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## Practical News - Registration is now open for PFI's Annual Conference

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From Practical Farmers of Iowa <info@practicalfarmers.org>

Date Fri 12/13/2024 2:09 PM

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



**November 4, 2024**

*Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.*



**You're invited to PFI's 2025 Annual Conference!**

**Registration is officially open** for Practical Farmers of Iowa's 2025 Annual Conference, which will be held **Jan. 10-11 in Des Moines, Iowa, at the Iowa Events Center.**

This keystone event brings together farmers, aspiring farmers, landowners and agricultural professionals to share knowledge and learn together. This year's conference has over 70 sessions planned on a range of agricultural topics, as well as **three pre-conference short courses.**

The inaugural **Midwest Meat Summit**, which is part of a national series, will also precede PFI's conference and is running concurrently with the short courses.

[Learn more and register for the annual conference](#)

## NEWS

### We're looking for Labor4Learning trainers



Are you an experienced farmer who wants to help support the next generation? Do you have farm jobs you need help filling? Consider applying to be a trainer in PFI's Labor4Learning program for the 2025 growing season.

Labor4Learning aims to help beginning or aspiring farmers access job training while helping trainer farms find a good employee match early in the season.

If you're interested in becoming a Labor4Learning trainer, **[apply today.](#)**

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### Enrolling now: PFI's N Rate Risk Protection Program





Deciding to lower your nitrogen application rate can be nerve-racking. PFI's N Rate Risk Protection Program is here to help. It offers a \$35-per-acre payment if a yield loss occurs from reducing your typical nitrogen rate.

You're eligible to apply whether this is your first time reducing your nitrogen rate or you've previously done so. The program is also flexible to your needs – you decide what the lower nitrogen rate will be. [Enroll today.](#)

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## Magazine article: "In Search of Flerds"



The word flerd is a combination of "flock" and "herd," used to refer to different species grazing together.

In [this Autumn 2024 article](#) from PFI's quarterly magazine, the Practical Farmer, PFI members **George Heller** and **Ethan Book** share their experiences grazing their sheep and cattle herds together. For both farmers, flerd grazing is mainly a time management decision. But it also helps them mimic natural grassland ecosystem dynamics while making more money from the same land area.

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## Subscribe to PFI's enterprise-specific email newsletters



Whether you're an expert grower or a beginning farmer, we have the email list for you. **Sign up for one of our email newsletters** with enterprise-specific resources sent by PFI's farmer-led education team:

- The Practical Horticulturist
- The Monthly Feedstuff (livestock)
- Small Grains News
- The Practical Cover Cropper
- Beginning Farmer News
- Practical Landowner
- Sembrando Resiliencia (Spanish-language email newsletter)

## PFI is hiring a development director + office assistant



PFI is looking to fill two new positions:

- **Development director:** to oversee all fundraising efforts in partnership with development staff, department directors, the board of directors and the executive director. **Apply for this position.**
- **Part-time office assistant:** to help our membership and operations team with office tasks for about 15 hours per week. **Apply for this position.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Nov. 5: Spanish Field Day – Fall Grazing and Pasture Management**

*Hosted by: Adam Ledvina*  
5-7:30 p.m. | Chelsea, IA

### **Nov. 9: Field Day – Balancing Your Farm Dream With Your Family's Needs**

*Hosted by: Kendra & Kevin Martin*

### **Nov. 7: Spanish Workshop – Holistic Management, FSA & Legal Issues**

6-8 p.m. | **Online**

### **Nov 16: Conference – Iowa Farmers of Color Conference**

*Hosted by: Iowa Farmers of Color*  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. | Urbandale, IA

9 a.m.-Noon | Mount Ayr, IA

[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 a [South Dakota State University Extension news release](#): [SDSU Extension publishes zinnia research for cut flower producers](#)

**Martin Larsen** of Byron, MN, and **Landon Plagge** of Latimer, IA, were featured in [The Minnesota Star Tribune](#): [Spurred by the 'oat mafia,' the familiar grain makes a comeback in Minnesota](#)

**Noah Taylor** of Bouton, IA, **Bob Recker** of Waterloo, IA, **Wendy Johnson** of Charles City, IA, and **John Maxwell** of Maxwell, IA, were featured in [Wallaces Farmer](#): [Wide-row corn spurs grazing opportunities](#)

**Tom Pyfferoen** of Pine Island, MN, was featured in [No-Till Farmer](#): [No-Till Highlights: Oct. 24, 2024](#)

**Sean Dengler** of Urbandale, IA, and **Mac Ehrhardt** of Albert Lea, MN, were featured in [Civil Eats](#): [Why Farmers Use Harmful Insecticides They May Not Need](#)

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**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](mailto:elizabeth.wilhelm@practicalfarmers.org)

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