

Practical News - New cauliflower research trial + June field days ahead

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Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Staff is geared up for field day season – are you ready?

Recently, staff gathered outside the office for their annual field day warm-up, reviewing the essentials for a smooth event.

Our field day lineup is live on our website, starting with our first event in Paullina, Iowa, on June 7. View details below in our events section.

All field days are free and open to the public. We can't wait to see you this summer!

NEWS

New fall cauliflower variety research report



Building on several past PFI studies, a group of PFI collaborators tested seven cold-tolerant fall cauliflower varieties in 2023.

The group wanted to determine yield and planting timing for this slow-maturing crop.

[Read their research report to learn which varieties performed best.](#)

Get to know Rachel, PFI's beginning farmer engagement coordinator



[In this Q&A from our spring magazine,](#) learn more about **Rachel Burke**, PFI's beginning farmer engagement coordinator.

Much of Rachel's work involves organizing events and helping beginning and aspiring farmers connect with resources and other farmers in the PFI network.

"I enjoy growing and tending to communities," she says. "A farmer's medium is soil and seed, mine is relationships and networking."

Delve into habitat with these webinar replays



Explore how **Nancy and John Brannaman** and **Jacob Bolson** are implementing habitat on their farms in these winter webinar recordings:

- [Diversifying Pollinator Habitat on a Multi-Generational Illinois Farm](#)
- [Precision Conservation: Increasing Profitability and Conservation on Your Farm](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Field days



June 7: Field Day – [Dairy Grazing, Silvopasture and Compost](#)

Hosted by: Torray & Erin Wilson

10 a.m.-Noon | Paullina, IA

Torray and Erin Wilson operate a grass-based dairy, selling milk to Organic Valley. Come learn how they are doing things differently, from grazing their dairy herd and planting silvopasture to experimenting with Johnson Su compost. [RSVP](#)

[View the full field day schedule](#)

Join us for our free, farmer-led cover crop workshop



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

Join farmers in central Nebraska to explore a wide range of cover crop topics.

Join other farmers of all experience levels in discussing the role of cover crops in drought conditions, how they benefit soil health and the opportunities they provide for input reduction and livestock feed.

[View details and sign up.](#)

More upcoming events

All events listed are in Central time.

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

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.

Tina and Jon Bakehouse of Hastings, IA, were featured in [Iowa Farmer Today: Busy kitchen: Business owner finds creative outlet in cooking](#)

Alec Amundson of Osage, IA, **Ross McCaw** of Marengo, IA, **Jeremy Gustafson** of Boone, IA, **Landon Brown** of New Providence, IA, **Tracy Skaar** of Hayward, MN, and **Scott Shriver** of Jefferson, IA, were featured in [No-Till Farmer: What Impact Does Delayed Cereal Rye Termination Have on Soybean Yield?](#)

Aaron Lehman of Polk City, IA, was featured on [KCCI: 'We have to put up with this': Iowa farmers welcome rain despite spring planting delays](#)

Dennis McLaughlin of Cumming, IA, and **Erin Van Waus** of Des Moines, IA, were featured on page 11 of the [Iowa Natural Heritage magazine: Working Lands in Working Hands](#)

Meredith Nunnikhoven of Oskaloosa, IA, was featured on the [Iowa Farm Bureau website: In full bloom](#)

Shaffer Ridgeway of Waterloo, IA, was featured in [Agri-View: Midwest farmers face uphill battle](#)

Jack Smith of Bankston, IA, was featured in [Telegraph Herald: Recent rains 'a blessing and a curse' for area farmers](#)

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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