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SARE Project LNC92-44

PROFITABLE, ENVIRONMENTALLY- SOUND FARMING



PRACTICAL FARMERS OF IOWA

1994 FARM FIELD DAYS



Profitable, Environmentally-Sound

There doesn't have to be a trade-off between profitable farming and farming that preserves the soil and water and protects the health of farm families! PFI farmers are finding ways to accomplish both these goals, and agricultural scientists are developing new tools to aid in the task.

Farmer-Managed Research

The 26 Practical Farmers of Iowa cooperators and assisting farmers in this brochure determine what management practices they will evaluate on their own farms. They carry out 50-60 of these trials and collect the data themselves, and they analyze results with assistance from Iowa State University researchers. The field trial design is a simple one, yet it allows trial results to be evaluated statistically. These research trials often compare the cooperator's customary practice side-by-side with a single alternative practice. This year, PFI cooperators are evaluating:

- management-intensive rotational grazing;
- nitrogen management trials using the late spring soil nitrate test;
- berseem clover as summer forage or green chop;
- P and K fertilizer rates and placement;
- no-till versus other tillage systems;
- weed control with and without herbicides in ridge-till;
- trials of starter fertilizers;
- comparisons of manure and purchased fertilizer;
- trials using cover crops for soil improvement and weed control;
- narrow strip intercropping for added yield and soil conservation;
- many other comparisons of interest to farmers.

Acknowledgment:

The PFI on-farm demonstrations are supported, in part, by Iowa State University Cooperative Extension, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) program of the United States Department of Agriculture.

University, Industry Cooperation

Practical Farmers of Iowa is involved in a number of research projects and demonstrations in cooperation with universities and industry. The replicated, randomized comparisons of innovative farming methods provide a good field laboratory for scientific study. Here are some examples.

- Working with issues teams of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture,



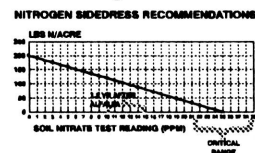
PFI cooperators are documenting: intensive rotational grazing using the ISU Extension Beef Cow Business Record; narrow strip intercropping using the ISU Extension Crop Enterprise Record System; and integrated pest management for alfalfa and corn.

- With support from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education



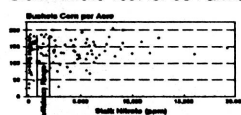
program (SARE) of the United States Department of Agriculture, cooperators are documenting methods of ridge-tillage that save energy and money, reduce soil erosion, and control weeds with reduced chemical rates.

- PFI cooperators are continuing to evaluate the late spring soil nitrate test for corn, developed at Iowa State University by Alfred Blackmer. This test allows farmers to maximize corn profits by optimizing nitrogen rates, taking advantage of carry-over N and the other sources – including manure – that are available on a year-by-year basis.



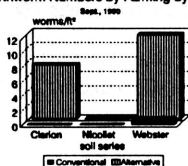
- Cooperators are participating with ISU agronomist Antonio Mallarino in the evaluation of a variety of tissue tests to detect nutrient excess in corn. The late season stalk nitrate test allows producers to double check N status.

Stalk Nitrate Test for 95 Farms



- Additional research featuring PFI farmer-researcher cooperation is being

Earthworm Numbers by Farming System



carried out with scientists from the USDA National Soil Tilth Laboratory under support from the Leopold Center and other sources.

Community-Based Farming

PFI's strength is that its members live in and are part of rural communities and that their knowledge comes from personal experience. PFI members share their information informally, farmer-to-farmer. For example, this kind of communication could take place during a visit to the bank or co-op or in the socializing at a card club or church supper. Practical Farmers of Iowa also shares information by:

- The field days listed in this booklet;
- Informal "twilight tours" of farms, primarily for PFI members;
- An annual statewide meeting with workshops and featured speakers;
- Get-togethers in each of the five PFI membership districts;
- Presentations at workshops, seminars, and meetings of other organizations;
- *The Practical Farmer*, the quarterly newsletter of the organization (Comes with membership: \$10/year, \$25/3 years).

Shared Visions: Farming for Better Communities

Many Iowans are concerned about the health of rural communities. What's more, there is a growing realization that the character and health of rural towns reflects the farming that surrounds them.

Iowans are coming together to improve the health of their communities through *Shared Visions*, a project led by Practical Farmers of Iowa, Iowa State University Extension, and the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. *Shared Visions* brings farm and town people together, working to enhance the social and economic vitality of their communities through local projects, encouraging an environment that supports sustainable systems of farming.

SHARED VISIONS



*farming for better
communities*

Practical Farmers of Iowa

PFI is a nonprofit farmer-member organization that works to share information about profitable, environmentally-sound methods of farming and to encourage research in this area. Non-farmers are also welcome to join, as associate members. Since its formation in 1985, PFI has grown to nearly 500 members. A farming systems coordinator, who is an ISU Extension Associate, handles day-to-day activity, and a second Extension associate serves as PFI education coordinator and PFI project director for *Shared Visions*. An elected board of directors determines policy for the organization. Below are the PFI officers.

District 1 (Northwest): Paul Mugge, 6190 470th St., Sutherland, 51058.
(712) 446-2414.

District 2 (North Central): Ray Stonecypher, 1321 March Ave., Floyd, IA
50435-8058. (515) 398-2417.

District 3 (Northeast): Laura Krause, 1346 Springville Rd., Mt. Vernon, IA
52314. (319) 895-6924.

District 4 (Southwest): Vic Madsen (president), 2186 Goldfinch Ave., Audubon,
50025. (712) 563-3044.

District 5 (Southeast): Jeff Olson (vice president), 2273 140th St., Winfield,
52659. (319) 257-6967.

Associate board member for District 2: Don Davidson, RR 1, Box 133, Grundy
Center, IA, 50638. (319) 824-6347.

Associate board member for District 5: Dave Lubben, RR 3, Box 128,
Monticello, IA 52310. (319) 465-4717.

PFI Executive Vice President and Treasurer: Dick Thompson, 2035 190th St.,
RR 2, Box 132, Boone, 50036. (515) 432-1560.

Public Relations Coordinator: Maria Vakulskas Rosmann, 1222 Ironwood Rd.,
Harlan, 51537. (712) 627-4653.

Farming Systems Coordinator: Rick Exner, Room 2104, Agronomy Hall, ISU,
Ames, Iowa, 50011. (515) 294-1923.

Education Coordinator & Shared Visions Project Director for PFI: Gary Huber,
Room 2104, Agronomy Hall, ISU, Ames, Iowa, 50011. (515) 294-1923.

PFI Cooperators and Field Days

JUNE 17 SOUTHWEST IOWA

With support from the Henry Wallace Foundation for Rural Research and Development.

Neely-Kinyon Research Farm, Greenfield, 50849

(515) 743-8412 (Adair County Extension office)

Wayne and Margaret Neely donated their farm near Greenfield to the Wallace Foundation for use in research and demonstrations. The Neely-Kinyon Farm is one of several community satellite farms around the new ISU Armstrong Research Farm. The Neely Farm will be dedicated in a ceremony at the field day.

Demonstrations: *pasture interseeding with berseem clover, pasture aeration, forage stockpiling, narrow strip intercropping of corn and annual legumes, nitrogen management for corn, meadow improvement with interseeding.*

9:00 A.M. From Greenfield 1 mile S. on Hwy. 25. E. side.

JUNE 24 SOUTHWEST IOWA

Larry Harris and Denise O'Brien, Rolling Acres Farm, RR 2, Box 79, Atlantic, 50022

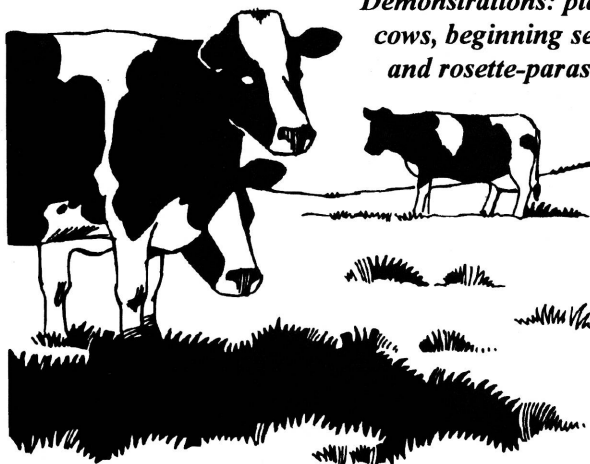
712-243-3264

On a 187-acre diversified farm, Larry and Denise operate a grass-based dairy and are moving to seasonal milking. They also run pick-your-own apple, raspberry, and strawberry operations.

Demonstrations: *planned grazing for dairy cows, beginning seasonal milking, flower- and rosette-parasites of musk thistle for*

pasture improvement, IPM production and marketing of small fruits.

1:00 P.M. From exit 54 of I-80 (at Elkhorn), 1½ mile S. to 2nd gravel road (at strawberry sign). ½ mile E., first house N. side.



JULY 28 NORTHEAST IOWA

Cosponsored with the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Winneshiek County Extension Service, and the Soil Conservation Service.

Steve Hopkins and Sara Andreasen, RR 2, Box 99, Decorah, 52101
(319) 382-9640

New cooperators Steve Hopkins and Sara Andreasen run a grass-based dairy operation of 25-30 Jerseys and Ayrshires on about 20 rolling acres of bluegrass, clover, and dandelions. Hay and grain are purchased according to the quality of forage on the farm. Along with support from PFI, Steve and Sara obtained a grant from the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture to evaluate grass-based dairying. They are tracking milk production and costs and testing forage weekly.

Demonstrations: management-intensive rotational grazing, paddock layout, permanent, semipermanent, and temporary electrical fencing, water placement in paddocks using surface pipes, production and economics.

1:00 P.M. From the Casey's on the northwest side of Decorah, take Hwy. W-38 ("Locust Rd.") N.E. 4 miles, turn right (E.) at Hwy. A-38 ("Canoe Ridge Rd.") and go 2 miles to the intersection with Landmeyer Rd. Yellow buildings on N. side.

JULY 29 NORTHEAST IOWA

Lynn and Linda Stock, 603 2nd St., NE, Waukon, 52172
(319) 568-2504.

The Stocks operate roughly 700 acres, raising corn, soybeans, oats, and alfalfa. They graze cow-calf pairs and Holstein replacement heifers.

Demonstrations: management-intensive rotational grazing; surface water lines using pressure and gravity flow, grazing oats, 5-row and 10-row ridge-till equipment, narrow strip intercropping (corn and soybeans), ± Achieve™ and Remedy™ in corn and soybeans.

1:30 P.M. From the John Deere shop at the Waukon intersection of Hwys 9 and 76 go 4.8 miles S. on Hwy. 76 to 5th gravel road on left. From Rossville, N. on Hwy. 76, 1st gravel road on R. Barn with large pine grove, north of "Y," look for PFI sign.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

“±” indicates “with and without” the listed practice.

AUG 11 SOUTHEAST IOWA

Jeff and Gayle Olson, 2273 140th St., Winfield, 52659
(319) 257-6967

The Olsons farm 730 acres of corn, soybeans, and a little oats and hay. They have a small cow-calf operation, and they finish 1,100 pigs a year.

Demonstrations: *narrow strip intercropping with berseem clover, planned grazing of waterways and berseem strips, planter-banded K vs. none for soybeans, ± biological (Grozyme™ and Agri-SCT™) in corn and soybeans, shop-crafted precision bander and dry metering device.*

3:30 P.M. 1 mile S. of Swedesburg (9 miles N. of Mt. Pleasant), ³/₈ mile W., grain bin N. side.

5:00 P.M. 4 miles E. of Swedesburg. Look for sign.

LIGHT SUPPER SERVED IN COOPERATION WITH WAYNE SOIL SAVERS 4-H CLUB

AUG 17 NORTHEAST IOWA

Mike and Jamie Reicherts, 2165 120th St., New Hampton, 50659
(515) 364-6776

The Reicherts raise 380 acres of "people, cattle, hogs, sheep, chickens, corn, beans, oats and forages." They sell all of their pigs as fat hogs.

Demonstrations: *varieties of berseem clover, N rates for corn following berseem (in cooperation with ISU), corn planted in 37" rows versus corn drilled in 42" rows, planned grazing of 100 Holstein heifer calves, free-choice mineral feeders, portable water systems, fencing, pasture farrowing, mule-footed pigs, Tamworth, and confinement-type hogs, Jacobs sheep, broilers on pasture.*

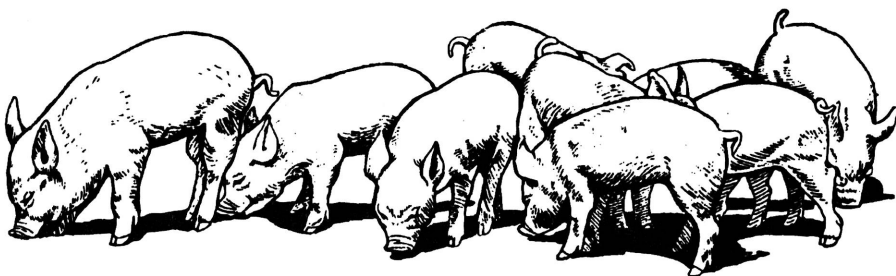
11:00 A.M. 4 miles E. of Alta Vista on blacktop, 1 mile S. on gravel, 1 mile E. N. side.

LIGHT LUNCH SERVED

Tom and Irene Frantzen, 1155 Jasper Ave., RR 2, New Hampton, 50659
(515) 364-6426

The Frantzens raise cattle, hogs, corn, soybeans, oats, forages, and alternative crops on 320 acres.

Demonstrations: *oat yields ± berseem clover, N rates for corn following berseem (in cooperation with ISU), ridge-till soybeans ± herbicide, corn following rye cover ± herbicide, three-crop and four-crop narrow strip intercropping, grain amaranth, planned grazing of stocker cattle with gestating sows, a "training" paddock, traditional hog-raising concepts (winter pens and summer pasture), multipurpose shelterbelt trees in a livestock system, planting for commercial hazelnut production, con-*



struction of a farm pond.

3:00 P.M. 3 miles E. of Alta Vista on B-22, 1 mile S. on gravel. W. side.
**AMARANTH PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE FEED IN COOPERATION
WITH NEW HAMPTON FFA**

AUG 18 NORTHEAST IOWA

Mike Natvig, 20074 Timber Ave., Cresco, IA 52136
(319) 569-8757

With his parents Godfrey and Theodora, Mike farms 250 acres of corn, soybeans, oats and hay. The Natvigs farrow-to-finish about 700 hogs per year on pasture. The beef herd of 33 cows has been in an intensive rotational grazing system since 1988.

Demonstrations: management-intensive rotational grazing for sows and for a cow-calf herd, extending a windbreak using Black Hills spruce, arbor vitae, and hazelnut, establishment of a marshland for wildlife (with support from Turkey River Chapter of Pheasants Forever).

10:00 A.M. From Protivin take V-58 (Willow Ave.) 1+ miles north and west. Where highway turns north again, continue W. 3 miles on 200th St. S. side, at intersection of 200th and Timber Ave.
LIGHT LUNCH SERVED

Jed and Joyce Becker, (cooperating Soil & Money Savers Club members)
RR 4, Cresco 52136
(319) 547-5419

The crop rotation on the 240 acre Becker farm is 1-2 years corn, oats, 3 years hay. Rotational grazing is practiced on the 30 acres of pasture as a high-quality supplement to the forage program. The dairy milks 30 cows.

Demonstrations: temporary fencing in a paddock grazing system, making shade and water available with pipe and black plastic screen.

1:30 P.M. Take V-58 (Willow Ave.) N. out of Protivin. After road turns back north, go 5 miles N. 3 miles E. on A-46, 1 mile S. on 335th Ave., ¼ mile E. on 240th St. First farm, N. side (Wisconsin Dairy sign).

Practical Farmers of Iowa On-Farm Demonstrations — 1994

AUG 26 NORTHWEST

narrow strip intercropping
economics of crop rotations
barley-based hog rations
pasture hogs
mechanical vs. chemical grass management in ridge-till corn
grain amaranth, specialty soybeans
planned grazing vs. drylot for dairy heifers
silage corn, waxy corn
no-till vs. ridge-till soybeans

SEPT 6 NORTHWEST

late-spring soil nitrate test for corn
deep-banded P & K vs. broadcast in ridge-till
berseem clover for green manure
narrow strip intercropping
building conversion for farrowing

SEPT 1 SOUTHWEST

manure for fertility in corn-soybean rotation
management-intensive rotational grazing for cow-calf, sheep
warm season grasses
with-and-without grass herbicide in soybeans
rock phosphate rates
composting
tree nursery

JUNE 24 SOUTHWEST

planned grazing for dairy
seasonal milking
small fruits production and U-pick
musk thistle parasites

JUNE 17 SOUTHWEST

pasture and meadow interseeding
pasture aeration
narrow strip intercropping corn and annual legumes
N management for corn

AUG 22 NORTH CENTRAL

no-till vs. ridge-till soybeans and corn
starter fertilizer for soybeans
narrow strip intercropping with rye and berseem
P & K starter – band and band placement
integrated farm management for water quality

AUG 29 NORTH CENTRAL

narrow strip intercropping
fertilizer placement, deep banding
rotary hoe for corn
rotational grazing RX-3 heifers
nematode cutworm parasites

AUG 18 NORTHEAST

management-intensive rotational grazing for sows and for a cow-calf herd
fencing, water & shade for dairy cows
establishing a marshland
extending a windbreak
hazelnuts

JULY 28 NORTHEAST

intensive rotational grazing for dairy
forage testing
grazing economics
paddock layout, fencing, water

JULY 29 NORTHEAST

management-intensive rotational grazing
water systems
grazing oats
biologicals in row crops
ridge tillage
narrow strip intercropping

AUG 17 NORTHEAST

berseem clover varieties and N contribution
37" vs. 42" corn rows
planned grazing of stocker cattle with gestating sows, paddock grazing heifer calves
narrow strip intercropping
amaranth, mule-footed pigs, Tamworth hogs, Jacob sheep
mechanical weed management
hazelnuts in a shelterbelt for livestock
farm pond construction

AUG 24 SOUTHEAST

intensive rotational grazing
matua grass, Reed's canarygrass
moving cattle
water systems
paddock layout
switchgrass for warm season grazing

AUG 11 SOUTHEAST

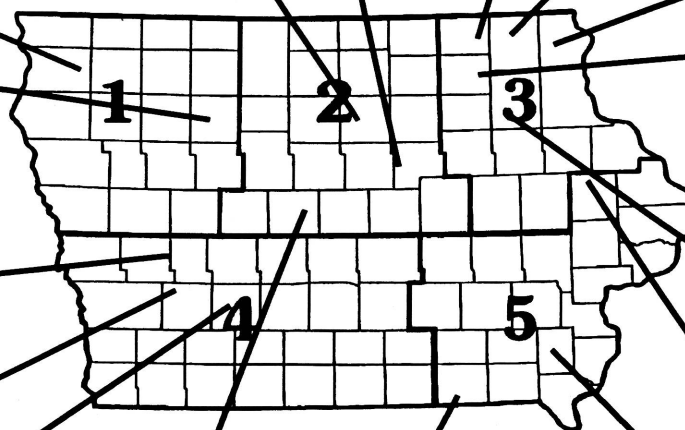
management-intensive rotational grazing
narrow strip intercropping
biologicals in corn
banding K
precision bander, electronic metering

AUG 19 NORTHEAST

planned grazing for dairy cows
combining traditional and seasonal milking
pasture improvement through grazing
direct seeding of forages
water, fencing

AUG 31 EAST CENTRAL

management-intensive rotational grazing
fencing, tree protectors
mechanical vs. post-chemical weed mgt.
adjusted water pH for corn herbicide



(Map numbers show PFI membership districts.)

AUG 19 NORTHEAST IOWA

In cooperation with ISU Extension.

Matt and Diana Stewart, 15434 25th St., Oelwein, IA 50662 (assisting farm)

(319) 283-1337

Two hundred acres of the 380 acre farm is in grass, the rest is in corn and alfalfa. The 100-cow registered Holstein herd and 100 of the 140 heifers are on pasture. The Stewarts are working to combine traditional and seasonal dairying, drying out cows the winter before they calve, optimizing forage quality through grazing, and focusing on the bottom line.

Demonstrations: pasture improvement through planned grazing, a new stand of direct-seeded brome, Reed's canary, red and ladino clover, milking cows grazing orchardgrass and alfalfa, changes in a creek pasture that has never been rotationally grazed, an orchardgrass pasture with springing cows and heifers, a surface-line water system.

Note: Stan Potratz, a grazing consultant from Washington, Iowa, will be on hand to take questions.

1:00 P.M. From Oelwein, 1 mile S. on Hwy. W-19 (Outer Rd.). NE corner of W-19 and 25th St.

LIGHT LUNCH SERVED

AUG 22 NORTH CENTRAL IOWA

In cooperation with Hardin and Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Don and Sharon Davidson, RR 1, Box 133, Grundy Center, 50638

(319) 824-6347

The Davidsons have a cash grain operation, raising corn, soybeans, oats and some hay on 480 acres. Some of the farm is in its 28th year of ridge tillage.

Demonstrations: ridge-till vs. no-till row-planted soybeans and corn, narrow strip intercropping with winter rye and berseem clover, ± starter fertilizer for soybeans.

9:00 A.M. From the Casey's store in Grundy Center, go W. 2 miles on Hwy. 14/175, S. 1½ miles on T-29. W. ¼ on gravel. Two houses and a red-and-white shop building, circular drive.

HAMBURGERS AND SWEET CORN

11:30 A.M. Circle Point shelter house, Upper Pine Lake. From Eldora 1 mile E. on Hwy. 175, take Hwy. S56 about 1 mile N. to campground entrance, then E. ¼ mile to end of road.

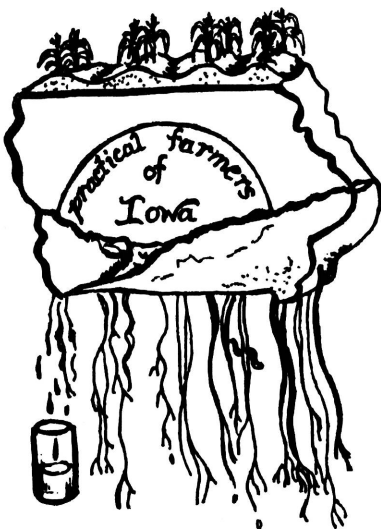
**Pine Creek Water
Quality Project**, Roger
Wolf, Iowa Division of Soil
Conservation
(515) 858-5692

The Pine Creek Watershed includes 9,860 acres and 120 owners and operators. Currently about 30 producers are participating in this multi-agency project, which is designed to improve water quality in Upper and Lower Pine Lakes. The field tour will visit some of these producers on their farms to talk about their efforts to fine-tune management skills while increasing profits. In addition, Lee

Folkerts, a crop consultant, will discuss implementation of integrated crop management (ICM) in the project.

Demonstrations: nutrient and pest management, soil conservation, treating critical areas, field and landscape buffers.

1:00 P.M. Directions to the farms will be given at the Circle Point shelter house.



AUG 24 SOUTHEAST IOWA

John and Pam Cowles, RR 2, Box 90, Bloomfield, 52537
(515) 675-3414

Of the 200 acres of permanent pasture on the farm, 75% is intensively grazed fescue/trefoil. The Cowles are learning to use switchgrass in a grazing program. They also farm 600 acres in a 4-5 year rotation of corn, soybeans, oats and hay.

Demonstrations: intensive grazing management setup using permanent fencing and a pond-fed tank, new seeding of Reed's canarygrass, switchgrass for summer grazing, matua grass second year stand – success or failure? moving cattle in a paddock system.

1:00 P.M. From Milton, 3 miles S. on Hwy 15, 1½ miles W. on J-56, look for PFI sign on N. side.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

AUG 26 NORTHWEST IOWA

Paul and Karen Mugge, 6190 470th St., Sutherland, 51058
(712) 446-2414

The Mugges raise corn, soybeans, and some oats and amaranth on their 320 acres of land. They also run a farrow-to-finish hog operation.

***Demonstrations:** ridge-till corn with and without a grass herbicide, field cropping vs. narrow strip intercropping (corn-beans-oats and corn-soybeans), economics of crop rotations, N-rates for corn following berseem clover and following oats (in cooperation with ISU), grain amaranth, growing soybeans for a specialty market.*

8:30 A.M. Hwy. 10, 3¼ miles W. of Sutherland, N. side.



Dan and Lorna Wilson, Colin and Carla Wilson,
4375 Pierce Ave., Paullina, 51046
(712) 448-2708

The Wilsons farm 800 acres of corn, soybeans, barley, and hay. They farrow 2,400 hogs a year, of which they finish some themselves. The herd includes 45 purebred black Polland and Chester white sows.

***Demonstrations:** barley-based vs. corn-based rations for growing and finishing pigs in a pasture-farrowing operation, fencing and homemade equipment for pasture hogs.*

10:30 A.M. From Paullina, go 2 miles W. on Hwy. 10, 2¼ miles N. West side, tall pines (Dan and Lorna's).

Ag. Stewardship Center, Dordt College, Sioux Center, 51250
(712) 722-6285

The Agricultural Stewardship Center provides teaching, work-study, research and outreach opportunities.

Demonstrations: narrow strip intercropping using oats and berseem clover, no-till drilled vs. ridge-planted soybeans, corn

varieties for silage, planned grazing vs. drylot for dairy heifers.

1:30 P.M. Hwy. 75 N. 2 miles from last stop light in Sioux Center, turn E. at Stewardship Ctr., go ½ mile, turn right at first lane. Meet in dairy observation room.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED



AUG 29 NORTH-CENTRAL IOWA

Doug Alert and Margaret Smith, 972 110th St., Hampton, 50441
(515) 456-4328

Doug and Margaret raise corn, beans, oats, forages, and cattle on 400 acres.

fertilizer placement for corn and residual effect for soybeans, ± starter 2" directly below soybean seed, narrow strip intercropping including oats with berseem clover, fall deep-banded fertilizer for soybeans, ± rotary hoe for corn (both with and without herbicide), management-intensive rotational grazing for RX-3 heifers. In cooperation with ISU: N rates for corn following berseem, corn populations in narrow strips, using earthworms to deliver nematodes that parasitize cutworms.

9:30 A.M. From Hampton: 4 miles S. of Hwy. 3 on Hwy. 65, 6¼ miles W. on gravel. Past schoolhouse, N. side. From Dows exit of I-35: 5 miles E. to stop sign, 1 mile N. on pavement to 110th St., E. 1¾ miles, N. side.

LIGHT LUNCH SERVED

AUG 31 EAST-CENTRAL IOWA

David and Lisa Lubben, RR 3, Monticello, 52310

(319) 465-4717

With assistance from Ron Ivans, Extension livestock field specialist, and Virgil Schmitt, Extension crops field specialist.

About half of the 1,200 acres the Lubbens farm is devoted to row crops. The remainder grows alfalfa hay or brome grass for pasture. Intensive rotational grazing is used with the 100 stock cows, and the Lubbens run a 250-head feedlot for finishing.

Demonstrations: management-intensive rotational grazing, temporary fencing to subdivide paddocks, tree protectors, mechanical vs. postemerge chemical weed control for corn, ± adjusted water pH for corn herbicide.

6:30 P.M. From Monticello, 3 miles. N on Hwy. 38. 3rd house (look for PFI sign).

SEPT 1 SOUTHWEST IOWA

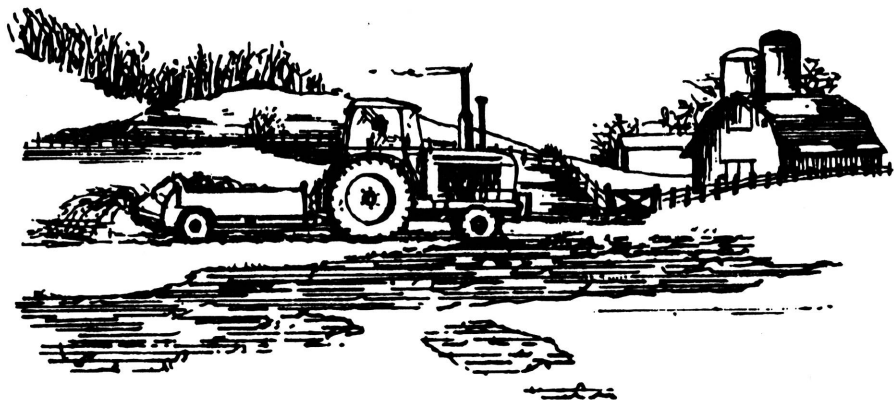
Vic and Cindy Madsen, 2186 Goldfinch Ave., Audubon, 50025

(712) 563-3044

The Madsens raise corn and soybeans and finish hogs on their farm of 400 acres.

Demonstration: ± grass herbicide in ridge-till soybeans, manure as a source of fertility in a corn-soybean rotation (3rd year), beginning planned grazing of sheep.

1:30 P.M. From Audubon Co-op, go past the hospital 1 mile S. and 2 miles W. Turn S. on N-16 and go ¾ mile, E. side.



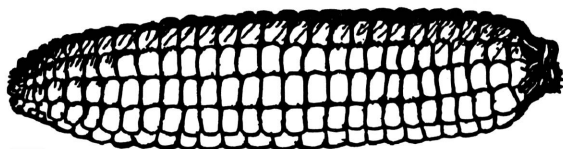
Ronald and Maria Rosmann, 1222 Ironwood Rd., Harlan, 51537-4102 (712) 627-4653 (With support from Nelson Farm Supply)

The Rosmanns raise oats, corn, soybeans, rye, alfalfa and pasture on their 480-acre farm. After achieving a 75% reduction in fertilizers and pesticides, they are moving into organic production. The Rosmanns farrow 1,000 hogs annually, with some sold as feeder pigs, and they operate a cow-calf herd of 65 cows. They also raise broilers and operate a small nursery featuring container-grown and field-grown trees, all for local sales.

Demonstrations: grazing for a cow-calf herd using cool season and warm season grasses in a 16-paddock system, seeding birdsfoot trefoil through feeding mineral, corn and soybean populations in an organic system, rock phosphate rates, animal fat as a bale preservative, berseem clover for short-term hay crop and seeded with oats, composting.

4:00 P.M. From intersection of Hwys. 59 and 44 in Harlan, 2 miles W. on Hwy. 44, then N. 2¼ miles on Ironwood Rd., W. side.

LIGHT SUPPER SERVED



SEPT 6 NORTHWEST IOWA

In cooperation with Outlying Research System, ISU Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station.

Mike Vosika, RR 2, Box 24, Pocahontas, IA 50574 (712) 335-3952 (assisting farm)

Mike and his brother Mark farm 1,270 acres of corn and soybeans. They have practiced ridge tillage for five years.

Demonstrations: using the late spring soil nitrate test for corn, deep banded potash and pell lime for soybeans, fall deep banding, changing to wide-rows.

2:00 P.M. From the intersection of Hwys. 3 and 4 in Pocahontas, go N. 1 mile on Hwy. 4, W. 2¼ miles, S. side.

Harlan and Sharon Grau, RR 2, Newell, 50568 (712) 272-3692

The Graus farm 700 acres of corn and soybeans, with some small grains, and they sell feeder pigs.

Demonstrations: P & K fertilization in a ridge-till system – no fertilizer vs. surface broadcast vs. deep band, berseem clover for a green manure crop after oats.

4:00 P.M. 3 miles N. of Newell on M-54, NW corner field.

LIGHT SUPPER SERVED

Iowa State University Allee Experimental Farm, RR 2, Newell, 51568
Roger McMillin, farm manager (assisting farm)
(712) 272-3512

The 280-acre Allee Farm grows corn, soybeans, and some alfalfa and oats, feeds 400 cattle, and maintains a 60-sow farrowing operation. It implements proven practices on a whole-farm basis to evaluate their profitability and effectiveness. A goal is to limit production costs and capital investment while farming in a way that is environmentally appropriate.

Demonstrations: second year of a two-crop narrow strip intercropping system, conversion of an existing building for farrowing (A-frames indoors).

6:30 P.M. From west edge of Newell, go 1 mile S. on gravel, ¼ mile E. South side.

SEPT 8 CENTRAL IOWA

Richard and Sharon Thompson, 2035 190th St., Boone 50036
(515) 432-1560

The 300-acre farm is chiefly in 5-year and 6-year rotations. The farm also supports a beef cow-calf and farrow-to-finish hog operation. Most of the crop land is devoted to on-farm research.

Demonstrations: day and night planting for weed control in soybeans, planting soybeans "on the flat" vs. fall ridges, ± spring-applied manure and ± starter for soybeans, zero manure vs. fall-applied vs. spring-applied manure for ridge-till corn (± starter), row-banded fertilizer 2" below corn and soybean seed, fall incorporated manure vs. fall-plowed pasture vs. spring-applied manure for ridge-till corn, alternative system in narrow strip intercropping vs. conventional system in whole fields, planned grazing.

7:00 A.M. Registration opens: \$10/person, \$15/family

8:00 A.M. Discussion time (sessions 8:00, 11:00, 1:00, 4:00)

9:00 A.M. Field tour (continued at 2:00 in afternoon)

Hwy. 30 to Hwy. 17. Take Hwy. 17 N. about 4 miles to Hwy. E-26. Go E. 1½ miles, N. side. Two silos.

A CATERED LUNCH MAY BE PURCHASED



ADDITIONAL PFI COOPERATOR FAMILIES

Ted and Donna Bauer, RR 1, Audubon, 50025

(712) 563-4084

The Bauers run a cow-calf operation and raise corn, soybeans, oats and hay on their 660 acre farm.

Ray and Marj Stonecypher, 1321 March Ave., RR 1, Box 127, Floyd, 50435

(515) 398-2417

The Stonecyphers' 500 acres are in 3-year and 2-year rotations. They also farrow-to-finish about 700 hogs.

Dick and Mary Jane Svoboda, RR 1, Box 130, Aurora, 50607

(319) 935-3966

The Svobodas grow corn, soybeans, oats and hay on 350 acres, and they farrow-to-finish 1,200 hogs a year.

Allen and Jackie Tibbs, RR 3, Alden, 50006

(515) 859-7420

The Tibbs raise corn and soybeans on their 450 acre farm. They have used ridge tillage since 1983.

Lowell and Eunice Wilson, Doyle and Sheryl Wilson, RR 1, Box 54, Primghar, 51245

(712) 757-1874

The Wilsons farm a total of 1,100 tillable acres, raising corn, soybeans, and a little alfalfa. They keep stock cows and run a farrow-to-finish hog operation.

Practical Farmers of Iowa

2035 190th St., Boone, Iowa 50036-9632

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