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The Monthly Feedstuff - Grazing cost-share open + Business development programs enrolling

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From Amos Johnson <amos.johnson@practicalfarmers.org>

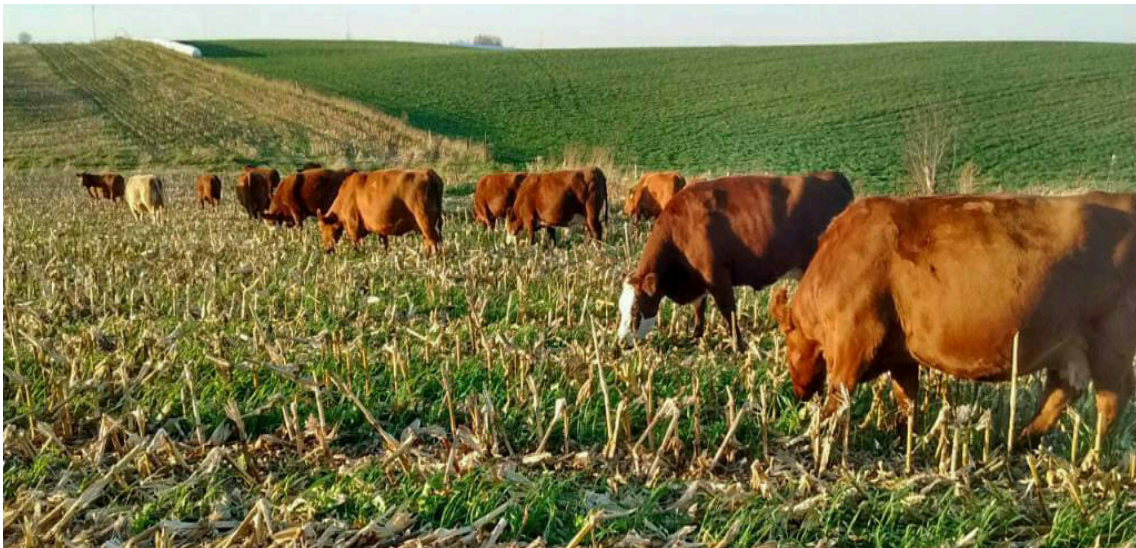
Date Wed 9/18/2024 2:01 PM

To Emily Yaddof <emily.yaddof@practicalfarmers.org>



*Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.*

**September 2024**



### **Apply for PFI's grazing infrastructure cost-share!**

PFI's grazing infrastructure cost-share supports aspiring or existing grazers who wish to adopt regenerative grazing practices that improve forage, soil and water quality. Farmers will receive up to \$2,500 to use on eligible purchases that may include temporary fencing supplies, water transport and distribution supplies and limited portable housing for grazing livestock. **[Visit our website to find more information and to apply.](#)**

Check out **[this article](#)** from the spring magazine to learn about how members have used funding in previous rounds.

This round of grazing cost-share will prioritize beginning farmers, as defined by USDA, located in the state of Iowa.

If you have questions related to the grazing cost-share, contact our livestock viability manager, **Margaret Chamas**, by emailing [margaret.chamas@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:margaret.chamas@practicalfarmers.org) or by calling the office at (515)-232-5661.

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### Improve your grazing plan with a free consultation



Are you considering establishing or improving a grazing system for the livestock on your farm? Practical Farmers offers grazing consultation calls with Livestock Viability Manager **Margaret Chamas**.

These free consultations are for established or aspiring livestock farmers interested in taking their management to the next level – whether that's grazing for the first time or going from monthly to weekly moves. Margaret's specialty is ruminants, but she will also facilitate calls for pigs and poultry.

**Schedule a call today.**

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### Join the next class of PFI's Savings Incentive Program



If you've been farming for less than seven years, you can apply for our Savings Incentive Program.

Since the program's launch in 2010, PFI's Savings Incentive Program has helped beginning farmers develop sustainable business plans and invest in tangible farm assets through a 1:1 financial match or a 1:2 financial match for farmers of color.

The Savings Incentive Program focuses on business planning, network-building and capitol investing. **Apply today.**

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## Grow your business with our Sustainable Agriculture Business Incubator



Our Sustainable Agriculture Business Incubator is a two-phase program in partnership with Grey Swan to support agricultural businesses looking to scale up and explore private equity investment.

All businesses accepted into the program will receive high-level coaching that will address barriers and bottlenecks to success.

[Apply for the program.](#)

### BEYOND THE GATE

## North-Central SARE grants are open



Farmers and ranchers have critical insight when it comes to improving their systems.

NCR-SARE's Farmer Rancher Grant Program is a competitive grants program for farmers and ranchers who want to explore sustainable solutions to problems through on-farm research, demonstration and education projects.

[Find more information and apply.](#)

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## Considerations for livestock water quality





It may not be as hot as it was earlier this summer, but livestock still need to drink water. Focus on the quality of their water can sometimes take a back seat to the quality of their forage.

**This article** from Penn State Extension dives deep into important water quality indicators to ensure healthy animals and good production.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Field day: "Sheep, Dogs and Sheepdogs"



**Thursday, Sept. 26 | 9 a.m.-Noon | Washington, IA**

*Host: Fiona Harrar*

**Fiona Harrar** has been farming for the last 25 years with a focus on grass-based ruminant management and meat production. She is the livestock manager at Premier Experimental Farms, a production farm with 1,000 ewes and 50 meat goats that produces lambs year-round. She also raises and trains border collies and livestock guardian dogs who work with her daily on the farm.

**RSVP** to learn about all things sheep and the dogs who guard them.

**\*\*This event will be presented in English with Spanish interpretation available upon request.**

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### Field day: "Starting Out and Building Up With Pigs, Poultry and Small Grains"



**Wednesday, Oct. 2 | 10 a.m.-Noon |  
Luzerne, IA**

*Hosts: Ryan and Ashley Wallace*

**Ryan and Ashley Wallace** moved to their farm in 2023 with their five children and are in the process of building up their infrastructure. With a background in grazing beef cattle, Ryan is developing their farrow-to-finish infrastructure and system.

**RSVP to attend** and learn how the Wallaces are growing their pig enterprise, which includes both pasture-farrowing and mixed-system pig finishing. Bring your ideas - Ryan wants feedback on his plans.

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## Friends of PFI events

**Sept. 20: Workshop – Fencing & Grazing Clinic**

*Hosted by: ISU Extension*  
9 a.m.- 4 p.m. | Castana, IA

**Sept. 27-28: Workshop – Forage Council Grazing School with Greg Judy and Isaac Tappenden**

*Hosted by: Sustainable Farming Association*  
Verndale, MN

**Oct. 4-5: Workshop – Biological Systems, Soil Health, and Nutrient Density of Food with Dan Kittredge**

*Hosted by: Sustainable Farming Association*  
Clearwater, MN

**Sept. 26: Field Day – Integrating Haying into Your Grazing Plan**

*Hosted by: Sustainable Farming Association*  
5-7 p.m. | Wadena, MN

**Oct. 4: Field Day – Wurdack Producer Field Day**

*Hosted by: University of Missouri Extension*  
9:30 a.m.-Noon | Cook Station, MO

[View our events calendar](#)

## Contact our team

### **Margaret Chamas**

*Livestock Viability Manager*

[margaret.chamas@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:margaret.chamas@practicalfarmers.org)

### **Amos Johnson**

*Senior Livestock Education  
Coordinator*

[amos.johnson@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:amos.johnson@practicalfarmers.org)

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**Donate today**

**Join Practical Farmers**



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