

Practical News - Find member farms on our local foods directory + Kicking off our Spanish social season

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Sun 7/21/2024 1:00 PM

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May 27, 2024

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Establishing perennials at PFI's Spanish farmer social

Our Spanish Community Socials series, "Creando Comunidad de Granjeros Latinos," kicked off on Saturday, May 18 in Iowa City, Iowa. Members and their families gathered to network, share knowledge and help establish perennial plots at the Global Food Project.

Join us at other socials across the state in the coming months to hear farmer origin stories, meet other Spanish-speaking farmers and learn more about services and resources available from PFI and partnering organizations.

The socials are part of a broader suite of Spanish-language events we're organizing or taking part in this season as part of our **Agricultores Latinos program**, which seeks to build relationships with aspiring, beginning and established Spanish-speaking farmers in the region, understand their barriers to farming and develop programming to meet their needs.

[View details for upcoming Spanish socials in both Spanish and English.](#)

NEWS

New video: "Kidding Season: Culling, Care and Maternal Qualities"



In our latest video, **Adam Ledvina** of Iowa Kiko Goats in Tama, Iowa, shares his perspective on culling for a low-maintenance herd, including strategically managing a small number of bottle-fed kids to help with recalling the herd.

[Watch the video.](#)

Examining potato fertility



Last season, **Kate Edwards, Jason Grimm and Terry Troxel** researched how yields for potatoes, with their notoriously high nutrient demands, are impacted by the use of organic fertilizer.

"I would like it to improve our potato yield and help dial in a nutrient management program for future seasons," Jason says.

[Learn how applying fertilizer impacted their yields.](#)

Georgia Conrad (left) and Hailey Frank (right) with potatoes harvested in Kate Edward's trial.

PFI staff named Midwest Region Endangered Species Recovery Champions



PFI staff members, **Grace Yi and Brad Woodson**, along with other partners who make up the Iowa Topeka Shiner Recovery Partnership, received the national Endangered Species Recovery Champion Award for their work to recover the Topeka shiner, a small fish listed as endangered in 1998.

Through our habitat incentives program, PFI has supported oxbow restoration projects that provide habitat for the Topeka shiner and improve water quality. [Read more about the award.](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Find member farms on our local foods directory



We strive to foster strong communities based on diverse ties between farmers and non-farmers. One of the strongest ties is purchasing food and farm products from local farms.

[Browse member farms near you on our updated local foods directory.](#)

Are you a member with food products you'd like to list in our directory? [Learn how to add or edit your listing.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Featured field day



June 12: Field Day – Targeted Conservation for Layered Benefit: Using Data to Create Habitat

Hosted by: Steve Robisky
9 a.m.-Noon | Cedar Falls, IA

Join us at **Steve Robisky’s** 15-year-old Conservation Reserve Program planting to discuss how conservation practices can increase yield averages, reduce input costs and improve the “farmability” of the rest of your field. **RSVP**

[View the full field day schedule](#)

Chat about reducing synthetic nitrogen at our next shared learning call



Friday, June 7 | Noon-1 p.m. | Online

Josh Hiemstra operates Hiemstra Dairy Farm with his family in east-central Wisconsin. They farm 790 acres, growing corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa and other forage mixes.

With the help of research trials and cost-share programs, Josh has reduced synthetic nitrogen inputs over the past several years.

Join our next shared learning call to learn more about the Hiemstras' operation.

Join us at Women & Soil



Saturday, June 8 | 1-5 p.m. | Dyersville, IA

PFI is a proud partner on the upcoming Women & Soil gathering at the Field of Dreams event center. Join us for a day of discussion around soil health, conservation, land management and more.

Can't make it in person? Select portions of this event are also available online. [Register to attend.](#)

More upcoming events

All events listed are in Central time.

June 7: Field Day – Dairy Grazing, Silvopasture and Compost

*Hosted by: Torray & Erin Wilson
10 a.m.-Noon | Paullina, IA*

June 14: Field Day – Grazing 'Round the Farm

*Hosted by: Ethan & Becca Book
10 a.m.-Noon | Knoxville, IA*

June 17: Field Day – Rye Resiliency: Strategies for Using Rye to Build and Maintain Soil Health

*Hosted by: J.D. Hollingsworth & Dave Hollingsworth
4:30-6:30 p.m. | Packwood, IA*

June 19: Field Day – A Legacy of Stewardship: Using Cover Crops, Biochar and Nature for Sustainable Agriculture

*Hosted by: Rob Stout
4-6 p.m. | Washington, IA*

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Dan Voss of Atkins, IA, wrote an opinion piece in [The Gazette: Conservation is needed to save Iowa's soil](#)

Zack Smith of Lake Mills, IA, **Sheldon Stevermer** of Easton, MN, and **Brian Brhel** of Denton, NE, were featured in [York News-Times: Seeds: Coming to Nebraska –](#)

The Stock Cropper

Ritchie Schaefer of North Mankato, MN, was featured on [KEYC-TV: Kato Living for Monday, May 20](#)

Torray and Erin Wilson of Paullina, IA, were featured on [KIWA Radio: Practical Farmers of Iowa Field Day](#)

Brian Brhel of Denton, NE, and **Zack Smith** of Lake Mills, IA, were featured in [Midwest Messenger: Producers to share soil health journeys](#)

Kristine Lang of Brookings, SD, was featured in [Agweek: SDSU looks to educate a growing number of high tunnel enthusiasts](#)

PFI in the News

Stefan Gailans, PFI's senior research manager, was mentioned on [Brownfield Ag News: CAST Panel Discusses Benefits of Soil Health Practices](#)

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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