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The  
**MONTHLY  
FEEDSTUFF**

March 2023

*Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.*

## The Journey to a Regenerative System at Organic Compound



Miss this year's PFI annual conference? Check out this recording of **Wil Crombie's** session - [The Journey to a Regenerative System at Organic Compound](#).

When Wil and his family started on their journey of transforming the homestead where he was raised, they sought to do so with integrity and a commitment to regenerative practices. Today, Organic Compound has a diverse agroforestry system with hazelnuts, elderberries, silvopastured poultry, and more. The farm is also the site of the first commercially-scaled regenerative poultry enterprise in partnership with Tree-Range Farms.

Wil credits the farm's success to partnerships like that, along with business relationships, shared investments, generational lands, and community support.

Learn from Wil as he shares how he worked with his friends and family to invest in a regenerative future.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### PFI Grazing Consultation Program



PFI is offering one-on-one grazing consultations in 2023. Trying to get out of a grazing "rut" or want some insight to plan a new grazing project?

Not sure what your land might be most suited for, or want a second set of eyes to check your plans?

Contact **Margaret Chamas** at [margaret.chamas@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:margaret.chamas@practicalfarmers.org) for more information.

## BEYOND THE GATE

### A muddy mess: Article on the effects of mud on cattle



With temperatures climbing, and spring around the corner, mud becomes a constant companion on the farm.

**This article** from Michigan State University Extension highlights the detrimental effect that mud can have on cattle performance and offers suggestions on ways to mitigate issues of mud.

### Video: "How to Shear Sheep & Why it's Important"



Check out **this video** from the Livestock Conservancy.

Featuring **Temple Grandin**, and highlighting multiple shearers from across the country, it shows the relationship between sheep and shearer, the importance of sheep shearing to the health and well-being of sheep, and the impact that Slow

Fashion and local wool have on the economy and local community.

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## Spring Annual Forages Overview



With spring not far off, it is time to start thinking about spring annual forages. [This article](#) from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension highlights potential species and varieties, as well as guides for grazing, haying, and making silage.

For more info, check out [this fact sheet](#) from PFI on grazing spring covers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PFI Events

*All events below are listed in Central Time.*

### Farminar: “Integrated Crop-Livestock Grazing”



**March 21 | Online**

In 2022, PFI launched a grazing cost-share pilot program to promote regenerative grazing practices.

[Join us](#) to learn from inaugural cost-share recipient **Heath Hoppes** of Hidden Hollow Farm.

He'll talk about rotationally grazing his permanent pasture and cover crops, as well as how he used the cost-share to expand his grazing practices and grow his production to include other species.

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## Upcoming Events

**Mar. 21: Webinar - [The Four Phases of Feeding the Dairy Goat Kid](#)**

*Hosted by: PennState Extension*  
7:30 p.m. | Online

**March. 23-24: Conference - [Regenerative Poultry Convergence](#)**

*Hosted by: Regenerative Agriculture Alliance*  
9 a.m.-4 p.m. | Northfield, MN

**Mar. 23: Workshop - Ranching for Profit: 3 Secrets for Increasing Your Profit**

*Hosted by: Land Stewardship Project*  
9 a.m.-4 p.m. | Red Wing, MN

**Mar. 23: Webinar - Getting More Out of Fall Forage Cover Crops: Is Strip Grazing Worth It?**

*Hosted by: University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension*  
7 p.m. | Online

\*Say hi at the PFI booth!\*

**March. 24-25: Conference - Ozark Highlands Sheep and Fiber Festival**

*Hosted by: Mesta Meadows*  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. | Glenallen, MO

[View more upcoming events on our website](#)

## POLL

How involved are you in the birthing process?

**I'm there for each one, cheering them on**

Select

**I keep an eye on them and step in for emergencies**

Select

**I'm hands off, I want a herd that can do it without me**

Select

**I don't have any birthing on my farm**

Select

**Previous poll results:**

### **What field day topics are you most interested in?**

- **Grazing native perennials - 46.7%**
- **I have another idea that I'm going to tell Amos! - 20%**
- **I want to learn about it all! - 13%**
- **Grazing cover crops - 6.7%**
- **Pastured or deep-bedded pigs - 6.7%**
- **Pastured poultry - 6.7%**
- **Fiber production - 0%**

**Are you planning or hosting a livestock event? Do you want to host a livestock field day?** Send the details to

[amos.johnson@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:amos.johnson@practicalfarmers.org)

STAY CONNECTED



## Looking for more? Contact us today!

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