



Beginning  
Farmer  
**NEWS**  
June 2019

## Field Day Season Has Begun

According to our latest beginning farmer survey results, on-farm field days are the top means by which beginning farmers want to learn. For more than 30 years, Practical Farmers of Iowa members have been opening their farms to share their production strategies and challenges with fellow farmers -- always with the goal of sharing knowledge, supporting one another and fostering farms that are economically and environmentally resilient.

Look for the whole slate of field days we've planned this season in our 2019 Field Day Guide. If you didn't get the field day guide in the mail yet [let us know and we can send you copy](#) or [check a list of field days out online](#).

[View the full lineup of field days](#)

# Practical Farmers of Iowa — FIELD DAYS —

## Beginning and Aspiring Farmer Bus Tour

Hop on the bus with other beginning and aspiring farmers to tour and learn from three different horticulture farms in the greater Iowa City area. Each farm on the tour is a trainer farm in PFI's **Labor4Learning** program, providing aspiring farmers with employment and additional training on how to run a farm business. Grow your peer network while touring three unique farms and learning about specific business management practices at each one.

This tour is intended for aspiring farmers – those who want to farm in the future – and beginning farmers who have been farming for five years or less.

**HOSTS:**

**Emma and Marcus Johnson** | Buffalo Ridge Orchard | Topic: Enterprise budgets

**Donna Warhover** | Morning Glory | Topic: Task management for employees and volunteers

**Derek Roller** | Echollective Farm | Topic: Scaling up

*Lunch will be provided by the Morning Glory Food Truck. Please RSVP by clicking below.*

***The event is free, but RSVPs are required because seating is limited.***

**RSVP Today**

## Resources for Beginning Farmers

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.**

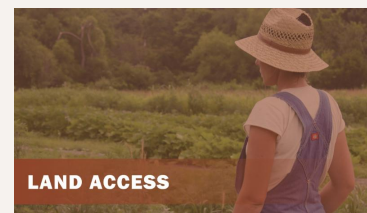
We will continue to build this list and add new resources as they are available. If you see any resources missing that you find helpful, please share them with us. You can send them to Greg Padget at [greg@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:greg@practicalfarmers.org).



**BUSINESS PLANNING**



**FINANCIAL**



**LAND ACCESS**

### Understanding Agroforestry Infographics Available

The Savanna Institute has released a series of five infographics that provide descriptions of common agroforestry practices: riparian buffers, forest farming, alley cropping, silvopasture and windbreaks. Each free, two-page PDF infographic includes an illustration of the practice, a summary of its challenges and benefits and a section of frequently asked questions about implementing the practice.

### Farm Starts Workshop

June 12 - Kalona

This day-long workshop is designed to help agricultural producers in the dairy and grain sectors who have been farming for less than 10 years. Producers considering a transition from conventional to organic are encouraged to attend. Several of the day's sessions apply to both conventional and organic producers. Register today and receive a \$200 farm and travel expense allowance.

### Finding Farmland Course

National Young Farmers Coalition has released its newly created Finding Farmland online course. This course prepares farmers to confidently approach the financial decisions related to land access. And it's free! You can take the lessons at your own pace.

### Northern Nut Growers and Fruit Explorers

July 28-31 - Iowa City

The Northern Nut Growers Association and the North American Fruit Explorers will be having their annual meeting in Iowa City. The conference will include a show-and-tell session on Sunday evening, technical sessions on Monday and Tuesday and an all-day field trip on Wednesday. You can sign up for the whole event or a single day.

## Beginning Farmer Poll

Have you attended a Practical Farmers of Iowa field day before?

**Yes**

**Select**

## Upcoming PFI Events

### June 11: Field Day - Organic Dairy Cattle

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Bloomfield

### June 13: Field Day - Hybrid Rye

3-5:30 p.m. | West Union

### June 14: Field Day - Pastured Pig Health

10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Elliott

### June 18: Field Day - Small Grains

10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Dyersville

### June 18: Field Day - On-Farm Habitat

5-8 p.m. | Lewis

### June 19: Field Day - Grazing Native Perennials

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Peterson

### June 20: Field Day - Greenhouse Hydroponics, Succulents and Houseplants

3-5 p.m. | Boone

### June 20: Field Day - Diverse Rotations

5-8 p.m. | Keota

### June 21: Field Day - Pumpkins and Produce

1-3 p.m. | Algona

### June 25: Field Day - Controlling Weeds in the Row for Organic Crops

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Decorah

### June 26: Field Day - 30 Years of Small Grains and No-Till on an Ohio Farm

6 -8:30 p.m. | Fostoria, Ohio

### June 30: Field Day - Regenerating the Family Farm Through Diversification

Noon - 3 p.m. | Castalia

### July 2: Field Day - Beginning and Aspiring Farmer Bus Tour

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Programs Designed for Beginning Farmers

### Labor4Learning

Labor4Learning helps beginning farmers get paid on-the-job training with experienced farmers, and pays experienced farmers for their time and effort.

[Check out more and see open positions](#)



### Saving Incentive Program

Savings Incentive Program is a two-year program that pairs beginning and aspiring farmers with experienced farmer mentors; provides targeted learning and peer networking opportunities; and offers business planning support and guidance -- all this while you save money, which we then match dollar for dollar up to \$2,400 to use toward the purchase of a farm asset.

[Check out more information](#)



## Find A Farmer

Find A Farmer allows for a comfortable place to start anonymous conversations with land-seekers or landowners. Search for users in a particular area that fit your specifications and begin the discussion.

Find A Farmer is FREE and available for anyone with internet access! No membership is required.

[Check out more and see land available](#)



STAY CONNECTED



## Looking for More?

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