

Practical News - Conservation funding and support available from PFI

Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

Thu 6/6/2024 2:20 PM

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



April 15, 2024

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Fast-tracking beginning farmers with the Labor4Learning program

PFI's Labor4Learning program helps beginning and aspiring farmers gain hands-on skills and customized mentoring experience at the same time.

“Working with **Donna Warhover** at Morning Glory Farm fast-tracked my farming experience and built lasting relationships,” says **Sara Ziehr**, a Labor4Learning trainee from West Branch, Iowa, who operates Seven Branches Farm with her family.

“I was able to observe a well-run farm with established procedures and got to be hands-on with a variety of tools and equipment. I also learned about different planting methods, integrated pest management and business management.”

Labor4Learning opportunities are available across a diversity of enterprises and production practices. [View the trainer farmers and apply for a farm job today.](#)

NEWS

New research report on an organic nitrogen supplement



Last season, PFI research cooperators **Keaton Krueger, Scott Shriver and Noah Wendt** investigated how adding Utrisha N, a nitrogen-fixing biological amendment, impacted organic corn yields.

[Read about their findings, challenges and motivations for testing biological amendments.](#)

Getting started with goat farming



[In this video](#), learn how **Adam Ledvina** started raising goats to manage his 190-acre family farm in Tama County, Iowa.

By raising Kiko goats, a low-maintenance breed, and rotationally grazing, he's been able to grow his herd to between 500 and 1,000 goats depending on the time of year.

This season, Adam is also leading field days in our Spanish-interpreted series, ["A Year in the Life of a Goat Farmer."](#)

Most acres are filled in our small grains cost-share – but spots still open in Mendota, IL, and Lincoln, NE



We've reached our target number of acres enrolled in our small grains cost-share and have run out of guaranteed funding for most locations.

We still have guaranteed funding for those selling wheat to ADM in Mendota, Illinois, or Lincoln, Nebraska.

Thank you for your enthusiasm for this program! [Please fill out an application if you would like to join our waitlist.](#)

Boost conservation practices on your farm



Did you know PFI can support the following conservation practices on your farm?

- Prairie strips (buffer strips)
- Pollinator habitat
- Precision conservation analysis

[Submit an interest form to get started.](#) Our staff will then reach out to discuss program options for your farm's specific needs and how they can complement offerings from federal, state and local organizations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us this week for a precision conservation webinar



Tuesday, April 16 | Noon-1 p.m.

Hear from row crop farmer **Jacob Bolson** as he leads a live virtual tour of his acreage, which is enrolled in a new five-year contract with the Natural Resources Conservation Service's



Conservation Stewardship Program for pollinator habitat.

Stephanie Nelson, of Pheasants Forever, will then explain how yield and satellite data lends itself to conservation analysis. [RSVP to join.](#)

More upcoming events

All events listed are in Central time.

April 23: Webinar – [Diversifying Pollinator Habitat on a Multi-Generational Illinois Farm](#)

Hosted by: John & Nancy Brannaman

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

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Mitchell Hora of Brighton, IA, was featured in [Wallaces Farmer: Get set for new tech](#)

Martin Larsen of Byron, MN, was featured on [Minnesota Public Radio: High nitrate levels in southeastern Minnesota prompt aid plan at state Capitol](#)

Mark Schleisman of Lake City, IA, was featured on the [Iowa Farm Bureau webpage: Consider precision fertilizer placement](#)

Seth Watkins of Clarinda, IA, was featured on the [Bio-DIVE-rsity podcast: Healthy Soils, Healthy Seas](#)

Zack Smith of Lake Mills, IA, was featured on the [Regenerative Agriculture Podcast by John Kempf: Episode 110: Stock Cropping and Regenerative Innovation with Zack Smith](#)

Mark Schleisman of Lake City, IA, was featured in an [Iowa Pork Producers Association YouTube video: We Care Iowa: Meet the Schleisman Family](#)

John Gilbert of Iowa Falls, IA, **Robb Ewoldt** of Davenport, IA, and **Aaron Lehman** of Polk City, IA, were featured in [Civil Eats: An Iowa Fertilizer Plant Purchase Spurs Antitrust Concerns](#)

Denise O'Brien of Atlantic, IA, was featured in a PBS program that aired on [Iowa PBS: Why are Women Bearing the Burden of Climate Change?](#)

Mitchell Hora of Brighton, IA, was featured in [Lancaster Farming: Carbon Intensity Scoring Could Drive Value for Low-Emission Farms](#)

Aaron Lehman of Polk City, IA, was featured on [KCCI: Disaster declaration provides Iowa farmers financial relief amid severe drought](#)

James Hepp of Rockwell City, IA, was featured in [The Messenger: Ag Day held at SCC Middle School](#)

PFI in the News

Chelsea Ferrie, PFI's field crops viability coordinator, was featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: Sign-ups still open for PFI's N Rate Risk Protection Program](#)

PFI was mentioned on [Iowa News Now: Empowering women in agriculture: 'Women & Soil' event to educate on soil conservation](#)

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

[Donate today](#)

[Join Practical Farmers](#)

Love Practical News? [Sign up for our specialty email newsletters.](#) In addition to our weekly email newsletter, Practical News, we also publish five monthly newsletters each focused on a different farming specialty.

