

Practical News - Join us at 2024 field days + Spanish series on goat farming

Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

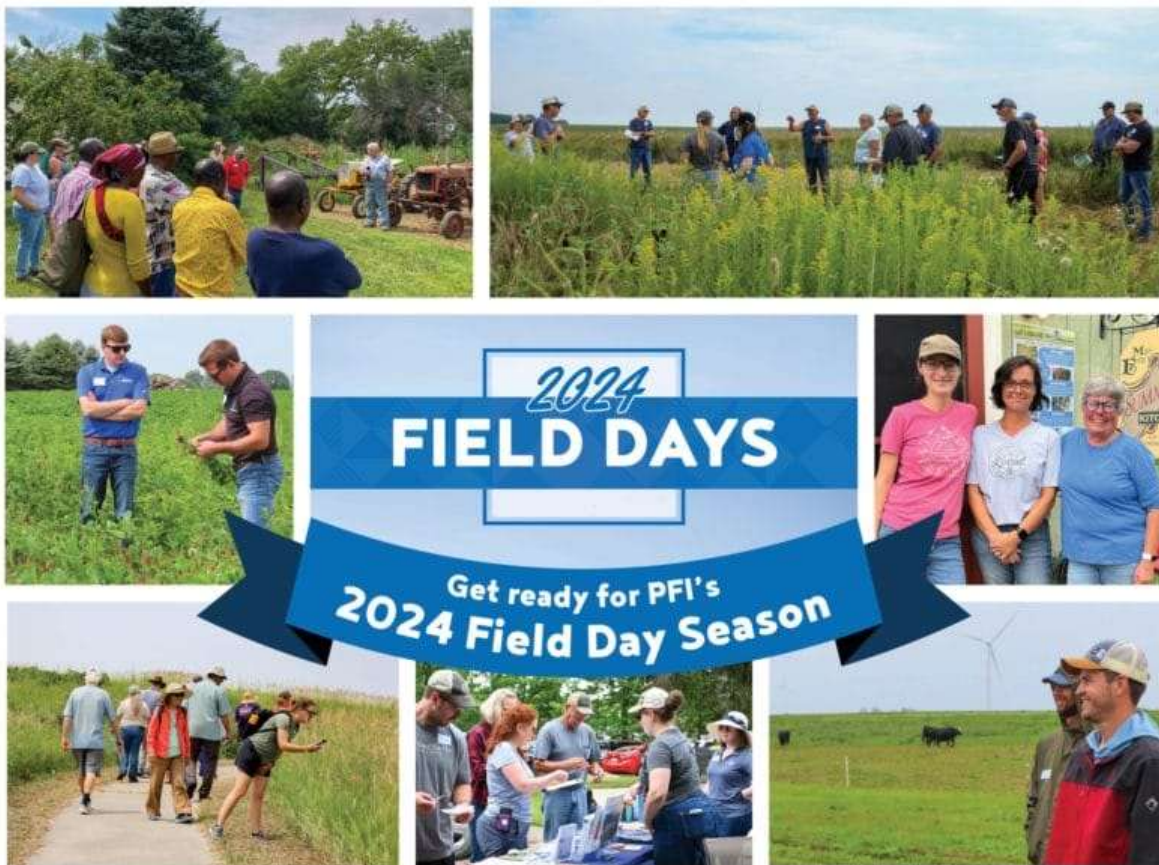
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To: Anna Pesek <anna.pesek@practicalfarmers.org>



May 13, 2024

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



View our lineup of 2024 field days

We're excited to share that our 2024 field days are now live on the website. **[Check out our interactive map and discover field days near you.](#)**

This year, in our biggest field day season yet, nearly 60 farms across Iowa, as well as Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska and Wisconsin, are opening their farm gates for

another season of farmer-to-farmer learning.

Join fellow farmers and supporters to learn about a range of topics, from dairy grazing to poultry processing, developing infrastructure to diversifying operations, adding habitat to reducing inputs and more.

Field days are free and open to everyone. [View events and make plans to join us on-farm this season.](#)

NEWS

List your farm on PFI's new and improved local foods directory



PFI's local foods directory is now part of MarketMaker's nationwide food system network.

PFI members can list their farm for free on MarketMaker to connect with consumers. Create an account and add PFI as an affiliate organization to be listed on our local foods directory. You will still need to create an account even if you were listed in our previous directory. You must be a PFI member to be included.

[Sign up now](#) or reply to this email to let us know if you have any questions.

Comparing cover crops for maximum fall forage



In his 2023 research trial, **Noah Wendt** of Huxley, Iowa, trialed interseeding different cover crops into standing corn, aiming to maximize fall growth for earlier grazing.

Noah compared cool-season and warm-season cover crops to learn which would generate the most biomass without impacting corn yield.

[Read the results in our new report.](#)

New video: "Step-by-Step of a Deep-Compost Mulch System"



In our newest video, learn how **Carly and Ethan Zierke** of Calmar, Iowa, use and apply a layer of compost to their 2-acre vegetable farm in what's known as a deep-compost mulch system.

Learn about the benefits of compost, from weed control to plant health, and a step-by-step process for applying it.

Spring 2024 magazine: "The Wonders of Windbreaks"



Ruth Rabinowitz has transformed her family's land in Iowa and South Dakota by implementing conservation practices and planting hundreds of trees, including a large windbreak around her home.

"This has been my family's home and has since become mine," Ruth says. "I wanted to protect that and provide a home to wildlife as well."

[Read about her project in this magazine article.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spanish workshop series on goat farming



Join us for Spanish-interpreted field days as part of our "Year in the Life of a Goat Farmer" series with the Center for Rural Affairs.

This month, on May 21, we'll be visiting **Adam Ledvina** in Tama, Iowa, to discuss kidding and tour his farm. Then, join **Jenny Horner and Emilio Moreno** in Red Oak, Iowa, on May 25 to take a look at their mobile grazing enterprise.

[View all events in this free series, including virtual courses.](#)

View our events calendar

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Kristine Lang of Brookings, SD, was featured in [Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan](#): [SDSU Extension hosts hands-on high tunnel build experience](#)

Josh Nelson of Belmond, IA, was featured in [No-Till Farmer](#): [58% of Surveyed No-Tillers Planting Corn First in 2024](#)

Ruth McCabe of West Des Moines, IA, and **Neil Hamilton** of Waukee, IA, were featured in [Farms.com](#): [Soil Management and Land Valuation Conference Is May 15](#)

Steve Strasheim of Mitchell, IA, was featured in [Globe Gazette](#): [Twisted River Farm's evolution continues with on-site store opening](#)

Meredith Nunnikhoven of Oskaloosa, IA, was featured in [Iowa Farmer Today](#): [Farmer uses flowers to diversify income](#)

Tom and Mary Ellen Cory of Elkhart, IA, **Wendy Johnson** of Charles City, IA, and **Regina Frahm** of Newton, IA, were featured in [Nebraska Public Media](#): [Wool prices are so low, Midwest sheep producers have to find new uses – or raise sheep without it](#)

John Wesselius of Sioux Center, IA, was featured in [Sioux Falls.Business](#): [Falls Park Farmers Market returns with new vendors, expanded area](#)

Jada Fife of Afton, IA, was featured in [The Scarlet & Black](#): [Jada Fife](#)

Mac Ehrhardt of Albert Lea, MN, was featured in [The Packer](#): [Organic Trade Association names leadership award winners](#)

PFI in the News

Jacqueline Venner Senske, PFI's senior horticulture education coordinator, was featured on the [Donna Lonna Kitchen podcast](#): [097: Out in the Field with PFI 2024](#)

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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