

Practical News - Walk-in registration available at the annual conference

Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

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To:Carly Zierke <carly.zierke@practicalfarmers.org>



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Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



See you this weekend in Des Moines! Walk-in registration available

We hope to see you at [PFI's 2024 Annual Conference](#) in Des Moines, Iowa, this Friday and Saturday!

Pre-registration is now closed, but walk-in registration will be available starting Friday, Jan. 19 at 11 a.m. and Saturday, Jan. 20 at 7:30 a.m.

[View the full schedule, logistical information, maps and more on our conference webpage.](#)

NEWS

Expand your conference experience with short courses



Ahead of our official conference festivities, join us for our short courses starting Thursday, Jan. 18.

These in-depth workshops let you delve more deeply into topics that interest you, and can expand your conference learning experience.

Immerse yourself in learning about soil health for horticulture production, grazing or organic transition for field crops. [View details.](#) (Note: Pre-registration is closed but you can still sign up as a walk-in attendee).

Video: "The Value of Red Clover Paired With Small Grain Production"



[In our newest "Practical Cover Croppers" video](#), see how cover crops, particularly red clover, have increased financial resilience to fluctuating nitrogen fertilizer prices on **Alec and Rachel Amundson's** farm in Osage, Iowa.

Alec and Rachel are also looking at how cover crops affect corn in subsequent years through a PFI research trial, "Can We Reduce N Rates and Improve ROI?" [View published research](#) or [sign up to participate in the trial this season.](#)

Wish you could save on nitrogen costs?



If you're raising corn this season and are willing to reduce your nitrogen application, you might be eligible for our [**N Rate Risk Protection Program**](#).

We'll give you the technical and financial assistance you need to try reducing nitrogen applications on your farm by 20 pounds per acre or more. **If your yield drops below your harvest benchmark yield, we'll pay you \$35 per acre.**

[**Enroll by March 31.**](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Register for our free **Beginning Farmer Retreat**



Saturday, Feb. 10 | 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Whether you've been farming for several years or are just starting your farming journey, we hope you'll join us at the [**Beginning Farmer Retreat**](#) in Iowa City, Iowa, on Feb. 10.

This is a free daylong intensive where beginning and aspiring farmers can learn and receive feedback from experienced farmers and business coaches.

Stay after the event for happy hour and a social. [**Register now.**](#)

Introducing our 2024 winter webinar series



Join us for another year of farmer-led winter webinars, formerly called farminars, starting Jan. 30!

This year's series includes 12 webinars running weekly on Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. Central time. We'll cover a range of topics relevant to beginning and experienced farmers, as well as landowners.

[View the lineup and RSVP for free today!](#)

Find a horticulture farmer meet-up near you



Farmers who grow vegetables, fruit, flowers and orchard crops are invited to gather together to build relationships and share plans and ideas as they prepare for the coming season at **[horticulture farmer meet-ups.](#)**

Join us, starting online via Zoom on Feb. 15, and then in-person at locations across Iowa.

[Find an event near you.](#)

More upcoming events

Jan. 30: Spanish Webinar – [Cabras Lecheras para Principiantes](#)

Hosted by: Emily Morgan
Noon-1 p.m. | **[Online](#)**

Feb. 6: Workshop – [Commercial Apple Growers Workshop](#)

8 a.m.-4 p.m. | Ames, IA

Feb. 2: Shared Learning Call – [Improving Resilience and Profitability Through Oat Breeding](#)

Hosted by: Melanie Caffe
Noon-1 p.m. | **[Online](#)**

Feb. 6: Webinar – [Turning Point: Key Moments for Two Farms Over Two Decades](#)

Hosted by: Jill Beebout & Rob Faux

Noon-1 p.m. | [Online](#)

Feb. 13: Webinar – [Figuring Out Funding: Conventional and Unconventional Sources](#)

Hosted by: Anna Hankins & Shae Pesek

Noon-1 p.m. | [Online](#)

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Greg Judy of Clark, MO, was featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: Using grazing practices to develop wildlife habitat](#)

Kristine Lang of Brookings, SD, was featured on [The Best Job in South Dakota Podcast: Episode 7: Ho, Ho, Ho](#)

Keith Berns of Bladen, NE, was featured in [Southern Farm Network Today: Making 'Cents' of Soil Health Practices](#)

Susan Kuennen of Elgin, IA, **Seth Watkins** of Clarinda, IA, and **Nick Sennert** of Linn Grove, IA, were featured on the [AgEmerge Podcast: Podcast 126 at the Big Soil Health Event](#)

Francis Thicke of Fairfield, IA, was featured on the [Real Organic Project Podcast: Francis Thicke: A Journey To Real Organic](#)

J. Arbuckle of Ames, IA, **Matt Liebman** of Ames, IA, and **Lydia English**, PFI's senior field crops viability manager, were featured in [Agri-View: Researchers help lead project for more diverse Corn Belt](#)

Keith Berns of Bladen, NE, was featured on [Brownfield Ag News: Figuring Out Soil Health ROI](#)

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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