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Beginning
Farmer
NEWS

February 2023

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Call TODAY to register for the Beginning Farmer Summit!

Feb. 13 | Ames, IA | FREE | [More Info](#)

Four tracks to choose from:

- Getting Ready for Land
- Beginning Farmer: Enterprise Budgeting
- Beginning Farmer: Marketing Plan Fundamentals
- Setting Goals and Taking the Next Steps for Landowners

PROGRAM UPDATES

Join us around the state for Horticulture Meet-Ups



Gather with other area vegetable, fruit and flower farmers to build relationships, share plans and ideas, and prepare for the coming season.

RSVP by emailing [Jacqueline Venner Senske](mailto:Jacqueline.Venner@pfi.org) or by calling the office at (515) 232-5661.

[Meet-Up locations, dates and more info here!](#)

Missed the PFI annual conference? Add it to your watch list!

Fencing Techniques fo...



The recordings from the annual conference are now available on PFI's YouTube channel.

Trying to fence your sheep, cattle or goats? Start with: [Fencing Techniques for Difficult Terrain](#)

PFI is hiring a Beginning Farmer Engagement Coordinator



Join our team!

- The central goal of this position is to: Bring new faces to agriculture in Iowa
- Create networks and educational opportunities for newcomers to farming
- Connect them with PFI's network and resources.

[See full position information and apply here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming PFI events

All events listed in Central Time.

Feb. 13: Workshop - Beginning Farmer Summit

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Ames, IA

Feb. 14: Farminar - Magic Tarping Ride: Perspectives on a System for Soil Quality, Weed Control and More on Vegetable Farms

Speakers: Hannah Breckbill & Ryan Maher

Noon-1:30 p.m. | Online

Feb. 15: Hort Farmer Meet-Up

Host: Joanne Roepke Bode

Feed Mill Coffee Co.

9-11 a.m. | Algona, IA

Feb. 17: Hort Farmer Meet-Up

Host: Jenny Quiner

Dogpatch Urban Gardens

9-11 a.m. | Des Moines, IA

Feb. 21: Farminar - Pricing Pastured Poultry

Speakers: Ben Grimes, Anna Hankins & Shae Pesek

Noon-1:30 p.m. | Online

Feb. 21: Hort Farmer Meet-Up

Host: Erik Sessions

Blazing Star Eats

10 a.m. - noon | Decorah, IA

Feb. 24: Flower & Hort Farmer Meet-Up

Host: Anna Geyer & Kim Anderson

Anna's Cutting Garden

9-11 a.m. | Oxford, IA

Feb. 28: Farminar - Bison, Beef and Tribal Food Sovereignty

Speaker: Jayme Murray

Noon-1:30 p.m. | Online

March 3: Hort Farmer Meet-Up

Host: John & Janna Wesselius

The Fruited Plain

9-11 a.m. | Sioux Center, IA

March 14: Farminar - Navigating Iowa's New Cottage Food Law: A Farmer-Focused Q&A

Speakers: Julie Kraling & Kurt Rueber

Noon-1:30 p.m. | Online

Friends of PFI events

Jan. 10-March 7: Webinar Series - Small-Scale Growing & Marketing for Beginning Farmers

Hosted by: University of New Hampshire

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Online

Feb. 14-March 14: Webinar Series - Marketing Your Online Farm Store

Hosted by: The Land Connection

4:30-6 p.m. | Online

Feb. 23-25: Conference - Marbleseed Organic Farming Conference

Full day | Lacrosse, WI

Visit PFI staff at this event!

Feb. 21-24: Virtual Conference - 2023 Urban and Small Farms Conference

Hosted by: Utah State University

4:30-6 p.m. | Online

[View more events on our events calendar](#)

BEGINNING FARMER RESOURCES

Check out these additional resources for beginning farmers

CSA Week Promotional Package Available

The CSA Innovation Network is thrilled to share a free digital toolkit filled with resources, tools, and templates to help you promote CSA leading up to and during CSA Week, and beyond! Starting on January 20, sign up here to receive your package. You will then get an email with a link to the entire toolkit.

Specialty Crop Promotion and Capacity Building Grants available to Farmers Markets and Direct Marketing Farmers

The Iowa Healthiest State Initiative will accept applications from farmers markets, farm stands and/or CSA's , with priority on rural and isolated communities, who currently do not have the SNAP incentive program, Double Up Food Bucks, in operation.

Interested? Contact Catie Dysert at Catie@iowahealthieststate.com or [apply online](#)

Specialty Crop Marketing Boot Camp

This virtual boot camp is designed to help those who grow and market specialty crops, the boot camp will feature expert insight from [Darcy Maulsby](#), an Iowa author and experienced ag marketer known as "Iowa's Storyteller."

Registration is free and limited to 15 producers or businesses.

STAY CONNECTED WITH PFI



Looking for more?

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