

Practical News - New research on planting green

Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

Sun 7/21/2024 12:54 PM

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



May 6, 2024

Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Learning new skills and building confidence on the farm

Last year, **Tyler Christianson** worked with Matt and Jocelyn Vermeersch at Mud Ridge Ranch in Council Bluffs, Iowa, through PFI's Labor4Learning program where she had the opportunity to delve into soil health and livestock management.

"My most valuable skill that I took away is to never be afraid to try, learn or do something new," Tyler says. "My time with Matt and Jocelyn gave me a ton of confidence that I thought I would never have."

Boost your learning this season with [open Labor4Learning positions across Iowa.](#)

NEWS

New PFI research on planting green



Six PFI member farmers completed an on-farm research trial last year to learn more about the impact of planting green, a practice where farmers plant soybeans into a green and growing rye cover crop.

They wanted to learn whether planting later relative-maturity soybeans could help them avoid soybean yield decline.

[Read their results.](#)

Welcome Norah to the cover crops team



Norah Hummel of Decorah, Iowa, joins PFI as field crops outreach coordinator for the northern region, a role that involves planning events and outreach in northern Iowa, northwestern Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin.

Norah has a background in environmental science and resource management, and experience in seed production.

[Learn more about Norah.](#)

Now hiring a geospatial data expert



Join our research team as the **senior geospatial data coordinator**. In this newly created role, you'll help us navigate opportunities and establish protocols for effectively using geospatial data.

As the geospatial data expert, you will set the tone for how we collect, store, access and visualize geospatial data across the organization.

[Learn more and apply.](#)

Don't miss our other open jobs:

[Senior research coordinator](#) - This role helps manage our Cooperators' Program and works with farmers to design statistically rigorous on-farm experiments.

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

Video: "Benefits of Tarping for Organic Weed Control"



How can you terminate cover crops and control weeds in a no-till vegetable farming system?

[Watch our newest video](#) to learn how **Hannah Breckbill**, who raises diversified vegetables in Decorah, Iowa, uses tarping for organic weed control.

For more insights, read Humble Hands Harvest's **[2023 research report](#)** on using tarps to terminate rye cover crops.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Connect with Spanish-speaking farmers near you



Meet Spanish-speaking farmers and ranchers in your area. We're collaborating with local organizations to host **Spanish community socials** across the state this summer.

Join us for our first social with Emprendimiento 5M and Global Food Project on Saturday, May 18, in Iowa City, Iowa.

[View details and our full list of events.](#)

Field day lineup coming soon



Get ready for our 2024 field day season, boasting nearly 60 field days on farms across Iowa and neighboring states.

Watch your email for the announcement. And if you're a member, watch your mailbox for our printed guide, coming soon!

All field days are free and open to the public.

More upcoming events

All events listed are in Central time.

June 8: Workshop – Women & Soil

1-5 p.m. | Dyersville, IA

[View our events calendar](#)

IN THE NEWS

Members in the News

Showcasing member voices and their diverse, independent viewpoints.

Kellie and A.J. Blair, of Dayton, IA, were featured in [Iowa Farmer Today: Advocate for ag on and off farm](#)

Ron and Maria Rosmann, Daniel Rosmann and Ellen Walsh-Rosmann, of Harlan, IA, and **David Rosmann** of Avoca, IA, were featured in [The Furrow: Resilience Man: How Ron Rosmann adjusts Rosmann family farms to economic and climate changes](#)

Jake Bigelow of Winterset, IA, **Craig Heineman** of Ogden, IA, and **Aaron Lehman** of Polk City, IA, were featured in [Ames Tribune: Iowa farmers head into fields, hoping rains will continue, help pull state out of drought](#)

Todd Western III of Maple Grove, MN, was featured in [Iowa Farmer Today: Western family farm carries on a 'relay race'](#)

Patricia Pinto of Omaha, NE, was featured in a [Story Corps recording: Patricia Pinto and Theresa Warren](#)

Monika Owczarski of Des Moines, IA, was featured on [We Are Iowa: 'We want to make it easy': How Sweet Tooth Farm plans on taking composting big](#)

Lee Tesdell of Slater, IA, was featured in [Civil Eats: Across Farm Country, Fertilizer Pollution Impacts Not Just Health, but Water Costs, Too](#)

Paul Rasch and Sarah Goering of Solon, IA, were featured in [Des Moines Register: Ciderhouse Restaurant brings Neapolitan pizzas and farm-to-table dishes to Wilson's Orchard](#)

Neil Peterson of Fonda, IA, wrote a letter to the editor in [Storm Lake Times Pilot: Arbor Day — a view, a prayer and a song](#)

Junior Pfanstiel of McLean, NE, and **Zack Smith** of Lake Mills, IA, were featured in [The Furrow: Against the Grain: How a Nebraska farmer steers away from conventional corn and soybeans](#)

PFI in the News

PFI was mentioned in [The Associated Press: ADM Exceeds 2 Million Regenerative Agriculture Acre Goal for 2023, Increases 2025 Goal to 5 Million Acres](#)

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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