

Practical News - Restoring an oxbow in Greene County

Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

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Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



How does a restored oxbow in Greene County, Iowa, improve water quality in Des Moines?

PFI member **Linda Evans** recently completed an oxbow restoration with support from Practical Farmers of Iowa and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The oxbow

connects with East Buttrick Creek, which runs to the North Raccoon River, from which the city of Des Moines sources its water.

"The large Des Moines metro area has almost 750,000 people who don't want to drink chemicals," Linda says, "and these oxbows are actually filtering nitrates."

[Learn more about the restoration and the benefits of oxbows.](#)

To see how PFI can support you with related conservation practices, [check out our conservation cost-share program.](#)

NEWS

4 discoveries from an Iowa farmer who tested seeding rye every month of the year



In the fall of 2018, PFI member **Wade Dooley** began drilling rye into an 80-acre field in quarter-mile-long strips at 1 bushel per acre as part of an informal on-farm trial.

Wade made these passes every few weeks after the frost softened in the mornings. By November 2019, Wade had drilled rye every month of the year – and in the process, had pushed the envelope on seeding.

[Learn what he discovered.](#)

Video: "Reducing N Rates to Corn in Soil Health Systems"



Since 2022, **Jon Bakehouse** of Hastings, Iowa, has been trialing reduced nitrogen rates to corn with PFI's Cooperators' Program. [Watch the video.](#)

His own data, along with the data PFI has collected from other farmers across the state, has helped Jon carefully monitor his return on investment as nitrogen prices have increased.

If you raise corn in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska or Wisconsin, you might be eligible to

participate in this research in 2024.

[Learn more.](#)

How 3 dairies adapted by changing their markets



Facing a tough dairy market, three small-scale Iowa dairies have adapted their businesses to keep doing what they love.

[Read the story from our Autumn 2023 magazine](#) to learn how Hansen's Dairy in Hudson, WW Homestead Dairy in Waukon and Radiance Dairy in Fairfield have shifted their focuses to specialty products that drive a higher price point, and by directly marketing to customers.

Welcome Katie Aupperle to staff!



Katie Aupperle joins PFI staff as our conference and events coordinator. In this role, she supports planning both internal and external PFI events.

Katie graduated in 2019 from Northwest Missouri State University with a Bachelor of Science in marketing. Prior to PFI, Katie worked extensively in the agriculture sector, specifically in the poultry industry, coordinating and hosting events worldwide.

[Learn more about Katie.](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Check your PFI membership expiration date in one easy step



In an effort to help you keep your PFI membership current, we include your membership expiration date on every PFI publication sent to your home or farm.

Not sure when your membership expires? Just **look on the address label** of your most recent publication from PFI. Your membership expiration date is above the addressee's name.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Central Nebraska Regenerative Ag Conference



Nov. 14 | 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Holdredge, NE

Today is the last day to save on the cost of registration for the [Central Nebraska Regenerative Ag Conference](#).

PFI will be there, sponsoring cover crops and grazing-focused sessions and a meet-up immediately after the conference at 5 p.m. at J.B.'s Sports Bar and Grill in Holdredge.

More upcoming events

Nov. 18: Field Day – [Milling and Marketing Small Grains](#)

Hosted by: Jeff Hafner & Earl Hafner

2-4 p.m. | Panora, IA

Jan. 19-20: Conference – PFI 2024 Annual Conference

All Day | Des Moines, IA

Registration opens soon

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Ben Hoks of Ames, IA, was featured on the [DonnaLonna Kitchen Show](#) podcast: ["077: Sorghum, Gingerbread, Taffy"](#)

Lee Tesdell of Slater, IA, and **Dave Struthers and Paul Lengeling** of Collins, IA, were featured in [No-Till Farmer: No-Till Highlights: Oct. 26, 2023](#)

Kellie and A.J. Blair of Dayton, IA, were featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: Reusing tile drainage water for crop irrigation](#)

Kristine Lang of Brookings, SD, was featured in [Farms.com: SDSU Extension Co-Hosting 2023 South Dakota Local Foods Conference](#)

Mitchell Hora of Brighton, IA, **Theo Gunther** of Ankeny, IA, and **Levi Lyle** of Keota, IA, were featured in [Progressive Farmer: Payments Could Encourage Low Carbon Crops](#)

PFI in the News

Chelsea Ferrie, PFI's field crops viability coordinator, was featured on [KWMT radio: Chelsea Ferrie – Practical Farmers of Iowa – N Rate Risk Protection Program](#)

Kayla Koether, PFI's senior farm viability manager, was featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: Beginning farmers can now apply for PFI's Savings Incentive Program](#)

PFI was mentioned in [Newton Daily Times: Naig announces new phase, expanded area for Southeast Iowa Water Quality Project](#)

PFI was mentioned in [KMAland: Center for Rural Affairs, Golden Hills RC&D hosting local foods summit](#)

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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