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Small
Grains
NEWS
August 2021

Greetings,

It's August, which means small grains are out of the field, cover crops are being seeded, and, just like that, we're already planning for next year. We have opened applications for the 2022 cost share and, in addition to our small grains program, we are offering a **new cost share opportunity** linked to accounting for legume N credits in corn. Together, you could earn up to \$30/acre for your extended crop rotation! Read on for more details.

While you're soaking up the last of summer, don't forget to check out PFI's slate of field days – both virtual and in-person. More information below!

Happy summer,
The Strategic Initiatives Team

PROGRAM UPDATES

2022 cost share for extended rotations is OPEN!



You heard it here first – Practical Farmers of Iowa is offering not one, but **two** cost share programs for extended rotations in 2022.

Earn \$15 per acre on up to 200 acres by diversifying a corn and soybean rotation with a year of small grains and summer cover crop containing at least one legume species. Earn an **additional** \$15 per acre for reducing nitrogen on corn that follows your small grain in rotation.

Growers in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and Wisconsin are eligible for one or both of these cost share opportunities in 2022. [Check out our flyer to learn more.](#)

[Apply for cost share today](#)

Re-cap blog: Five Tips for Success in Organic, No-Till Soybeans

On our August shared learning call, we heard from **Dr. Joel Gruver** from Western Illinois University about seeding rye for weed suppression in organic, no-till soybeans. Read about how Joel has been experimenting with seeding rye after a summer-harvested crop to get maximum benefits in organic no-till systems.



There will be no shared learning call in September or October, but we will return with a call about small grain variety selection in November. Stay tuned!

[Read the blog](#)

New and improved oat variety selector tool is live!

Practical Farmers and small-grain breeders from across the US have been hard at work to develop a web-based tool to aid in small grain variety selection. Our [Small-Grain Selector Tool](#) predicts which oat varieties will perform best for yield, test weight and crown rust resistance in a given ZIP code and is powered by variety trials across the Midwest.

Oats may have just come off of the field, but it's never too early to start thinking about varieties for 2022. Questions or feedback about the tool can be directed to lydia@practicalfarmers.org

Small Grain Variety Selector Tool

Your ZIP Code is: 50010

[Change →](#)


We have data for oats in your ZIP code.




OATS

What end market are you targeting?

 Food Grade

 Feed Grade

 Cover Crop or Other Seed

 Keeping My Options Open

[Check out the selector tool](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Live From the Farm: "Diverse Forages for Dairy Operations"

Tuesday, August 24 | 1:30 - 2:15 p.m. CT

Join us virtually at the farm of Josh Hiemstra near Brandon, Wisconsin as he talks through the many ways he's integrating forages into his rotations.

We'll check out Josh's diverse cover crop mix that he seeded after wheat harvest, then we'll look at corn trials where Josh has interseeded clover and alfalfa. Lastly, we'll see an establishing alfalfa-grass hay field.



There's something for everyone at this forage field day! [Register today.](#)

All times listed are in central daylight time.

August

Field Day: Corn and Cover Crops

August 21 | 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. | Correctionville, IA

Forage Field Day & PARP

August 21 | noon – 4 p.m. | Dubious, IN

Organic Agriculture Research Field Day

August 24 | 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Arlington, WI

Live from the Farm: Diverse Forages for Dairy Operations

August 24 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m. | [Online](#)

Virtual Organic Field Day: Corn, Soybeans, Small Grains and More!

August 24 | 3 – 4 p.m. | [Online](#)

Field Day: Practical Soil Health Systems

August 27 | 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Gifford, IL

September

Catching Up: Organic Cropping Systems: Rotations with Small Grains, Weed Management

September 1 | 10 a.m. - Noon | Shelby County, IA

Southeast NE Alfalfa & Wheat Expo

September 2 | 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Crete, NE

Soil Health Field Day: Roller Crimping, Crop Rotations, Organics

September 7 | 3:30 - 6 p.m. | Austin, MN

Webinar: Oat Crown Rust: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

September 16 | 10 - 11 a.m. | [Online](#)

IN THE FIELD

Video: "Live from the Farm" Episode on Small Grain Harvest and Post-Harvest Handling

Small-Grain Harvest and P...



On one of the hottest days of the summer, we visited with Roger Wilcox from Woodbury County, Iowa and talked all things small grain harvest and post-harvest handling. Because the small-grain crops Roger raises are mostly sold as cover crop seed, he also discussed best practices for raising, harvesting and handling cover crop seed.

Watch the Recording

Blogs: Small grain markets for grain and straw

The biggest hurdle for growing small grains is often finding somewhere to sell them. In these blogs, we run through some

Marketing Small Grains



questions and tips for marketing [small grains](#) and [straw](#).

[Read the blog](#)

SMALL GRAIN POLL

In a year that was too hot and dry for many, how was your small grain yield and test weight?

Better than expected!

[Select](#)

About the same as usual

[Select](#)

Worse than usual

[Select](#)

Previous poll results:

How is your winter small grain (rye, winter wheat, barley, triticale) harvest coming along?

- **Winter small grain harvest is done - 84.6%**
- Winter small grains are being harvested - 15.4%
- I haven't started yet - 0%

Send us your small grain poll ideas! We want to know what YOU want to know. Reply to this email with your ideas for the next poll.

STAY CONNECTED



Looking for more? Contact us today!

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