

Practical News - Cut flowers and community at Rose Farm + New roller-crimping research

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July 8, 2024

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Karri and Patrick Rose create community through flowers and experiences at Rose Farm

On a recent hot summer Sunday, **Karri and Patrick Rose** welcomed more than 80 people to their farm near Norwalk, Iowa, to share their experiences with cut-flower production, agritourism, creating a consistent customer experience and how they weave a focus on sustainability throughout their operation.

In 2019, Karri and Patrick opened Rose Farm to the public. Since then, they have continued to grow their suite of guest experiences, ranging from flower clubs and workshops to farm-to-table dinners, a summer farm school and more.

Guests enjoyed pie, sweet tea and lemonade – all made from recipes Karri inherited from her grandmother (all the gardens on the farm are also named in honor of Karri's and Patrick's grandmothers) – in the farm's retail shop.

The group also had a chance to tour the farm and see flowers growing in the field, the farm's 2 acres of pollinator habitat, high tunnels, a tiny greenhouse they decorate seasonally and rent out to photographers, compost production and young trees Karri and Patrick are growing to plant a shelterbelt.

[View the full field day schedule on our website.](#)

NEWS

New research looks at roller-crimping in soybeans



Roller-crimping as a way to kill cover crops has interested farmers in PFI's Coperators' Program for years. Two on-farm trials from 2023 reflect that ongoing curiosity:

- In "[Timing of Roll-Crimping a Cereal Rye Cover Crop,](#)" four farmers tested whether the time of crimping affected soybean yield.
- In a second trial, "[In-Row Roll-Crimping Cereal Rye Cover Crop Seeded in Twin-Rows Ahead of Soybeans,](#)" **Michael Vittetoe** compared crimping rye in-row compared with chemically killing it.

[Read the results here.](#)

Join our dynamic team



Apply for open positions on our research and finance teams:

The **finance manager** will oversee internal processes for the department of all accounts payable and receivable.

The **cropping systems research coordinator** will lead some of our ongoing multisite on-farm research projects across the Midwest.

The **remote sensing data coordinator** will develop remote sensing workflows for interpreting satellite imagery of farmland acres.

Help us reach our fundraising goal



Practical Farmers of Iowa relies on donations from supporters like YOU to fund new, innovative work to build resilient farms and communities.

Donations of \$100 or more receive this PFI-branded cooler bag!

Support PFI today:

[Donate here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Spanish community social



Monday, July 15 | 4-6 p.m. | Storm Lake, IA

Are you interested in meeting other Spanish-speaking farmers and ranchers in your area?

Join PFI's next **Spanish community social in Storm Lake, Iowa.**

Registration is encouraged but not required. Call or text (515) 232-5649.

Nebraska cover crop workshop

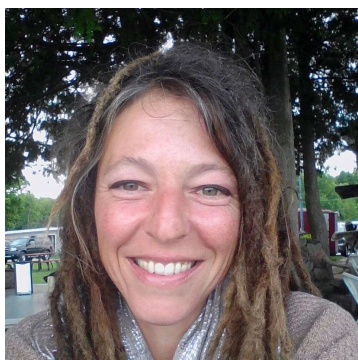


Tuesday, Aug. 6 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | Gothenburg, NE

Come learn alongside farmers of all experience levels about what does and doesn't work with cover crops. We'll discuss the role of cover crops in drought conditions, how they benefit soil health and how you can use them to reduce inputs and for livestock feed.

While RSVPs are appreciated by July 31st, walk-ins are also welcome.

Featured field days

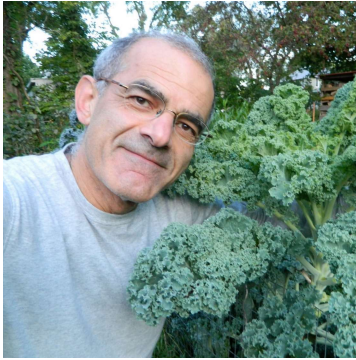


July 19: Field Day – **Going With the Grain: Diversified, Small-Scale Grain Farming With On-Farm Processing.**

Hosted by: Andrea Hazzard
4-6:30 p.m. | Pecatonica, IL

Andrea Hazzard farms heirloom corn, oats, wheat, barley, rye, flax and other small grains, oilseeds and dry beans on Hazzard Free Farm, her small farm outside of Pecatonica, Illinois. **Attend this field day** to learn how she processes all her own grains and

sells to local restaurants, grocers and co-ops, along with shipping her orders.



July 20: Field Day – Growing Food for Habitat: Supporting Pollinators and Beneficial Insects in a Community Garden

Hosted by: Kamyar Enshayan
10 a.m.-Noon | Waterloo, IA

Join **Kamyar Enshayan** of The Peoples Community Health Clinic Garden and Xerces Society's Sarah Nizzi as they discuss ways you can create needed habitat in your own urban gardens or urban farm. You'll see how the garden, in partnership with Xerces Society, has tried to improve upon existing habitat and create new habitat for pollinators and beneficial insects. **RSVP.**



July 23: Field Day – Centering Sustainability From Farrow to Finish

Hosted by: Andrew VanDerPol
9-11 a.m. | Kerkhoven, MN

See how **Andrew VanDerPol** and his family raise and market 700 hogs a year using their sustainable production methods. We'll see all the stages of a pig's life on the farm, from the gestation barn to the farrowing barn (rebuilt from an old hog building and featuring geothermal cooling), to growing and finishing in deep-bedded systems. **RSVP.**

[View the full field day schedule](#)

More upcoming events

All events listed are in Central time.

July 10: Field Day – Growing, Processing and Marketing Onions and Potatoes for Wholesale Outlets

Hosts: Steve Rachut & Ron Rachut
10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Fertile, IA

July 10: Field Day – Innovative Strategies for Diversifying a Row Crop Operation

Hosts: Chris & Shannon Gaesser
4-6 p.m. | Corning, IA

July 11: Field Day – Organic U-Pick Blueberries and Day-Neutral Strawberries at Blueberry Bottom Farm

Host: Kim Andersen
10 a.m.-Noon | Brighton, IA

July 11: Spanish Field Day – Year in the Life With Adam: Goat Health & Management

Host: Adam Ledvina
10 a.m.-Noon | Chelsea, IA

July 13: Field Day – Communicating Cuts: From Carcass to Consumer

9 a.m.-3 p.m. | Spring Grove, MN

July 16: Field Day – Setting Up a Multi-Species Grazing Operation

Host: Michael & Courtney Gutschenritter
3-5:30 p.m. | Oconomowoc, WI

July 18: Meet-up – Farm Family Meet-Up

2-4 p.m. | Dyersville, IA

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Danelle Myer of Logan, IA, was featured on KMTV 3 News Now: [One woman, one acre, one farm in Logan demonstrates how 'little things become big things'](#)

Denise O'Brien and **Larry Harris** of Atlantic, IA, were featured in [Atlantic News Telegraph](#): [O'Brien's road takes her to organic agriculture](#)

Denise O'Brien of Atlantic, IA, was featured in [EDairy News](#): [Bird Flu | Doctors Urge State Officials to Phase out Industrial Livestock Facilities](#)

Jack Boyer of Reinbeck, IA, was featured in [No-Till Farmer](#): [Commercial Compost Tea Doesn't Fare Well in No-Tiller's Trials](#)

James Hepp of Rockwell City, IA, was featured in two media outlets:

- on [KCIM Radio](#): [Calhoun County Farmer, James Hepp, Recognized with Iowa Farm Bureau Young Farmer Leadership Award](#)
- on the [Iowa Farm Bureau website](#): [Young farmers earn Iowa Farm Bureau Leadership Award for commitment to community and agriculture](#)

Jodi Enos-Berlage of Ridgeway, IA, **Catherine DeLong** of Ames, IA, **Kellie Blair** of Dayton, IA, and **Wendy Johnson** of Charles City, IA, were featured in [Wallaces Farmer: 2024 Iowa Women in Agriculture Conference set for Aug. 1](#)

Kim Andersen of Blueberry Bottom Farm in Brighton, IA, was featured on the [DonnaLonna Kitchen Show: Episode 105: Blueberries with Kim Andersen](#)

Micah Rensink of Sioux Center, IA, **Matt Swanson** of Story City, IA, **Jeremy Gustafson** of Boone, IA, **Tim Anderson** of Boone, IA, **Ross McCaw** of Marengo, IA, and Lydia English, PFI's senior field crops viability manager, were featured on [The Big Show: Clean Water Wednesday with PFI in Boone](#)

Steve Rachut of St Ansgar, IA, and **Ron Rachut** of Mason City, IA, were featured in [Globe Gazette: Fertile Field day to show how wholesale growers prepare onions, potatoes for market](#)

PFI in the News

Solveig Orngard, PFI's field crops education coordinator, was featured on [KWMT Radio: Solveig Orngard – Practical Farmers of Iowa 2024 Field Days](#)

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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