

Welcome, June!



Danielle Guerin, Soul Food Project, Indianapolis, IN

June is a busy month for Indiana farmers as crops become established and the growing season shifts into high gear. Vegetable and specialty crop growers are focused on irrigation, fertility management, and succession planting. With warmer temperatures and longer days, crops can develop quickly, making regular field scouting especially important.

Weed control remains a priority, and producers should continue monitoring for insects, diseases, and other issues that can affect crop performance. Recent weather conditions may create favorable environments for certain pests and diseases, so timely management decisions can help prevent larger problems later in the season.

High tunnels and greenhouses are now in full production, with attention turning to ventilation, irrigation, and harvest management. Strawberry harvest is wrapping up in many areas, while other small fruits and orchard crops continue developing. Growers should remain alert to weather challenges, including heavy rainfall, hail, and periods of heat stress.

Purdue Extension will be hosting field days, workshops, and on-farm demonstrations throughout the summer. These events offer great opportunities to learn about current research, see new practices in action, and connect with fellow producers. Watch your local Extension updates 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, monitor crop conditions closely, and don't hesitate to reach out to your local Extension office with questions throughout the growing season.



Nathan Shoaf

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Purdue University Cooperative Extension Services



2027

INDIANA HORTICULTURE AND SMALL FARM CONFERENCE

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

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

Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access University.

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](#)

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 



[Click Here for More Information](#)



NORTHWEST INDIANA FORUM

REGIONAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Trusted Advisors & Connectors Event: Agricultural Opportunities & Resources

Join the Indiana Office of Commerce and the Northwest Indiana Forum for an opportunity to connect with regional leaders, expand your professional network, and learn about agricultural opportunities and resources available across Indiana. Attendees will hear from state leaders and engage in discussions focused on supporting agricultural growth and development in the region.

Event Details

- **Date:** June 11
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. CST
- **Location:** Fair Oaks Farms, 856 N. 600 E, Fair Oaks, IN

[Register Here](#)



Purdue Field Day: Hands-On Beekeeping Experience

Join The Beekeepers of Indiana (TBoI) for an engaging day of hands-on learning focused on beekeeping, bee biology, and queen rearing. Participants will have the opportunity to get up close to the bees and gain practical experience in the apiary. This event is designed for beekeepers, aspiring beekeepers, and anyone interested in learning more about pollinators. Protective suits will be provided for those who do not have their own. Pre-registration includes a boxed lunch.

Event Details

- **Date:** June 13
- **Time:** 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. EST
- **Location:** Beck Agricultural Center, 4550 US-52, West Lafayette, IN

[Register Here](#)



PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE FIELD DAY

JULY 16, 2026

Register now at purdue.ag/fruit-veg-field-day



Register Here



PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

SMALL FARM EDUCATION FIELD DAY

JULY 23, 2026

Register now at purdue.ag/small-farm-field-day



Register Here



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](#)



National Farmers Union Beginning Farmer Institute

The National Farmers Union's Beginning Farmer Institute (BFI) is a free farm business management program designed to help beginning farmers and ranchers build resilient and successful operations. Participants will complete The Resilerator™, a comprehensive 10-week course focused on strengthening farm and ranch business resiliency through practical management strategies, expert instruction, and peer-to-peer learning.

From October through December, participants will engage in weekly online training sessions led by farm business management experts while connecting with fellow producers from across the country.

The program is open to U.S. producers age 18 and older who are currently farming or ranching in a for-profit operation. Applicants may represent operations of any size or type and do not need to be the owner but must serve as a key decision-maker within the business.

Application Details

- **Application Deadline:** July 1, 2026
- **Program Dates:** October–December 2026
- **Format:** Weekly online training sessions
- **Cost:** Free

[**Apply Here**](#)



2026 National Walnut Council Annual Meeting

Join Purdue Extension and the National Walnut Council for an immersive learning experience focused on forest management in Warsaw, Indiana, a region known for its glacial lakes and one of the largest Amish communities in the United States. Participants will gain valuable insights from forestry experts, engage in hands-on learning opportunities, and connect with professionals and landowners interested in sustainable forest management and walnut production.

For additional information about the meeting and program activities, visit the National Walnut Council website.

Event Details

- **Dates:** July 26–28, 2026
- **Location:** Warsaw, IN
- **More Information:** <https://walnutcouncil.org/events/annual-meeting/>

[Register Here](#)



SAVE THE DATE

National Farmers Market Week

Celebrating the power of farmers markets to nourish communities, support local farmers, and strengthen local economies.

August 2–8, 2026

farmersmarketcoalition.org

National Farmers Market Week

SAVE THE DATE

Something exciting is coming! Join the celebration — local farmers, fresh food, and vibrant communities make local markets so special during National Farmers Market Week. Every farmers market visit supports

hardworking local growers, strengthens small businesses, and helps communities thrive — and that's worth celebrating!

Mark your calendar and celebrate all week long!

August 2–8, 2026

[Click Here for Information](#)



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](#)



NEXT ACRE
— VETERAN BUSINESS ACCELERATOR —

HELPING VETERAN FARMERS GROW STRONGER DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER FARM BUSINESSES.

WHAT WE OFFER

Next Acre provides practical training and technical assistance to help farmers grow their business and expand their direct-to-consumer sales.

Build a Clear Growth Plan

Clarify Growth Readiness, Goals, and Market Position

Refine Products, Sales Channels, and Focus Areas

Strengthen Operations and Team Capacity

Develop Financial and Marketing Strategies

- For Veteran and Rural-Owned Agricultural Businesses
- Synchronous Learning Experiences
- Peer Collaboration



317-502-4489



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ateaseorchard.org/Next-Acre

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO SIGN UP



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](#)



INDIANA COMPOSTING COUNCIL COMPOST DEMO AND FACILITY TOUR DAY

AgRecycle at Lamb Farms
Lebanon, Indiana
June 25, 2026
10am – 4pm (EST)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Systems Demos from ACT • Lunch provided by ACT • Presentation and site tour from AgRecycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration fee: \$20 • Register at: http://bit.ly/4tpfqOV • Sponsorship available. Email: compostingcouncil.incc@gmail.com
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Indiana Composting Council is hosting another Composting Tour and Demo Day. This time in Lebanon at AgRecycle, Lamb Farms. I am attaching a flyer. The event is June 25, 10am-4pm. There is a \$20 registration fee.

Register Here

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

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Click Here to Visit the Purdue DFFS Website

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