

Welcome, August!***Marissa Renz, Plant Happiness, LLC, Fort Wayne, IN******Photo: Charles Jischke***

August is a pivotal month for Indiana farmers as the growing season shifts from peak summer production toward fall harvest and planting. Specialty crop growers are balancing the tail end of summer harvests with fall succession plantings like brassicas, greens, and other cool season crops that need to be planted now to mature before frost. Late-summer heat and humidity can still stress crops and speed up pest and disease cycles, so regular field scouting remains essential.

Weed control continues to be a priority, especially as summer crops wrap up, and beds are prepped for fall plantings. Producers should stay alert for insects, diseases, and other issues that tend to build through the season. Hot, humid conditions in August can favor pests and pathogens, and timely management now helps protect both remaining summer harvests and establishing fall crops.

High tunnels and greenhouses need continued attention to ventilation and irrigation as late-summer heat persists, while also being prepped for fall crop transitions. Be prepared for weather challenges because heavy rainfall, hail, drought stress, and extreme heat can all still show up at this time of year.

Purdue Extension will continue hosting field days, workshops, and on-farm demonstrations throughout August. These events are a great chance to see current research in action, learn from new practices, and connect with fellow producers before the fall rush hits. Watch your local Extension newsletters and social media for upcoming events and registration details.

As always, Purdue Extension is here to support Indiana farmers with research-based information and practical resources. Stay connected, keep an eye on crop conditions as the season transitions, and reach out to your local Extension office with any questions!



Nathan Shoaf

Assistant Program Leader | Agriculture and Natural Resources

Urban Agriculture Specialist | Diversified Farming and Food Systems

Purdue University Cooperative Extension Services



2026 Broomcorn Field Day

For small and diversified farmers, curious grain farmers, and crafters: join the Indiana Organic Network for a field day exploring a novel crop for organic transition — broomcorn. Hosted by the farmers and crafters at Bundle Sticks Farm, attendees will get to know this unique, high-value variety of *Sorghum bicolor* and learn how it is suited to preparing land for organic production while increasing the domestic supply of broom-making materials.

Bundle Sticks Farm is a small, diversified farm focused on raising crafting materials, including broomcorn, cut flowers, willow, sheep, and native plants.

This event is free to attend and lunch will be provided! We appreciate SARE's support of this work through the Farmer Rancher grant program.

Visit the Indiana Organic Network events page for more information: https://extension.purdue.edu/anr/_teams/dffs/organic_ag/ion/ion-events.html

Questions may be directed to [765-496-6362](tel:765-496-6362).

Event Details

- Date: Monday, August 10, 2026 (rain date: August 17, 2026)
- Time: 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Location: Bundle Sticks Farm, 7601 Hess Jawtak Rd NE, Lanesville, IN 47136
- Cost: Free (lunch provided)

Register Here

GETTING STARTED WITH ACEP-ALE IN INDIANA



REGISTER TODAY



Getting Started with ACEP-ALE in Indiana: A Virtual Webinar

If you've been curious about agricultural land easements or have been fielding questions from farmland owners who want to protect their land and aren't sure where to start, I hope you'll join us for "Getting

Started with ACEP-ALE in Indiana," a 90-minute virtual webinar on August 11th from 10-11:30am EDT.

This webinar is designed as a comprehensive overview of the USDA Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP-ALE), a federal cost-share program that funds permanent agricultural land protection. I'll be joined by a guest speaker from USDA-NRCS Indiana, and together we'll cover what agricultural easements are and how they work, program eligibility and the role of the land trust, how to identify and prioritize strong projects that align with your organization's conservation mission (and how AFT can help), and what costs and timeline to expect with agricultural easement projects.

Land trusts across the Midwest have found that farmland often carries significant natural resource conservation value, making ACEP-ALE a powerful tool for advancing both agricultural protection and broader conservation goals at the same time.

Please contact Rachel Irvine at rirvine@farmland.org with any questions.

Event Details

Date: August 11, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT

Location: Virtual

Audience: Land trust staff and other conservation partners interested in the role agricultural easements can play in statewide conservation outcomes, or in ACEP-ALE specifically, are encouraged to join.

Register Here



Summer in the Cities Buyers Mission

Indiana food and beverage companies are invited to join Food Export USA's Summer in the Cities Buyers Mission in Indianapolis. Meet with 17+ international buyers seeking U.S. products and explore your export potential without leaving the state.

Why Participate

- One-on-one, pre-scheduled meetings with vetted international buyers
- Onsite consultations with Food Export's In-Market Representatives
- Networking lunch included
- Proven results: \$9.72M in sales generated through this event in 2025
- Even if your company doesn't generate immediate sales, it's a valuable chance to explore your product's global potential
- Exclusive ISDA assistance leading up to the event to help companies feel prepared for their meetings

Products of Interest: snacks, beverages (alcoholic & non-alcoholic), ready meals, oils/fats, nuts, dairy products, meat products, sauces, spices, confectionery, and more.

Questions about the event may be directed to ISDA International Trade Director Megan Bixler at MeBixler@isda.in.gov.

Event Details

- Date: August 12, 2026
- Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Indianapolis
- Cost: \$400 per company

Register Here



SOUTHWEST PURDUE AGRICULTURE CENTER

SAVE THE DATE

VEGETABLE FIELD DAY

AUGUST 13, 2026

This field day is designed to Connect with Purdue Extension specialists, growers, and industry professionals, providing an excellent opportunity to explore the latest research and demonstrations in vegetable production. Topics will include crop management, pest and disease updates, and innovative production practices.

More details coming soon!
Stay tuned for the agenda, speaker lineup, and registration information.
We look forward to seeing you in Vincennes!

Dr. Wenjing Guan guan40@purdue.edu
Dr. César Escalante escalac@purdue.edu

4669 N. Purdue Road
Vincennes, IN 47591
812-886-0198

P PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension

Southwest Purdue Agriculture Center Vegetable Field Day

You are invited to attend the SWPAC Vegetable Field Day on August 13, 2026, at the Southwest Purdue Agricultural Center (SWPAC) in Vincennes, Indiana. PARP credits will be offered at this event.

This free educational event will provide an opportunity to learn about the latest research and Extension programs that support Indiana's vegetable industry. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with Purdue specialists, Extension educators, researchers, industry representatives, and fellow growers.

Whether you are a commercial vegetable producer, beginning farmer, crop consultant, or industry professional, we encourage you to join us for a day of learning, networking, and discussion of current challenges and opportunities in vegetable production.

Event Details

- **Dates:** August 13, 2026
- **Location:** Vincennes, IN

Register Here

fresh connect

CENTRAL

by GLEANERS

Food Sourcing & Operations Conference: The Power of Partnerships

Join Fresh Connect Central for the Food Sourcing & Operations Conference, centered on The Power of Partnerships and the momentum created when people come together with a shared purpose. This three-day experience brings leaders into the same room to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and spark new possibilities across food sourcing and operations.

Designed to be open, engaging, and experience-driven, the conference blends hands-on learning with meaningful connections. Space is limited.

Who Should Attend

Designed for food bank leaders and hunger relief professionals. Breakout sessions are organized around four focus tracks:

- Sourcing to Support Programs
- Operations & Logistics
- Innovation & Technology
- Funding the Mission

Schedule Highlights

- Tuesday, Aug. 18: optional food bank tour at Gleaners Food Bank (2 p.m.), followed by a welcome reception at the Westin
- Wednesday, Aug. 19 – Thursday, Aug. 20: official conference programming
- Wednesday evening: night out at the Indianapolis Indians AAA baseball game

Event Details

- Dates: August 18–20, 2026
- Location: The Westin Indianapolis (host hotel and conference hub)
- Cost: Free to attend (travel and lodging are attendees' responsibility)
- Attire: Casual (organizational apparel encouraged)
- Hotel room rate: \$209/night plus taxes and parking; reservations due by July 24, 2026

[Register Here](#)

Bodi Buzz X ROOTED LEGACY
PRESENT
NATURE IS Paradise
A FARM TO TABLE DINNER
Fundraiser

*Nourish the Body.
Uplift the Community.
Grow the Legacy.*
A FUNDRAISER TO
SUPPORT OUR URBAN FARM,
YOUTH PROGRAMS, AND
COMMUNITY WELLNESS
INITIATIVES.

TICKETS
\$55
EACH
OR
2 FOR
\$100

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 22ND**
6PM - 9:30PM

An unforgettable evening of food, culture,
community & connection in nature.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ACTS
DANCING
**PANEL DISCUSSION:
COMMUNITY
BUILDING + HEALTH**
FRUIT BAR
HERBAL MOCKTAILS
SILENT AUCTION

3 COURSE MEAL
APPETIZER • MAIN COURSE • DESSERT

**8015 PENDLETON PIKE UNIT P
INDIANAPOLIS, IN**

**SECURE YOUR TICKET.
SUPPORT THE MOVEMENT.**
SCAN QR CODE TO PURCHASE
TICKETS OR VISIT:
bodibuzz.com

Farm To Table Dinner: Nature Is Paradise

Enjoy an elegant 3-course meal at this farm-to-table dinner fundraiser. Join Bodi Buzz X Rooted Legacy for Nature Is Paradise, a farm-to-table dining experience celebrating the beauty of fresh, nutritious food from Black-owned farms, meaningful connections, and community wellness. This elegant fundraiser dinner invites guests to reconnect with nature, with food, and to invest in a healthier future for Indianapolis.

Your evening includes:

- A beautifully curated 3-course farm-to-table dinner (appetizer, entrée, and dessert) — vegan and non-vegan options available
- Handcrafted herbal mocktails and a seasonal fruit bar
- Live music and cultural performances
- Dancing
- A community conversation on health, food sovereignty, and community building through agriculture
- Silent auction featuring unique experiences and products from local Black-owned businesses

Every ticket purchased directly supports the growth of the urban farm, youth education programs, community wellness initiatives, and efforts to increase access to healthy, locally grown food.

Whether you're celebrating with family, enjoying a date night, or gathering with friends, Nature Is Paradise is more than dinner — it's an opportunity to nourish your body, strengthen the community, and help grow a lasting legacy for our health.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, August 22, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Location: 8015 Pendleton Pike, Unit P, Indianapolis, IN

Cost: \$55 individual; 2 for \$100

Register Here



2026 Appropriate Technology Field Day

The Organic Association of Kentucky (OAK), the University of Kentucky's Center for Crop Diversification (UK CCD), and the Kentucky Horticulture Council (KHC) are hosting an Appropriate Technology Field Day at the

UK Horticulture Farm in Lexington.

The day will feature educational sessions, field demonstrations, and a trade show highlighting transplant production systems in the greenhouse and walk-behind and tractor-mounted seeding and transplanting tools in the field. There will be ample opportunity to observe equipment up close and running, compare options, and try various tools.

Lunch is included with your ticket and will feature local food from The Food Connection.

Event Details

- Date: August 25, 2026
- Location: UK Horticulture Farm, Lexington, Kentucky

Register Here



Indiana Land Use Summit: Agrivoltaics and Renewable Energy

Purdue Extension and the Purdue Institute for a Sustainable Future invite you to the Indiana Land Use Summit. This summit will highlight Purdue University's applied research and extension efforts in advancing data-driven, community-engaged approaches to land use planning across Indiana.

Event Details

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

Location: Beck Agricultural Center, 4550 U.S. 52 W., West Lafayette, IN

Cost: \$50 (includes lunch)

Register Here

HARMONIZED GAP

TRAINING & CERTIFICATION COST-SHARE

Ensuring safe, high-quality produce is a shared priority for Purdue's Safe Produce Indiana program and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. Access training on proper handling, storage, and food safety protocols, and take advantage of cost-share funding to offset the cost of Harmonized GAP certification.

LEARN MORE 





Harmonized GAP Cost-Share Certification Program

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture is thrilled to partner with Purdue's Safe Produce Indiana to launch a Harmonized GAP Cost-Share Certification Program.

This initiative helps Indiana growers reduce the financial burden of obtaining Harmonized GAP certification, supporting on-farm food safety and expanding market opportunities.

To learn more or express interest in participating, complete the interest form below.

Questions may be directed to Dr. Amanda Deering (adeering@purdue.edu) or Caroline Patrick (cpatrick@isda.in.gov).

Program Details

- Partners: Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) & Purdue's Safe Produce Indiana
- Purpose: Cost-share support for Harmonized GAP certification

Register Here



INVESTING TODAY SUSTAINING TOMORROW

The **Indiana Management of Agriculture Enhancements (IMAGE)** program is a cost-share initiative designed to help Indiana producers make practical improvements to their farming operations. Through financial assistance and technical support, IMAGE helps landowners implement projects that reduce nutrient loss, strengthen infrastructure, support livestock management, and promote responsible stewardship of natural resources.

Eligible Practices

- Heavy Use Area Pads (561)
- Watering Facility (512)
- Livestock Pipeline (516)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Soil Amendments
- Other EQIP-eligible practices with NRCS technical documentation

Program Details



Up to 75% cost-share for approved conservation practices.



Applications can be found at your local Soil and Water Conservation District or USDA Service Center



Applications Open
July 1, 2026

Pilot Program Area

Southwest Indiana - 23 Counties



Questions?

Limited Funding available...
Contact your Resource
Specialist today to learn more!



IMAGE is made possible by Clean Water Indiana funding



The Indiana Management of Agriculture Enhancements (IMAGE) program helps Indiana producers make practical farm improvements through financial assistance and technical support.

Program Highlights:

- Up to 75% cost-share for approved conservation practices
- Supports improvements such as watering facilities, livestock pipelines, pasture and hay planting, and soil amendments
- Pilot program available in 23 Southwest Indiana counties
- Applications opened July 1, 2026
- Funding is limited

Program Details

Cost-Share: Up to 75%

Coverage Area: 23 Southwest Indiana counties (pilot)

Application Opened: July 1, 2026

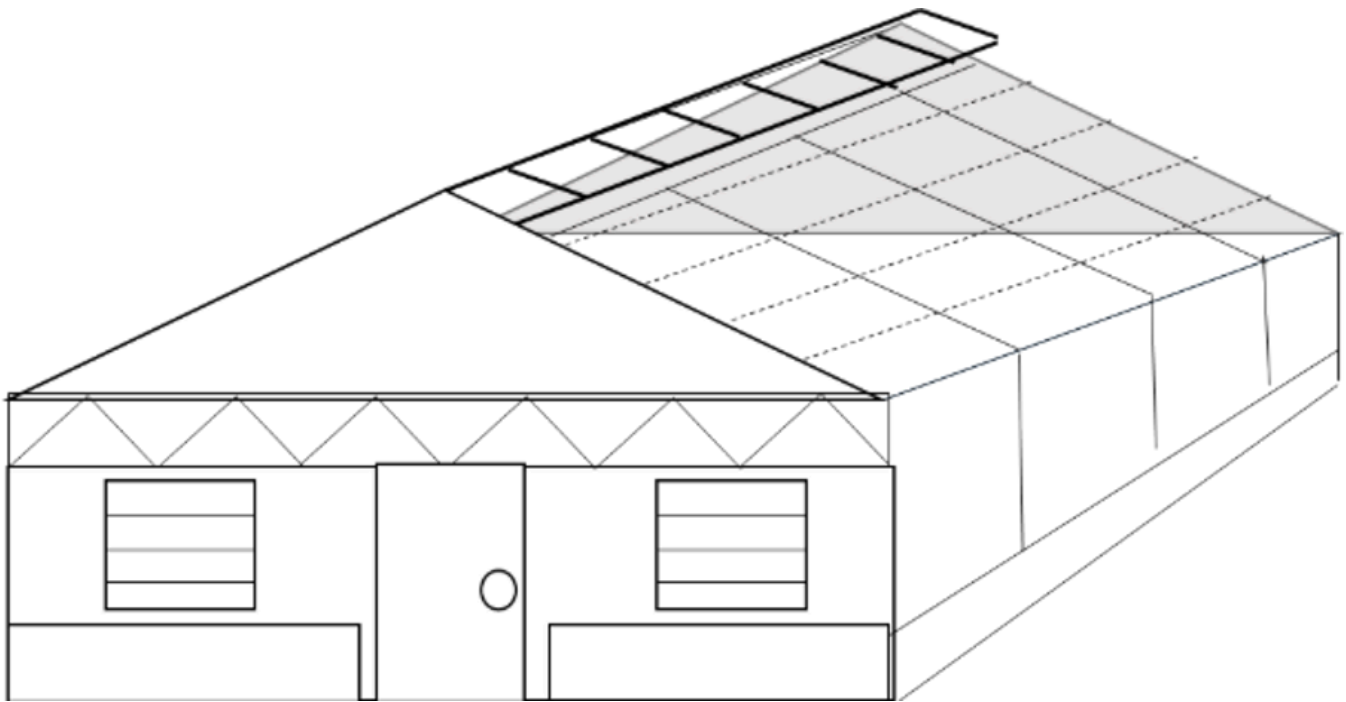
Click Here for More Information

New Funding Library for Ag Professionals

Our partners at Farm Aid have launched a new online Ag Funding Library. The list pulls together grants, loans, and relief payment programs available to farms, ranches, and other agricultural businesses. This list is updated as opportunities become available or expire.

[Explore Funding Opportunities](#)

Learn More Here



Webinar Series on Greenhouse Production of Specialty Crops 2026

Presentations cover production of specialty crops including flowers, vegetables, and fruits grown in greenhouses. There are no fees, but registration is required to attend. Details on how to join the webinar will be sent to your email after registration.

Contact Details: Lori Jolly Brown (ljollybr@purdue.edu; 765-494-1296)

Event Details

Schedule: Once a month, third Wednesday, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free (registration required)

Register Here



Facts for Fancy Fruit is a newsletter for commercial and advanced amateur fruit growers. It provides timely information on weather conditions, production practices, pest and disease control, and other topics likely to be of interest to fruit growers.

[Subscribe Here](#)



The Vegetable Crops Hotline is a newsletter for commercial vegetable growers that the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service prepares. The newsletter aims to bring timely information to vegetable growers between February and October.

[Subscribe Here](#)



2026 Indiana Hunger Summit

The Indiana Hunger Summit, a one-day statewide event with multiple locations, brings together all sectors of the state's food chain to tackle food insecurity through collaborative and actionable solutions.

This year, three locations are available for attendees to participate. Join us at one of the following locations:

- Northern location (Purdue Fort Wayne, International Ballroom, 2101 E Coliseum Blvd., Fort Wayne)
- Central Indiana (Indiana State Fairgrounds, 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis)
- Southern Indiana (University of Southern Indiana, 8600 University Blvd., Carter Hall, Evansville)

For more information, please contact INHungerSummit@gmail.com.

Event Details

Date: September 2, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Multiple sites statewide (Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Evansville — see above)

Register Here



2026 Get the Dirt Conference & Farm Tour

For agricultural professionals, small-scale diversified farmers, and gardeners: join us as Get the Dirt centers this year on women farmers in Indiana and the conservation practices that underpin their farm operations. The event is a platform to showcase the voices and dynamic business models of female farmer leaders, with

a morning conference followed by an afternoon farm tour and social. Come to learn and connect with new and old friends in Indiana's small farm world.

The conference will be held at Forest Park Inn in Noblesville, followed by a farm tour and social at Teter Organic Farm.

This event is free to attend for Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) staff, agricultural professionals, and small-scale diversified farmers and gardeners.

Visit [Forest Park Inn](#) and [Teter Organic Farm](#) for more information on each location.

Event Details

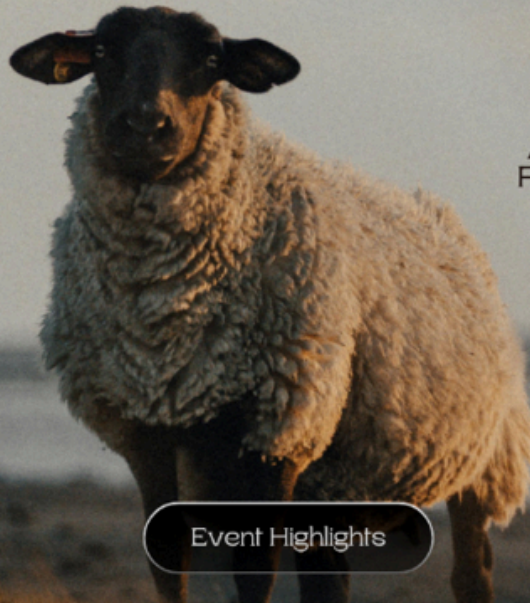
- Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026
- Time: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET
- Conference: 9:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
- Coffee & Networking: 8:30 a.m.
- Welcome & Sessions: 9:00 a.m.
- Lunch & Keynote: 11:30 a.m.
- Farm Tour & Social: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Forest Park Inn, Noblesville (conference); Teter Organic Farm (farm tour & social, 2:00 p.m.)
- Cost: Free

Register Here

Indiana Flock Exchange

Join us on
Sunday, July
26th from 2-7
pm

Creighton Hall of
Animal Sciences,
Purdue University



Event Highlights



Discounted FAMACHA

Signs of anemia
Parasite management
Reduced parasite
resistance

BOAH update

Issues affecting sheep
production in Indiana

Producer Panel

Flock health experiences
Connections and
networking

Reserve now before slots fill up

The Indiana Flock Exchange

Presented by the Indiana Sheep Association and Sheep and Wool Checkoff, this workshop series is led by Purdue's new Small Ruminant Extension Specialist, Coro Reibnoit. Taking place in three different regions of the state during three different months in 2026, these sheep health workshops will focus on parasites and other current sheep health concerns.

Event Highlights

- Discounted FAMACHA Training — get certified in FAMACHA, a \$30 registration value included in your \$10 registration fee. Learn to spot the signs of anemia in sheep indicating parasites and recover the materials you'll need to practice FAMACHA in your flock, reducing your chance of parasite resistance.
- Indiana Board of Animal Health on current sheep health issues — a representative from BOAH will be speaking at each event on health issues impacting sheep specifically in the Hoosier State.

- Experienced Producer Panel — hear from experienced producers in the region about their flock health experiences and connect with fellow shepherds during dinner.

Cost: \$10 per person, includes dinner

Questions about the event may be directed to executive@indianasheep.com or [317-607-5664](tel:317-607-5664).

Event Dates and Locations

- Sunday, September 13, 2026 — Southern Indiana Purdue Ag Center
- Sunday, November 22, 2026 — Pinney Purdue Ag Center

Register Here

Hydroponic Crop Production Workshop



Date: Sep 19, 2026 (Saturday, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm)

Location: Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Greenhouse Complex, 625 Agriculture Mall Drive, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907

The workshop is a perfect opportunity to learn about hydroponic crop production for home and commercial-scale operations.

Register here:

Registration fees : \$60 per person

- Lunch/ snacks provided
- Parking is free
- Taught by experienced Purdue faculty

Contact: Lori-Jolly Brown
Tel: 765-494-1296 | Email: ljollybr@purdue.edu
Dr Krishna Nemali
Tel: 765 494 8179 | knemali@purdue.edu

PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension

Hydroponic Crop Production Workshop

The workshop is a perfect opportunity to learn about hydroponic crop production for home and commercial-scale operations, taught by experienced Purdue faculty.

- Lunch/snacks provided
- Parking is free
- Registration closes September 13 at midnight

Questions about the event may be directed to Lori Jolly-Brown at [765-494-1296](tel:765-494-1296) or ljollybr@purdue.edu.

Event Details

- Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026
- Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Location: Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Greenhouse Complex, 625 Agriculture Mall Drive, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907
- Cost: \$60 per person
- Registration deadline: September 13, 2026 (midnight)

Register Here



This year, the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Grown for Schools chose Tomatoes for the Indiana Food Day Celebration in October. Local educators, school food service professionals, and tomato producers are encouraged to check out all the online resources and register to participate in Indiana Food Day this year.

You'll find Toolkits on how to participate, celebrate, grow the perfect tomato, plan lessons, and activities, as well as recipes, cooking tips, procurement guidelines and more on the [Indiana Food Day website](#)

[**Click Here For More Information**](#)



Regenerating the Land: Practical Solutions for Hoosier Farms

Indiana farmers face no shortage of challenges from relentless weeds, unpredictable weather, rising input costs, labor shortages, and volatile markets.

Regenerative agriculture offers practical ways to reduce costs, improve soil health, strengthen profitability, and build more resilient farming operations. To help farmers explore these solutions, the Hoosier Environmental Council and Ancilla Beef and Grain are hosting Regenerating the Land: Practical Solutions for Hoosier Farms. John Hornbostel, NEILFN's Board Treasurer and a regenerative agriculture expert, also supported this event.

The workshop is designed for farmers, landowners, farm workers, students, and anyone interested in the future of agriculture. Experts will share practical strategies to improve farm profitability while strengthening long-term stewardship of the land.

Event Details

Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Lindenwood Center, Marian University, Plymouth, IN

Cost: \$50 general admission; \$25 student rate (includes light breakfast and lunch)

[Register Here](#)

Indiana Farm Bureau® presents

Farm Business and Diversification Conference



Thursday, Sept. 10, 2026



8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.



Hamilton County Fairgrounds
Noblesville, IN

REGISTER TODAY!

Join us for breakout sessions covering topics such as:



Financial & Legal Strategy



Sales & Marketing Expansion



Long-Term Farm Sustainability

INFB Farm Business and Diversification Conference

Registration is now open for INFB's Farm Business and Diversification Conference. The event will explore practical ways to strengthen your business through business development, legal structures, and new market opportunities for both commodity and value-added operations. Whether you're looking to grow, diversify, or plan for the future, this conference is designed to spark ideas and support long-term success.

Event Details

Cost: Free for members; \$50 for nonmembers

[Learn More Here](#)

HOMESTEADING CONFERENCE

Monroe County Fairgrounds
Saturday October 17, 2026

8:30am	Doors Open- Check In	
	From Soil to Shelf	From Livestock to Land
9:00am-10:30am	Pressure Canning vs Water Bath Canning Guest Speaker: Chelsea Brewer Purdue Extension Health & Human Sciences Educator	Insurance 101 Guest Speaker: Ethan Vencel Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance Agent
10:45am-12:15pm	Thinking Outside the Jar Guest Speaker: Chelsea Brewer Purdue Extension Health & Human Sciences Educator	Beekeeping & Pollinations Guest Speaker: Gina Anderson Purdue Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator
12:30pm-1:00pm	Lunch	
1:15pm-2:45pm	Composting Guest Speaker: Michele Jones Purdue Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator	Small Farm Finances & Budgeting Guest Speaker: Jenna Nees Purdue Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator
3:00pm-4:30pm	Managing Humid Summers & Fungal Diseases Guest Speaker: Cesar Escalante-Guardado Purdue Extension Plant Pathologist	Sheep & Goats Guest Speaker: Cora Reinbolt Purdue Extension Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator

Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access Institution.

Purdue Extension
812-349-2575

To register:
Scan the QR Code

Southern Indiana Homesteading Conference

Join us for the Southern Indiana Homesteading Conference on Saturday, October 17, 2026, for a day filled with practical workshops, expert speakers, and valuable resources for anyone interested in homesteading, sustainable living, gardening, livestock, food preservation, and small farm management. Whether you're just getting started or looking to expand your knowledge, you'll leave with ideas and skills you can put to use at home.

Registration Options:

- **Full-Day Conference** — Attend all sessions throughout the day; lunch included
- Early Bird: \$20.00 (payment received by September 1, 2026)
- Regular Registration: \$25.00 (after September 1, 2026)
- **Half-Day Conference** — Attend one educational track consisting of 2 consecutive sessions
- Early Bird: \$10.00 (payment received by September 1, 2026)
- Regular Registration: \$15.00 (after September 1, 2026)

We look forward to welcoming you for a day of learning, connecting with fellow homesteaders, and gaining practical knowledge to help you grow, preserve, and sustain your homestead! Once you have completed registration and payment, a welcome packet will be sent to you via email.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2026

Check-In: Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

Location: Monroe County Fairgrounds, 5700 Airport Road, Bloomington, IN 47403

Registration Deadline: October 9, 2026

Cost: See registration options above (payment nonrefundable)

Register Here

Diversified Farming and Food Systems



2027 Bi-State Organic Grain Conference

SAVE THE DATE: January 6-7, 2027

Location: Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne, IN.



purdue.ag/bogc



@OrganicAgPurdue



Purdue Extension



www.purdue.edu/dffs/organicag

*In Partnership with Ohio State
for a bi-state rotation*



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



An Equal Access/Equal Opportunity University



DIGITAL AGRICULTURE

100% ONLINE COURSE FOR AGRICULTURE PROFESSIONALS



New digital agriculture course launched

Agriculture is evolving rapidly, and Purdue University's College of Agriculture is helping professionals keep pace with a new 100% online Digital Agriculture course. Designed for agricultural input suppliers, equipment dealers, educators, growers, and anyone eager to expand their understanding of modern farming, this 10-module program explores how precision farming, data, AI, and automation are reshaping the way food, feed and fiber are produced. From learning GPS guidance systems to data-driven decision making, participants gain the skills needed to navigate today's technology-rich landscape. As farms face tight margins and increasing demands for efficiency, this course provides the knowledge to stay ahead.

Learn More Here



2026 Urban Food Systems Symposium: Cultivating Communities, Cities, and Food Systems

Join researchers, educators, nonprofit professionals, government leaders, and food systems practitioners from across the United States and around the world for the 2026 Urban Food Systems Symposium. This multi-day event provides a unique opportunity to share knowledge, explore emerging research, and engage in discussions that advance urban food systems.

The symposium welcomes a wide range of abstract submissions, including academic research, policy-focused work, educational initiatives, and programmatic innovations. Whether you are conducting research, developing community programs, or shaping policy, this event offers a platform to exchange ideas and build meaningful connections.

Questions about the symposium may be directed to UFSS@ksu.edu.

Event Details

- **Dates:** September 14–17, 2026
- **Location:** Kansas City, Missouri
- **Theme:** *Cultivating Communities, Cities, and Food Systems*

Register Here

2027

INDIANA HORTICULTURE AND SMALL FARM CONFERENCE



*PLANT IDEAS.
BUILD CONNECTIONS.
GROW YOUR OPERATION.*

Purdue University is an Equal
Opportunity/Equal Access University.

Jan. 26-28 *Hendricks County Fairgrounds • Danville, Indiana*

We're pleased to announce that Purdue Extension will host the Indiana Horticulture and Small Farm Conference in January 2027. Please mark your calendars for January 26–28 in Danville, Indiana.

Our planning committee has already begun organizing the conference, and we would greatly appreciate your input. We welcome your suggestions for speakers, topics, panels, and more. Our goal is to ensure this conference meets the needs of Indiana's growers, so please take a moment to complete the survey and share what would be most helpful to you.

Do you enjoy speaking? Have you conducted on-farm research or implemented an innovative practice that has made a positive impact? If so, we encourage you to nominate yourself as a speaker.

[Click Here for the Survey](#)

Share your Scenes from Diversified Farming and Food Systems in Indiana

Do you have photos that capture the unique aspects of Indiana's agricultural production or food distribution systems? We would love for you to share them with us! Your photos could help shine a light on underrepresented facets of the industry and will be used by the DFFS staff and Purdue Agricultural Communications in materials such as newsletters, promotional content for programs like Market Ready, the Small Farm Conference, field days, and more.

You can share your photos either through this link or by utilizing the QR code below. The photo size limit is 16MB.

We will attribute all photos we utilize. Thanks in advance for sharing the breadth and diversity of agricultural production in Indiana.



Share Here

CONNECT WITH US

Click Here to Visit the Purdue DFFS Website

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