PFI in the News

Nick Ohde, PFI's marketing and communications director, was featured in the [Southeast Iowa Union: International film festival declared a success](#)

PFI was mentioned in a news release by the [Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship: Southeast Iowa Water Quality Project Accelerates Toward New Phase](#)

Have you been featured in the media? If you're a PFI member, tell us when and where to find a link to the article, and we'll feature you in a future issue of Practical News.

Contact: elizabeth.wilhelm@practicalfarmers.org

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