

# ORGANIC VisiON

Indiana Organic Network Newsletter  
June 2025

**W**ith the launch of the Indiana Organic Network (ION) in 2024, we bring you Organic VisiON. From organic farming, to network involvement and beyond, this newsletter will serve as a place to stay connected, learn, and visualize the future of organic! One of ION's main goals is to facilitate communication, peer-learning, and information exchange among farmers, researchers, conservation groups, and agricultural professionals. We believe this quarterly newsletter will provide opportunities for this goal to be met. While we appreciate reaching our project goals, we seek for this network to grow and for farmers to become educated and feel connected. Look for this newsletter to feature seasonal content catered towards hot topics in organic farming, as well as ION updates, events, and features. We are excited for the future and we hope you continue to follow along with each issue!



## ION UPDATE



ION has had a busy few months, with opportunities to network and connect with other farmers and community members. ION hosted two booths in February, one at the Indiana Small Farm Conference trade show and another at the Indiana Organic Grain Farmer meeting. These booths provide networking opportunities and allow our team to provide resources to anyone seeking them out. Furthermore, hosting booths at important conferences such as these helps educate the public on the purpose of ION and encourage involvement. Shout out to Annie, Arsen, Ismael, and Ashley who helped support those booths!



## STATEWIDE SOIL HEALTH CENSUS

In the summer of 2024, ION collected soil health samples from across the state of Indiana to provide organic farmers with data on their soil health. This data has since been analyzed in Purdue laboratories and compiled into personalized soil health reports for each farmer. Our team is enthusiastic about how these reports will provide key insights into soil health across Indiana and help farmers improve the health of their soil. These reports will be released soon, so keep your eyes on our social media platforms for more updates.

## LEADERSHIP

ION Advisory Board met back in February to discuss the future of ION. The board is made up of farmers and agricultural professionals who volunteer their time to provide the ION team with feedback and ideas. Dr. Yichao Rui described the meeting as insightful and highly relevant. He says there were lots of valuable takeaways that will aid research and extension efforts, and help the future direction of ION.

## GROWING GUIDELINES: ORGANIC TIPS

Scout frequently for best results! Now is a great time to start documenting arthropods on the farm - whether it's predators like spiders and ladybugs, pests like aphids and caterpillars, or pollinators like butterflies and bees. If you're not seeing as many beneficials as you'd like, maybe it's time to plan for some bug-friendly plantings around the farm. Also keep a lookout for harlequin bug in vegetable plantings this season. Get in touch for more information!





# ORGANIC OUTREACH

*Dates to Know & Places to Go*

## FIELD DAYS

- 1. Small Farm Education Field Day**  
July 24th at the Purdue Student Farm in  
West Lafayette, IN
- 2. Northeast Indiana Organic Forage  
Field Day**  
August 5th in Elkhart County, IN
- 3. Farmer-to-Farmer Organic Field  
Day**  
August 6th at Rex Stites Farms in Kokomo,  
IN



\*Registration is  
TBD for field  
days but will be  
released very  
soon

## WEBINARS

- 1. Organic Transition for Grain Crops**  
July 28th, 2025 on Zoom
- 2. Special Topics for Grain Crops  
(topic TBA)**  
November 13th, 2025 on Zoom

\*All webinars start  
at 6PM



# CONNECT WITH ION

