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Beginning  
Farmer  
**NEWS**  
April 2022

## Check out these farminar recordings!

If you missed a farminar this past season, don't worry! Each farminar is recorded and posted to [PFI's YouTube channel](#).

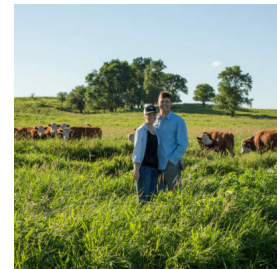
### **“Organic Day-Neutral Strawberry Production in the Upper Midwest”**



Opportunities for producing berries at unique times of year in the Midwest are exciting. [Hear how Aaron Wills uses caterpillar tunnels to produce day-neutral strawberries](#) from summer into the fall.

### **“Grass-Fed Beef Marketing at Grand View Beef”**

Ready to improve your marketing and sales efforts? Listen to [Amanda Severson of Grand View beef share how to prioritize multiple distribution channels](#). She shares the role social media has in managing marketing relationships.



### **“Online Marketing for Pastured Products”**



Raising managing multi-species livestock [Hannah Barnhardt has learned how to prioritize her marketing time and energy](#). Hear how she grew her agri-tourism business by direct-marketing her products solely online.

# National Young Farmers Survey

The National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC) is joining other agricultural justice organizations in launching the most inclusive survey of young and BIPOC farmers to date. Every five years NYFCs survey young farmers across the country to present an up-to-date picture of the challenges and promises of the next generation in agriculture.



Young Farmers' 2017 National Survey was a crucial tool in winning major federal policy reforms, and as the 2023 Farm Bill approaches, they have a critical opportunity to push for equitable land access, climate action, and racial equity in agriculture.

**If you are a current or former farmer or farmworker, Young Farmers wants to hear from you!** [By taking their 2022 survey](#) you can help inform and inspire the bold policy we need for an equitable farm future.

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## Labor4Learning positions are still open! Find a trainer to help get your farming journey started



**Are you looking to get paid, on-the-job training with experienced farmers in Iowa?**

The Labor4Learning program is designed for beginning farmers seeking employment and additional training in farm management and production skills.

Practical Farmers of Iowa "trainer" farmers will be hiring during the next couple of months for the upcoming growing season. [Browse the list for training opportunities near you!](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*\*\*There are no upcoming PFI events at this time. We encourage you to [check our events calendar for non-PFI events](#) as well as keep an eye out for more info on our 2022 field day season, coming to you later this spring.\*\**

## BEGINNING FARMER RESOURCES

We have recently updated our collection of business, financial, production and technical assistance resources to help aspiring and beginning farmers further

their business goals. **You can access them by clicking on the icons below.**

We will continue to build this list and add new resources as they are available. If you see any resources missing that you find helpful, please share them with us. You can send them to **Celize Christy** at [celize@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:celize@practicalfarmers.org).



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*Check out these resources for beginning farmers*

**[Benefits of Perennial Forage, Shrubs, and Trees for Livestock](#)** | National Center for Appropriate Technology  
*Online* | April 27

In this free virtual workshop, NCAT Grazing Specialist Justin Morris and NCAT Livestock Specialist Felicia Bell will explore the benefits of different perennial species they discussed in Part 1. (Did you miss Part 1? **[Get caught up HERE!](#)**). Justin will also go into **how to get the right perennials established** where undesirable perennials already exist. **> [Register here](#)**

**[Demystifying Wholesale](#)** | YouTube Channel

"Demystifying Wholesale" is an upcoming 8-part video series as a **resource for beginning farmers wanting to get into wholesale produce.**

**> [Click here to watch the video series](#)**

**[Next Generation of Black and Hispanic Farmers Scholarship](#)** | University of Nebraska Lincoln

Are you a Black, African American or Hispanic high school student aspiring to be a farmer? And, are you committed to working on a family farm after graduation? The **National Black Farmers Association is offering up to 10 four-year scholarships** at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for Black, African American, or Hispanic high school student farmers committed to farming their family farms upon college graduation. Applications are due by May 15, 2022.

**> [Learn more and apply](#)**

**[Savvy Tips for Starting a Small Business](#)** | Michigan State University Extension

*Online* | April 14

This workshop from MSU Extension will equip you with valuable **information about turning your ideas into a new business and will help you navigate the technicalities** and avoid costly mistakes. **> [Learn more and register](#)**

**[Sustainable Forestry and African American Land Retention Workshop](#)** |

Prairie View A&M University

*Online* | April 14 and May 12, 2022

Prairie View A&M University is presenting a monthly series of free, online workshops. Topics include **heirs' property, estate planning, forest management, timber harvesting, and technical assistance and financial resources** available through USDA NRCS and FSA. **> [Learn more and register](#)**

## [Biosecurity Your Way Focus Group](#) | Center for Food Security and Public Health

This project is especially **interested in working with farmers with little biosecurity experience from underserved or non-traditional farming populations**, including:

- Beginning farmers, women farmers, and veteran farmers
- BIPOC and LGBTQ+ farmers
- Non-native English-speaking farmers

A focus group, with representatives from the groups listed above, is being established to help us prioritize topics and identify the best ways to reach our target populations. The focus group will also assist with reviewing draft course materials. The time commitment is minimal: approximately 12 hours over two years (spring 2022-2024). Communication will occur through email and online surveys. If you are interested in joining the Biosecurity Your Way focus group sign up by April 15. [> To participate sign-up here](#)

## [Advanced Grazing for Regenerating Soil and Enhancing Animal Nutrition](#) |

National Center for Appropriate Technology

NCAT is presenting a free, four-part webinar series led by agriculture specialists Justin Morris and Lee Rinehart. The **series focuses on advanced concepts in taking regenerative grazing to the next level**. Sessions are April 21, May 12, May 26, and June 9, 2022. Register online for any or all sessions.

[> Learn more and register](#)

## [Grow Another Row AmeriCorp Position](#) | Cass County - Iowa State Extension

Cass County Extension is **hiring an AmeriCorps member for summer 2022 to help coordinate their Grow Another Row program which encourages local gardeners and farmers to grow more produce to share**. They have a network of distribution sites across the county, so the program addresses both food access and food security. The coordinator would also be connected with the Iowa Gleaning Network and help organize gleaning in our area. If needed, low-cost housing and additional paid farm work are likely available. [> Learn more and apply](#)

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### *Funding Opportunities*

## [Value-Added Producers Grant Program](#) | USDA

The goals of the Value-Added Producer Grant program are to **generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities and increase producer income**. You may receive priority if you are a beginning farmer or rancher, a socially-disadvantaged farmer or rancher, a small or medium-sized farm or ranch structured as a family farm, a farmer or rancher cooperative or are proposing a mid-tier value chain. [> Learn more and apply by April 25](#)

STAY CONNECTED



**Looking for more?**

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