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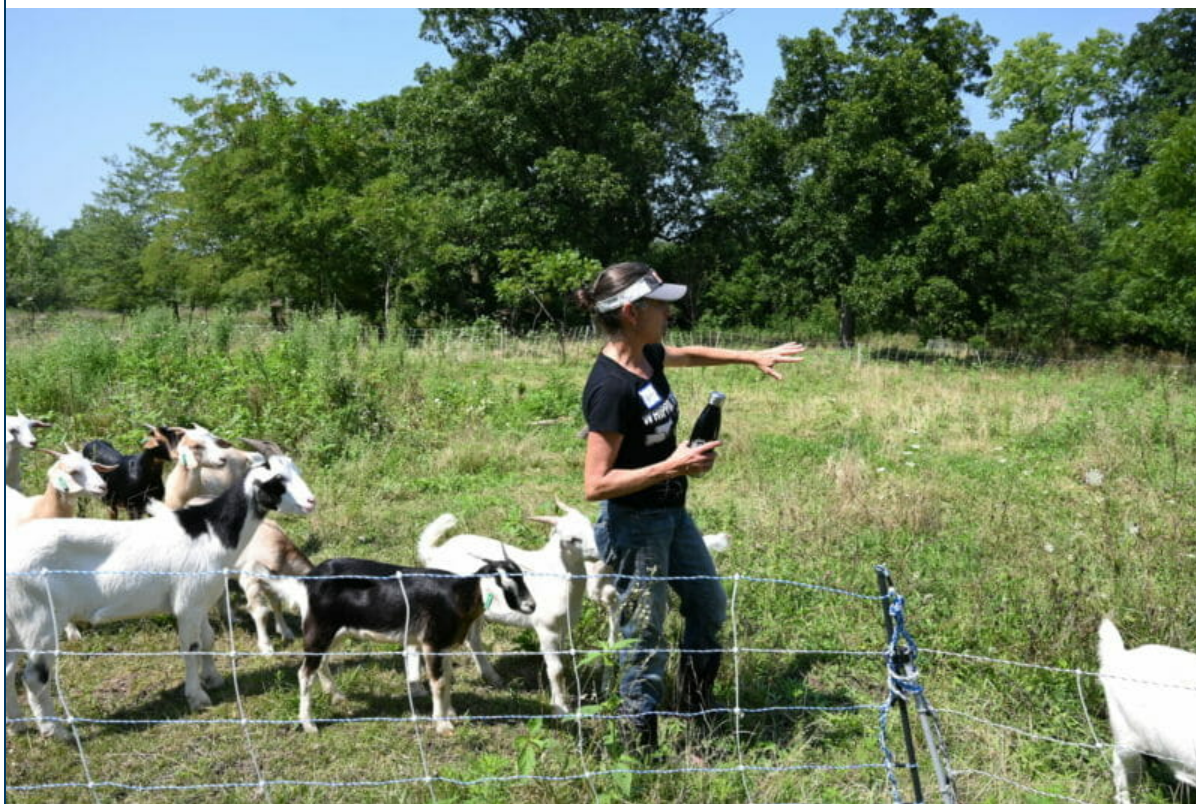
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PRACTICAL FARMERS
of Iowa

Practical
NEWS

August 21, 2023

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Grazing to support local ecosystems and community

Over 40 people gathered at Whippoorwill Creek Farm in Lovilia, Iowa, to learn from **Beth Hoffman and John Hogeland** during their recent field day, "Grazing a Perennial Forage Chain."

Attendees got to see how Beth and John are establishing native perennials in their pastures – some that they planted and others that already existed in the latent seed bank.

In the photo above, Beth talks through the logistics of moving their herd of Kiko goats to a new paddock to manage brush and invasive species. The two

goats behind her are especially attentive because they were bottle babies and are convinced her water bottle is full of milk.

Guests ended their visit with a farm-to-table lunch served inside an old timber-framed barn that is being renovated into a gathering space.

NEWS

Practical Cover Croppers: "Roller Crimping Cereal Rye in Soybean Production"



[In our new "Practical Cover Croppers" video](#), **Jon Bakehouse** demonstrates how roller-crimping cereal rye helps to suppress weeds and conserve moisture on his Hastings, Iowa, farm.

He discusses how roller-crimping rye in soybeans could be a practice for both organic and non-organic production.

[Watch the rest of the series on our YouTube channel.](#)

Nominate someone you know for PFI's Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award



2023 award winners Dean and Judy Henry. [Read their story.](#)

Do you know farmers doing standout work to care for soil, water, land and communities? Nominate them for our 2024 Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award!

PFI gives this award annually to the person or couple who has been most influential in **creating healthy soil, healthy food, clean air, clean water, resilient farms and vibrant communities**. PFI board members will choose the recipient based on your nominations.

[Submit your nomination today.](#)

We're looking for a tenant at our Tedesco Farm - apply

today!



We're now seeking a tenant for the Tedesco Farm, a 13-acre farm located near Granger, Iowa. Lifetime PFI member Angela Tedesco donated this farm to PFI in 2016.

Our ideal candidate is a PFI member with previous farming experience who has a clear vision for their business and the entrepreneurial ability to carry out that vision.

Applications are due Sept. 15. We'll announce our selection by November.

Plan your fall cover crops with us



Receive custom **cover crop advice** and get plugged into a **network of experienced cover crop farmers** by enrolling in PFI's cover crop cost-share.

Eligible farms can receive \$10 per acre on unlimited acres. This cost-share can be combined with public programs.

Our application form only takes 10 minutes to fill out and is non-binding.

Apply today.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Field days



Aug. 26: Field Day – The Secrets of Stock Cropping

Hosts: Zack Smith

10 a.m.-Noon | Buffalo Center, IA

Zack Smith's fifth-generation farm is centered on conservation practices like strip-till and planting cover crops on 100% of his acres. In 2020, he started work on the Stock Cropper project, a system of integrating livestock and crop production in the same field at the same time. **RSVP** to see the system in action.



Aug. 31: Field Day – Practical Tips for Growing Wheat, Rye and Summer Cover Crops

Hosts: Ben Moest & Grant Moest

10 a.m.-Noon | Winslow, IL



Ben and Grant Moest farm just under 3,000 acres of non-GMO corn, food-grade soybeans and small grains used for seed and grain. They use cover crops on most of their acres and own and operate their independent pork business, High Plains Pork.

RSVP to gain practical insights into wheat and rye production, summer cover crops and more.

[View the full field day schedule](#)

More upcoming events

Aug. 21: Field Day – Growing, Processing and Marketing Popcorn in Iowa

Hosts: Jim & Debbie Fitkin, daughters Lora Fitkin & Jennifer Fitkin; and Jim's father, Wayne Fitkin

10 a.m.-Noon | Cedar Falls, IA

Sept. 8: Field Day – Creating Space for Conservation and Regenerative Practices With Supportive Landowners

Hosts: Josh Nelson & Family

12:30-2:30 p.m. | Belmond, IA

Aug. 23: Field Day – Pollinators, Prairie Strips and Oxbows: Creating Varied Habitat on a Central Iowa Farm

Hosts: Larry & Margaret Stone

10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Traer, IA

Sept. 8: Field Day – Going With the Flow: Saturated Buffers to Improve Water Quality

Hosts: Jerry Vander Wert

1-3 p.m. | Pella, IA

Sept. 6: Field Day – Microgreens and Marketing to Build a Food System in Northwest Iowa

Hosts: Calvin & Krissy Thiessen

10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Spirit Lake, IA

Sept. 8: Spanish Workshop – Hands-On Harvesting

Hosts: Kate Mendenhall

9:30 a.m.-Noon | Okoboji, IA

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Will Cannon of Colfax, IA, and **Martha McFarland**, PFI's farmland viability coordinator, were featured on [Fox Business: Farmland costs rise, pricing young farmers out of the market as age of farmers increase](#)

Zack Smith of Leland, IA, was featured in [The Buffalo Center Tribune: Stock Cropper draws interest from elected officials](#)

Seth Watkins of Clarinda, IA, was featured in [Hamburg Reporter: Honoring Leopold's Legacy Field Day set Aug. 29](#)

Lee Tesdell of Slater, IA, was featured in [KASI-AM: Iowans Haul 1,600 Pounds Of Garbage From Polk County Creek](#)

PFI in the News

PFI was featured in [No-Till Farmer: No-Till Highlights: Aug. 10, 2023](#)

PFI was featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: ADM expanding regenerative ag program in Iowa](#)

Margaret Chamas, PFI's livestock viability manager, was mentioned in [The Platte County Citizen: When pigs fly](#)

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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