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Beginning  
Farmer

NEWS

December 2021

## Annual Conference Registration Now Open

# FACING THE HORIZON

Practical Farmers of Iowa Annual Conference  
January 21-22, 2022



It has been said that those who keep their eyes on the horizon will find the right path. At Practical Farmers of Iowa's 2022 annual conference, we are "Facing the Horizon" together, seeking new knowledge, broader understanding and unexpected ways to improve our farms and communities.

We're looking forward to gathering again in-person to reunite with old friends and make new ones, **Jan. 21 - 22, 2022 in Ames, Iowa.** [Visit our website](#) to read about our plans for 61 farmer-led sessions, our keynote speaker, PFI storytelling, several new activities -- and to get registered.

Please note that because community transmission of COVID-19 remains high in this area, we are following guidance by the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention and have a range of safety precautions in place, including a mask requirement.

[View sessions, speakers and more!](#)

## We're hiring an information systems manager



The information systems manager will help organizational leadership to plan, manage and support information systems and processes.

PFI uses constituent relationship management software, an accounting system, survey platforms, database tools and various other applications to support daily operations and key organizational processes.

[Visit our employment page](#) to learn more about the position and how to apply.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Upcoming PFI events

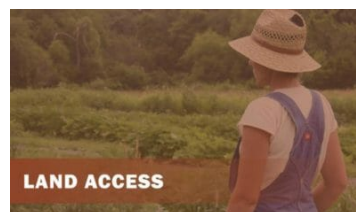
**Jan. 21-22: Conference - [2022 PFI Annual Conference](#)** | Ames, IA

[View more events on our calendar](#)

## 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).



*Check out these resources for beginning farmers*

**National Young Farmer Survey** | National Young Farmer Coalition

The 2022 National Young Farmer Survey will **gather the data needed to drive our advocacy for equity, farmland justice, and climate action**. If you're a working farmer, farmworker, or former farmer, they'd love to hear from you today. Make sure your farm is counted! [> Take the Survey!](#)

**Humane Farming Mentorship Program** | FACT

FACT is now accepting applications for our **Humane Farming Mentorship Program**. Farmers interested in participating as mentees or mentors should review the program details and apply by December 31, 2021. [> Learn more and apply online](#)

**Farm Business Record Keeping for the Global Majority** | Michigan State University.

*Self Paced + Online* | January 10

Become a stronger farm owner, operator and entrepreneur. This six-month series will help you: Learn the importance and process of keeping good financial records, understand your farm, brand, and market, better understand historical inequalities in agriculture and financial systems, and develop support systems to navigate by old and new resources. **You will be compensated for learning and growing with us**. Participants will receive a stipend of \$500 each for their participation (\$250 at the mid-course check-in and \$250 upon course completion). [> Learn more and register](#)

**Beginning Farmers DEMaND Webinar Series** | Michigan State University

*Online* | January 12 - February 9, 2022

The free, five-week online Beginning Farmers Developing and Educating Managers and New Decision Makers (DEMaND) series was created to **help beginning farmers learn about financial and business management strategies** as they develop into the next managers and decision-makers on the farm. [> Learn more and register](#)

**Farrowing on Pasture** | FACT

*Webinar* | January 19

Join us to learn best practices when it comes to **pasture-based farrowing, including considerations for infrastructure needs**, scheduling, and animal health and safety. [> Learn more and register](#)

**Annual Latino Farmer Conference** | NCAT

The three-part webinar series is free to attend, and as always, **sessions will be held in Spanish**. The next sessions will take place on January 12 and February 9, 2022. The series will include informative presentations, virtual farm visits, and opportunities to connect with other farmers, farm educators, and sponsors. [> Learn more and register](#)

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*Funding Opportunities*

**Fund-a-Farmer Grants** | FACT

FACT awards **competitive grants of up to \$3,000 to working, independent farmers** located in the U.S. who raise beef cattle, bison, broiler chickens, dairy

cows, ducks, geese, goats, laying hens, pigs, sheep and/or turkeys. The deadline to apply is January 20, 2022. Grants will be awarded in March 2022.

[> Learn more & apply online](#)

**[Young Farmer Grants](#)** | National Young Farmers Coalition

National Young Farmers Coalition is partnering with Chipotle to offer **\$5,000 grants to 50 young farmers and ranchers to support them in building careers in agriculture**. A minimum of 50% of the grants will go to Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, and 50% of grants to female-identifying, non-binary, and trans farmers. Applications are due by January 28, 2022. [>](#)

[Learn more & apply online](#)

**[Brighter Future Fund](#)** | American Farmland Trust

The Brighter Future Fund assists farmers in successfully launching, growing and sustaining farms in the face of forces impacting the food and agricultural system, including the COVID-19 pandemic, changing markets, severe weather, and climate change. In 2021, funding will be allocated to help farmers 1) Improve farm viability; 2) Access, transfer, or permanently protect farmland; or 3) Adopt regenerative agricultural practices. **Grants will be awarded in amounts up to \$5,000 per project**. A project may involve one or more individual farmers or farm families. Only one grant can be awarded per farmer/farm family. Funding for this program is limited. As funding remains, awards will be made on an ongoing basis to eligible applicants that fulfill all application requirements and meet selection criteria. [>Learn more & apply](#)

STAY CONNECTED



Looking for more?

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