Happy July,

Once again we are heading into small grain harvest! Hope everyone is keeping cool while they’re out in the field. Fingers crossed harvest will be wrapped up in time for you to join us in Wisconsin Dells on August 15-16 for our 2019 Small Grains Conference. The deadline to get a room in the Practical Farmers of Iowa discounted hotel block at the Wintergreen Resort and Conference Center is July 20. Reserve your hotel as soon as possible to secure the discounted rate by calling 800-648-4765.

You can check out the program and register for the small grains conference on the Practical Farmers website.

Good Luck Harvesting,
Alisha

Register by Aug 12 for Small Grains Conference

Join us for an action-packed conference in Wisconsin Dells on August 15-16. This year's small grains conference features TWO keynotes and TWELVE breakout sessions. Break out sessions will focus on small grain agronomy, livestock integration and markets. We'll convene Thursday August 15th from Noon - 5:30 p.m. and conclude the day with a facilitated buyers and sellers networking session, then pick back up again with sessions on Friday August 16th 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The cost to attend is free for PFI members and $40 for non-members.

The conference will be held at the Wintergreen Resort and Conference Center at 60 Gasser Rd. in Wisconsin Dells, WI. A block of rooms is being held at Wintergreen Resort & Conference Center for the nights of August 14-15 under Practical Farmers of Iowa. To get yours, call (800) 648-4765 and press 1 for reservations by July 20.
To attend this event, you must register online or by calling the PFI office at (515) 232-5661 by Monday, August 12.

Shared Learning Call Aug. 2 on Accounting for Economic Value of Small Grain in Rotation

The number one question I get from farmers is whether or not small grains can be grown profitably. Dr. David Hooker, a professor of agronomy, believes the answer depends on how you account for the benefits across the entire rotation that the small grain provides. On our next shared learning call, August 2 noon-1 pm he’ll discuss how he accounts for the true value of each crop in rotation as he does in this Wheat School Video.

To Join dial (605) 313-5784 and enter passcode 239000# on Friday, August 2 at noon.

Notes Available from June 28 Call on Growing Grain for Brewery and Distillery Start Ups

We were joined on our "July" shared learning call (held June 28 due to the 4th of July holiday) by Nate Gieseke, who farms near Mankato, MN. Nate was one of the first producers to grow barley for Schell's, a brewery based in New Ulm, MN, when they had just started to source local grain for their beer. His next project is launching a distillery in New Ulm. He reviewed some of the do's and don'ts about growing barley, building relationships with maltsters and breweries and his own entrepreneurship in launching a distillery in New Ulm. You can read the full notes from the call here.

Read the Call Notes

EVENTS

July

Field Day: Exploring Bee Better Certified - RSVP by 7/24
July 31, 2019 | Grinnell, IA

August

PFI Small Grains Conference 2019
August 15-16, 2019 | Wisconsin Dells, WI

PFI Field Day: Cultivating Farm Resilience for a Changing Climate
August 16, 2019 | Harlan, IA
IN THE FIELD

Harvest and Post-Harvest Handling

Harvest and post harvest handling are crucial to maintaining quality in your small grains. Check out these resources on how:

- The Harvest episode of our Rotationally Raised Video Series.
- The Post-Harvest: Handling and Storage episode of our Rotationally Raised Video Series.
- The recap blog from our July 6th call on harvest and post harvest handling.
- The recap blog from PFI's 2018 small grains combine clinic.

Marketing

If you don't already have a market lined up for your grain, here are some resources on identifying a market that lines up with the grain quality you've achieved with your crop:

- The 2018 Small Grains Directory lists small grains buyers for seed and grain by location.
- The recap blog from our markets call in early 2017.
- Grain Miller's markets presentation from the 2016 smallgrains short course.
- The recap blog from our March 2018 call on marketing to breweries and distilleries.
- The rotationally raised short on markets for small grains.

And don't forget about straw!

- The blog recap from our straw marketing call in 2017.

STAY CONNECTED

Looking for more? Contact us today!

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