

Practical News - Cultivating connections with the Global Food Project

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Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Cultivating connections at Iowa City's Global Food Project

The Global Food Project's incubator farm in Iowa City, Iowa, has been fostering community and creating space for immigrants to grow traditional foods since 2016.

In this article from our Autumn 2023 magazine, meet **Emmanuel Gauthier Mfuankatu and Blandine Matondo**, who grow Congolese foods on plots at the GFP farm.

"When I am [at Global Food Project], I think of home because everyone at home has a garden and grows food this way," Emmanuel says. "Last year, we were less than 10 African families. Now we are more than 30. It is very important. It means we didn't forget our habit and culture and how to make our food."

NEWS

Sign up for Landowner Coaching by Dec. 15



Landowners leasing over 80 acres of cropland can benefit from our **[Landowner Coaching Program.](#)**

You'll meet with a conservation agronomist and get a customized report including recommendations, soil maps, potential conservation practices, county rental rates and tips for communicating with your tenant.

Don't worry – there's no pressure to purchase services or to sign up for land management. **[Sign up by Dec. 15.](#)**

Reduce your nitrogen application rate with PFI in 2024



What would happen if you reduced your nitrogen application rate next year?

Try it out with our N Rate Risk Protection Program. **We'll give you a guaranteed payment of \$35 per acre if you don't meet your benchmark yield.**

[Learn how it works and sign up now for the 2024 season.](#)

Apply for funding to make food safety improvements on your farm



Specialty crop producers are encouraged to apply for our **produce safety cost-share**. If accepted, you'll spend at least \$2,200 on improvements and receive a \$2,000 reimbursement.

View last year's projects, like this salad spinner on Andrew Phelps' farm, [on the program webpage](#).

The application will close when all cost-share slots are full, or on Dec. 31. [**Submit yours today!**](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Help build values-based farms with your donation



"I've now been involved with PFI for 15 years and have observed how, at PFI, learning is a two-way street," says **Nathan Anderson**, PFI board president. "We are all working to continuously better our operations, and as a network we learn and teach along the way."

Empower farmers to shape businesses aligned with their values. Support PFI's network with a year-end donation today.

[Donate today](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dive deeper with pre-conference short courses



Jan. 18-19 | Des Moines, IA

Ahead of the official conference festivities, we're pleased to offer three "short courses" on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. [Register for short courses and the conference.](#)

This year's offerings include:

- Grazing Intensive With Greg Judy
- Getting Started With Organic Transition
- Soil Health and Fertility for Horticulture Production

More upcoming events

Jan. 19-20: Conference – [PFI 2024 Annual Conference](#)

All Day | Des Moines, IA

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Tom Pyfferoen of Pine Island, MN, was featured in [Duluth News Tribune: Minnesota agencies release nitrate protection plan, say federal resources are needed to enact](#)

Mitchell Hora of Brighton, IA, was featured in a press release from [Corteva Agriscience: Corteva Agriscience Announces New Climate Positive Leaders Program Recipients](#)

Ryan Gibbs of Hopkinton, IA, was featured on [The Spokesman Speaks Podcast: Three rising stars in Iowa agriculture](#)

Kristine Lang of Brookings, SD, was featured in [Morning Ag Clips: SDSU Extension Presents Staff and Faculty Awards During 2023 Fall Conference](#)

Todd Western III was featured on [Radio Iowa: First Black Farmers Conference planned for Iowa](#)

Wendy Johnson and John Rafkin of Charles City, IA, were featured on the [Iowa State University Extension and Outreach webpage: Virtual Field Day: Growing food for people through diversified agriculture systems](#)

PFI in the News

PFI was mentioned on the [World Economic Forum webpage: Feeding the future: 3 ways our food system must transform to feed the world](#)

PFI was mentioned in [Decorah News: Convergence Ciderworks wins silver medal at US Open Cider Championship](#)

PFI was mentioned in [The Gazette: Restoration underway on savanna at Matsell Bridge Natural Area](#)

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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