

## Practical News - Tips for vegetable production

Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

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**April 29, 2024**

*Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.*



### **Farmer-to-farmer tips for vegetable production**

**In this article from our 2024 spring magazine,** explore insights from PFI vegetable farmers.

Farmers shared advice in response to the question: "What are your favorite lessons gleaned from experiences on your vegetable farm?"

Their tips cover various aspects of production, including crop planning, record-keeping, soil health practices and taking care of yourself and your team.

## ON THE BLOG

### Blog: "Using Custom Equipment To Weed and Seed Legumes on an Organic Farm"



**John and Halee Wepking** raise a diverse rotation of small grains at Meadowlark Farm and Mill in Ridgeway, Wisconsin.

**In this new blog post** based on their March shared learning call, learn about the seeding and cultivation equipment they use to maximize efficiency while supporting soil health.

## NEWS

### Tomorrow is the last day to register for our N Rate Risk Protection Program



With input costs rising and cutting into your farm's profits, it's time to look at reducing reliance on purchased inputs.

With agronomic consulting from PFI staff and a risk protection of \$35 per acre, PFI can help you reduce nitrogen applications on your farm – saving you money and increasing your farm's resiliency.

**Apply by tomorrow, Tuesday, April 30.**

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**Welcome Elizabeth to our field crops team**



**Elizabeth Schnicker** joins PFI as field crops outreach coordinator for our southern region, which includes southeastern Iowa, southern Illinois and northern Missouri.

She has a background in agronomy from Iowa State University and experience in hydroponics.

Her passion for agriculture, cultivated on her family farm, drives her commitment to sustainability and community resilience. [Learn more about Elizabeth.](#)

## We're hiring a human resources coordinator



**Apply to join our team as human resources coordinator.**

In this position, you will play a key role in helping PFI attract qualified applicants, supporting new staff members and fostering a culture of care for employees.

[View position details and apply online.](#)

**Don't miss our other open jobs:**

[Digital content coordinator](#) - This role manages all aspects of PFI's social media channels and email marketing and helps with minor website updates.

[View a full list of job openings on our website.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Join us at Women & Soil this June**



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

We're collaborating with Women, Land & Legacy for a special event all about soil health and conservation.

Meet us in Dyersville at the Field of Dreams Event Center for a day of soil health discussions, demonstrations and networking.

**[View details and register.](#)**

**View our events calendar**

## IN THE NEWS

### Members in the News

*Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.*

**Joanne Roepke Bode and Beany Bode** of Algona, IA, were featured in [Iowa Farmer Today](#): **[Farmer adjusts produce business to fit customers](#)**

**Jacob Bolson** of Hubbard, IA, and **Aaron Lehman** of Polk City, IA, were featured in [Des Moines Register](#): **[Iowa tightens foreign-owned land law, but misses farmers' main concern: access to land](#)**

**Marcus and Emma Johnson** of Central City, IA, were featured on [KCRG-TV9](#): **[Working Iowa: Buffalo Ridge Orchard hiring seasonal workers](#)**

**Clark Porter** of Waterloo, IA, and **Matt Liebman** of Ames, IA, were featured in [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#): **[It's getting worse' – U.S. failing to stem tide of harmful farm pollutants](#)**

**Mark Stokes** of Chatfield, MN, and **Martin Larsen** of Byron, MN, were featured in [Public News Service](#): **[Can taller cover crops help clean the water in farm country?](#)**

**Ashley Neises and Andie Donnan** of Dubuque, IA, and **Beth Baranski** of Galena, IL, were featured in [National Catholic Reporter](#): **[Sinsinawa Dominicans spread mission through collaborative farm programs](#)**

**Molly Schintler** of Mechanicsville, IA, was featured on [KCRG-TV9](#): **[Working Iowa: Echollective Farm looks to add to team for the season](#)**

**Patti Naylor** of Churdan, IA, wrote a letter to the editor featured in [Greene County News Online: Carbon pipelines are false solutions](#)

**Edmund Ruff** of Farmersburg, IA, was featured in [The Guttenberg Press: Cover crops growing at Clayton County Fairgrounds](#)

**Ray Gaesser** of Corning, IA, Chris and **Shannon Gaesser** of Lenox, IA, and **Kellie and A.J. Blair** of Dayton, IA, were featured in [Progressive Farmer: 2024 Spring Planting Progress Varies](#)

**Patti Naylor** of Churdan, IA, was featured in a [National Family Farm Coalition blog: Celebrating Patti Naylor's Dedication & Service to CSIPM](#)

**Grace Yi**, PFI's senior habitat viability coordinator, was featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: Highlighting native wildlife habitats on Earth Day](#)

## PFI in the News

**Grace Yi**, PFI's senior habitat viability coordinator, was featured on [Iowa Agribusiness Radio Network: Highlighting native wildlife habitats on Earth Day](#)

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**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](mailto:elizabeth.wilhelm@practicalfarmers.org)

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