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The
**MONTHLY
FEEDSTUFF**

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Match Made in Heaven
Livestock + Crops

Take the Match Made in Heaven survey

PFI has partnered with agricultural organizations across the Midwest to learn from farmers about their interests, experience and challenges around integrating crop and livestock systems.

The Match Made in Heaven survey takes 15 minutes and must be completed in one sitting. The results will help guide the development of resources to benefit both crop and livestock producers. Thank you for sharing your input!

[Take the survey](#)

PROGRAM UPDATES

Summer 2023 magazine: "In the Shade of Giants"



Oak savanna once covered Iowa and much of the Midwest but is now one of the rarest ecosystems in the world.

Managed grazing can be part of the solution.

“You can get to your destination really fast, or over a long period of time,” PFI member **Omar de Kok-Mercado** says. “They both need the same amount of work. One is just all at once and the other is spread out. It’s a lot more pleasant to go slow and do it by hand, or with animals or fire, than it is to bulldoze the landscape.” [Continue reading.](#)

BEYOND THE GATE

Webinar: Water Systems



Despite some rainfall the past few weeks, Iowa and much of the Midwest remains in a drought. As this trend continues it could be worth reevaluating water access for livestock.

[This video from the Louisiana Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative](#) walks through a compare and contrast of watering systems including options for rented land.

Want more inspiration? [Check out this recording from our virtual field day](#) with **Bill and Stacey Borrenpohl** where we took a look at their pasture watering system.

Microgrants available



The [Livestock Conservancy microgrant application](#) is open!

Grants are available for producers working with breeds on their Conservation Priority List and range from \$500 to \$2,000.

Support will be provided through this competitive program for a variety of farm-related operations, including, but not limited to: livestock, poultry, processing, milk, meat and egg production and sales, agritourism, wool milling, promotions and marketing. [Learn more.](#)

New Study: Grazing Kernza as a Dual-Use Crop



Kernza is a perennial grain that can be grazed before and after seed production.

[Green Lands Blue Waters recently released the results of their study](#) looking at how grazing impacted production and profitability.

For more on grazing Kernza with small ruminants, [check out this PFI blog](#) featuring **Ben Penner** and **Matt Goettl**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PFI Events

All events below are listed in Central Time.

Field day: Converting Row Crops to Perennial Pasture



Friday, July 28 | 3-5 p.m. | Zumbrota, MN

Zach Knutson has been converting row crop ground to perennial pastures one field at a time.

He currently raises 30 cow-calf pairs and 14 ewes and their lambs, both of which he rotationally grazes on hay and grass pastures.

He has used continuous cover crops like sorghum-sudangrass and winter cereal rye to transition ground from

row crops to perennial pasture. [Please RSVP.](#)

Field day: Grazing a Perennial Forage Chain



Thursday, Aug. 10 | 10 a.m.-Noon | Lovilia, IA

Beth Hoffman and John Hogeland of Whippoorwill Creek Farm produces grass-fed and -finished beef and goat, vegetables and foraged wild mushrooms.

Attendees can see and discuss grazing warm-season native perennials, establishing warm-season permanent pasture, grazing cool-season pasture, using goats for invasive species management and rotational grazing. [Please RSVP.](#)

Upcoming Events

July 27: Pasture Walk - [Savanna Institute on Silvopasture](#)

Hosted by: Sauk County Land Resources and Environment
6 p.m. | Spring Green, WI

Aug. 3: Pasture Walk - [Fencing Demonstration with Gallagher](#)

Hosted by: Sauk County Land Resources and Environment
6 p.m. | Loganville, WI

Aug. 5: Pasture Walk - [Grazing Goats at Rachelle & Jordan Meyer's](#)

Hosted by: Land Stewardship Project
6 – 7:30 p.m. | Caledonia, MN

Aug. 7: Field Day - [Forage Field Day](#)

Hosted by: South Dakota State University Extension
9:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. | Beresford, SD

Aug. 19: Pasture Walk - [Custom Grazing](#)

Hosted by: Land Stewardship Project
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Rushford, MN

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

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

STAY CONNECTED



Looking for more? Contact us today!

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