

INDIANA SMALL FARM CONFERENCE

March 2023

Bringing together small-scale farmers for guidance, networking and expert information to help them succeed since 2013.



Keynote Speakers:

- Hunter Smith
- Sarah Frey



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- 5 New Ground Farm

Welcome to Purdue Extension's 11th Annual Indiana Small Farm Conference!

This conference is made possible through the generous support of the sponsoring organizations listed on the previous page. Special thanks to Ken Foster, Bernie Engel, and Jason Henderson for supporting Indiana's small farms and sustainable agriculture efforts. Lastly, the Indiana Small Farm Conference would not be possible without continued support and participation from you, Indiana's small- and diversified-farmer producers and professionals.



Silver Valley Farm

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CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

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Program Editor:
 Nyssa Lilovich

Program Designer:
 Tim Thompson

On behalf of Purdue Agriculture, Agricultural Research at Purdue, and Purdue Extension, we are delighted to welcome you to the 11th Annual Indiana Small Farm Conference!

It's an honor to host this event and help you advance small-farm production and profitability. This year's conference is the first time back to the in-person structure since 2020, and we thank you for joining us to keep the momentum of this important event moving forward.

Purdue University's College of Agriculture proudly serves a diversity of Indiana farms. We're excited to see growth in small and urban farms — highly entrepreneurial areas of agriculture powered by passionate producers, exciting ideas and bright futures. Purdue researchers, specialists, and Extension educators combine leading-edge science and locally delivered programs to help you capitalize on opportunities for years to come.

At this conference, you'll hear from many of our professionals firsthand, along with industry experts and fellow small-farm producers. With a variety of sessions, the trade show and networking options, the schedule has something for everyone. We're especially excited about new sessions in farm stress management, regenerative agriculture, soil health, and advanced sessions for vegetable and livestock producers. We're also thrilled to continue sessions geared toward young farmers and those in urban settings.

Want to explore additional resources and stay up to date on Purdue Agriculture's work?



- Visit your county Purdue Extension website
extension.purdue.edu
- Visit Purdue Extension's Small Farm website
purdue.edu/dffs/smallfarms
- Visit Purdue Extension's Diversified Farming and Food Systems website
purdue.edu/dffs
- Visit the Agricultural Research at Purdue website
ag.purdue.edu/arp

Lastly, please join us in thanking the conference committee for its creativity, dedication and hard work to host this event and all those who work hard to keep small-farm producers on backroads and busy streets connected to expert information and each other. HAVE A GREAT CONFERENCE!

Ken Foster
Interim Dean,
Purdue University

Bernie Engel, Ph.D.
Associate Dean Ag Research and
Graduate Education

Jason Henderson, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean and
Director Purdue Extension

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Surveys

Thank you for attending the 2023 Indiana Small Farm Conference. Following the conference, you will receive a survey to contribute your feedback and suggestions. Please take a moment to complete the survey, once received, as it will impact the future of the Indiana Small Farm Conference. Your participation is voluntary and confidential.

Questions?

Contact Amy Thompson
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(765) 496-1930
purdue.edu/dffs/smallfarms/about-us/


Social Media

We would love for you to share your experiences at the 2023 Indiana Small Farm Conference on social media using the hashtag **#IndianaSFC**.

Connect with us to stay up to date about next year's conference and other news!

 Facebook - [@PurdueExtensionSmallFarms](https://www.facebook.com/PurdueExtensionSmallFarms)

 Twitter - [@SmallFarmPurdue](https://twitter.com/SmallFarmPurdue)

 Instagram - [@PurdueDFFS](https://www.instagram.com/PurdueDFFS)



Little Prairie Farms

CONFERENCE MAP

HENDRICKS COUNTY
4-H FAIRGROUNDS AND
CONFERENCE COMPLEX



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Hunter Smith

THURSDAY, MARCH 2 · 1:15 - 2:15 PM EST

Keynote Address: *Humanity's Great Return*

Hunter Smith is a farmer, musician, and former NFL football player for the Indianapolis Colts. It is the farmer role that he most loves to talk about. Hunter will challenge the audience with a 360 degree approach to farming as it affects families, communities, wildlife, and soil. His family farm, WonderTree, has become a central Indiana hub for local, pastured protein. Hunter, in word and in deed, proves the merits of herbivores and omnivores - hoofed and beaked - living in synergistic ecological relationships. He believes people are the nucleus of this dynamic; as the people go, so goes the earth. Hunter will be discussing the "why," the "how," the hardships, and the incalculable rewards awaiting people who, once again, enter into visceral relationships with nature through agriculture.



Sarah Frey

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 · 1:15 - 2:15 PM EST

Keynote Address: *How to turn obstacles into opportunities on the road to success*

Sarah Frey, "America's Pumpkin Queen," will draw on her career building one of the country's best known agricultural brands to share stories, strategies, and tactics for entrepreneurial success. Offering advice on everything from hiring and deal making to leadership and operation. Frey's career arc will inform and inspire entrepreneurs in business by showing the key decisions and ideas that have enabled her company's growth. One of the most successful and inspiring entrepreneurs in the produce space, Frey is also the founder of beverage lines Tsamma and Sarah's Homegrown — both of which center on upcycling "ugly fruit" that can't be sold in retail stores. She will reflect on her own experience in the beverage business, and the challenges and learning moments that she's absorbed from that ongoing brand-building enterprise. Few entrepreneurs can truly track their businesses from the ground up; Sarah Frey's talk to attendees will show what it takes to survive each stage of growth, lighting that path for the audience.

Note: All times listed in the program are Eastern Standard Time.

SESSIONS OVERVIEW

Thursday, March 2					Eastern Standard Time
8:00	Conference Registration				
	CLASSROOM A	NORTH HALL	CLASSROOM B-C	SOUTH HALL	CONFERENCE ROOM
8:45 – 9:45	Urban Ag The growing compost market <i>Audra Boarman</i> <i>Dan Perkins</i>	Vegetable Production Production of healthy vegetable transplants 8:45-9:15 <i>Dan Egel</i>	Farm Stress Mgmt Yoga for farmers <i>Anna Martinez</i>	Marketing Indiana grown listening session <i>Caroline Patrick, Brandon Caldwell, Angela Grant</i>	Technology on Small Farms Irrigation on the small farm <i>Mark Torkelson</i>
		Dry edible beans- a large grain for the small farm? 9:15-9:45 <i>Ashley Adair</i>			
9:45 – 10:00	Break				
10:00 – 11:00	Urban Ag Common insect pests and options for management on urban farms <i>Sam Willden</i>	Vegetable Production High tunnel sweet pepper variety trial updates 10-10:20 <i>Petrus Langenhoven</i>	Farm Stress Mgmt Adding wellness tools to your toolbelt <i>Mandy Gray and Anna Martinez</i>	Marketing Feed the world by being small, marketing the farm without selling a thing <i>Olivia Schoentrup</i>	Technology on Small Farms Smart sensors for horticulture 10-10:30 <i>Krishna Nemali</i> Aerial technology on the small farm 10:30-11 <i>Ashley Adair</i>
		High tunnel cucumber cultivar trial updates 10:20-10:40 <i>Leslie Aviles-Lopez</i>			
		Cucumber and summer squash cultivar update for high tunnel production 10:40-11 <i>Wenjing Guan</i>			
11:00 – Noon	Trade Show Demonstration in EXPO HALL – Cover Crop ID (<i>Ashley Adair</i>) Consulting Corner – CLASSROOM A: Extension Specialists (<i>Wenjing Guan, Dan Egel, Petrus Langenhoven and Laura Ingwell</i>) SARE AC Meeting – CONFERENCE ROOM Focus Group: Co-creating software for small farms – CLASSROOM B-C (<i>Ankita Raturi</i>)				
12:00 -1:15	Networking Luncheon – North and South Halls				
1:15 – 2:15	Keynote Session – North and South Halls • Hunter Smith, Humanity’s Great Return				
2:15 – 2:30	Break				
2:30-3:20	Urban Ag Working with youth in urban agriculture <i>Kate Franzman</i> <i>Danielle Guerin</i> <i>Aster Bekele</i>	Vegetable Production Updates on brassica pests in different collard varieties 2:30-2:55 <i>Elizabeth Long</i>	Equity in the Food System Creating and nurturing inclusivity: Creating a shared language around inclusivity <i>Janelle White</i>	Livestock Manure management for field application <i>Robert Zupancic</i>	Technology on Small Farms Making cents of technologies: Tools to understand the economic feasibility of technologies for specialty crops <i>Ariana Torres</i>
		Tomato pinworm in Indiana 2:55-3:20 <i>Laura Ingwell</i>			
3:30-4:20	Urban Ag <i>Shipping container farming</i> <i>De’Mario Vitalis</i>	Mechanical weed management <i>Dan Brainard</i>		Haymaking for small farms <i>Pat and Marti Goodwin</i>	Technology on Small Farms Everyday platforms for farm operations management <i>Dennis Buckmaster</i>
9:00 – 4:00	Quiet Room Available - Classroom F				
4:30-7:30	Evening Social Poster Session in EXPO HALL (4:30 – 6:30) Trade Show Passport and Drawing				

SESSIONS OVERVIEW

Friday, March 3						Eastern Standard Time
8:00	Conference Registration					
	NORTH HALL	CLASSROOM A	CLASSROOM B-C	SOUTH HALL	CONFERENCE ROOM	
8:45 – 9:45	Livestock Assistance and Resources Indiana State Board of Animal Health: Update and resources <i>Denise Derrer Spears</i>	Value Added Honey and bee products 8:45-9:15 <i>Nicky Jones</i> Maple syrup 9:15-9:45 <i>Doug Mark</i>	Vegetable Production Planning vegetable production for the Student Farm CSA <i>Chris Adair</i>	Soil Health Increasing vegetable farmer sustainability through a mixed-systems approach 8:45-9:15 <i>Petrus Langenhoven</i> Seeding success for cover crops 9:15-9:45 <i>Marian Rodriguez-Soto and Liz Maynard</i>	Fruit Production Invasive species: SWD and SLF updates 8:45-9:15 <i>Elizabeth Long</i> Opportunities for growing strawberry on small farms 9:15-9:45 <i>Wenjing Guan</i>	
9:45 – 10:00	Break					
10:00 – 11:00	Small Farm Assistance and Resources USDA and NRCS resources for small farms <i>Cara Bergschneider and Scott Wagner</i>	Flower Farming So you think you want to be a flower farmer? <i>Jennifer and Broch Martindale</i>	Vegetable Production Panel: Crop-By-Crop – bed flips and advanced crop management <i>Genesis McKiernan-Allen, Anne Massie and Lisa Hopman</i>	Food Safety Treatment of agricultural water to reduce risk of contamination by a foodborne pathogen <i>Scott Monroe</i>	Fruit Production Introduction to growing grapes <i>Miranda Purcell</i>	
11:00 – Noon	Poster Session in EXPO HALL Trade Show Demonstration – Water Trailer Demonstration in EXPO HALL – <i>Scott Monroe</i> Consulting Corner – Classroom A: Cover Crops/Soil Health (<i>Petrus Langenhoven, Liz Maynard, Marian Rodriguez-Soto</i>) Focus Group: Perception of food safety and willingness to pay– Classroom B-C (<i>Betty Feng</i>) (11-1PM) Trade Show Passport and Drawing					
12:00 -1:15	Networking Luncheon – North and South Halls					
1:15 – 2:15	Keynote Session – North and South Halls - Sarah Frey, How to turn obstacles into opportunities on the road to success					
2:15 – 2:30	Break					
2:30-3:20	NCR-SARE Farmers Forum Youth grow Indy programming: Developing year round curriculum for youth on the farm 2:30-3:00 <i>Danielle Geurin</i>	Value Added Open daily: Operating a farmer-owned retail and aggregation outlet <i>Armonda Riggs and Mike Record</i>	Marketing Preparing for selling wholesale: Farmer producer perspective <i>Kristy Kikly</i>	Weed Management Off-target herbicide impacts and underutilized weed management tactics <i>Stephen Meyers</i>	Farm Finances/ Viability Check-Up <i>Spencer Guinn and Liz Brownlee</i>	
3:30-4:20	Truffle-Hardwood orchard development? A new agro-forestry product for Indiana 3:00-3:30 <i>Mimi Kokoska and Evan Koska</i> Heritage Corn: Keeping it GMO free inside the corn belt 3:30-4:00 <i>Zuleyja Prieto</i> Open Discussion, Q&A 4:00-4:20	Value Added Supporting growers in accessing resources to create value-added food and beverage products 3:30-3:55 <i>Allison Kingery</i> Mushroom based value-added products 3:55-4:20 <i>Cortland Carrington</i>	Marketing Thinking about wholesale or value chain buyers panel <i>Virginia Pleasant, Anna Haas and Joe Fischer</i>	Regenerative Agriculture Permaculture primer <i>Christine Maloney</i>	Focus Group Perception of food safety and willingness to pay 3:30-5:30 PM <i>Betty Feng</i>	
9:00 – 4:00	Quiet Room Available - Classroom F					

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

URBAN AG / The growing compost market*by Audra Boarman and Dan Perkins**Moderated by Brooke Alford***8:45 – 9:45AM** CLASSROOM A

This session will discuss the on-farm and off-farm uses for compost. Learn how to incorporate compost into your gardens, farms and more!

MARKETING / Indiana grown- listening session*by Caroline Patrick, Angela Grant and Brandon Caldwell***8:45 – 9:45AM** SOUTH HALL

We want to hear from you, and your thoughts on our Indiana Grown program. The Indiana Grown team will be spending time with individuals at the conference partaking in a listening session. Bring your great ideas, success stories and thoughts on improvements that can be made within the Indiana Grown program. Your feedback and engagement during our session will help craft the direction of the future program.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

/ Production of healthy vegetable transplants

*by Daniel Egel***8:45 – 9:15AM** NORTH HALL

Learn about the production of healthy transplants with an emphasis on tomatoes. Sanitation, transplant treatments and inspection, in addition to the physical separation of vegetable varieties will be discussed.

/ Dry edible beans - a large grain for the small farm

*by Ashley Adair***9:15 – 9:45AM** NORTH HALL

Dry edible beans are a food grade product and a wonderful source of human nutrition. For the small farmer wanting to diversify, can growing a storage grain crop like dry edible beans make sense? In this session, you will learn the preliminary results of a dry edible bean variety trial conducted on small acreage at Purdue, as well as practical considerations for growing small scale dry edible beans for sale.

FARM STRESS MANAGEMENT / Yoga for farmers*by Anna Martinez***8:45 – 9:45AM** CLASSROOM B-C

Take a break and move your body. As farmers, we ask a lot of our bodies, yoga can help you avoid injury, build strength and take a mental break. This session will give you some yoga moves you can do at home to nourish your body - and your mental health - year-round. No experience needed. There will be thirty yoga mats provided, but feel free to bring your own. Led by yoga instructor and value chain coordinator Anna Martinez.

TECHNOLOGY ON SMALL FARMS / Irrigation on the small farm*by Mark Torkelson***8:45 – 9:45AM** CONFERENCE ROOM

Explore new equipment, methods, design, and even an irrigation robot as options available to provide the water your crops need. Drip and sprinkler irrigation will be covered. Learn ways to save time and money by utilizing an irrigation system that fits your needs.

TECHNOLOGY ON SMALL FARMS

/ Smart sensors for horticulture

*by Krishna Nemali***10:00 – 10:30AM** CONFERENCE ROOM

The presentation will describe affordable and state-of-the-art sensors that capture plant images and quickly estimate many useful parameters including plant growth tracking, nitrogen stress management, seedling counts and more. These sensors work by communicating with mobile phones. A demonstration will be shown during the presentation, in addition, the methodology used to validate the sensors will be shared. Growers and farmers can learn how to use the sensors and where to procure them.

/ Aerial technology on the small farm

*by Ashley Adair***10:300 – 11:00AM** CONFERENCE ROOM

In this session, you will learn about the ways that aerial imagery produced by consumer-level drones can assist your small farm operation. Not just for big agriculture, drones (a.k.a. UAVs) have lots of potential for helping you learn more about your land and your cropping system.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION**/ High tunnel sweet pepper variety selection update***by Petrus Langenhoven***10:00 – 10:20AM** NORTH HALL

The production of high-value sweet peppers in a protected environment allows growers to extend the production season and protect crops, especially summer crops, against severe environmental conditions. The potential to produce high-yielding and high-quality crops is there, but information on the region-specific performance of varieties adapted for high tunnel production is lacking. Explore the adaptability and performance of ten colored sweet pepper varieties (bell and tapered) produced in a high tunnel at the Purdue Student Farm in West Lafayette, Indiana.

/ Cucumber cultivar susceptibility against Two-spotted spider mites in high tunnel systems*by Leslie Aviles-Lopez***10:20 – 10:40AM** NORTH HALL

High tunnels (HT) are a protected agriculture tool used among specialty crop farmers. Cucumbers are well suited for HT production because of their vertical growth pattern allowing for space optimization and repeated flowering, providing multiple harvest opportunities. However, the Two-spotted spider mites (TSSM) are a primary pest of cucumbers in HT systems, limiting production. Often an unnoticed pest until damage is irreversible, this session will help to present results from experiments evaluating the susceptibility of cucumber cultivars bred for high tunnel production to manage TSSM. The information gained through this session can help growers select varieties that minimize TSSM damage.

/ Cucumber and summer squash cultivar update for high tunnel production*by Wenjing Guan***10:40 – 11:00AM** NORTH HALL

This presentation will provide updated information on cucumber and summer squash cultivar selection for high tunnel production.

MARKETING / Feed the world by being small, marketing the farm without selling a thing*by Olivia Schoentrup***10:00 – 11:00AM** SOUTH HALL

Anyone can sell anything, but the reason people buy it is because of the seller, not necessarily because of the product. Learn how to make your farm profitable without needing to be a marketing guru.

FARM STRESS MANAGEMENT / Adding wellness tools to your toolbox*by Anna Martinez and Mandy Gray***10:00 – 11:00AM** CLASSROOM B-C

Put a few new wellness tools in your toolbox - ones that nourish your body and mind throughout the farming season. We'll focus on stretches and ergonomics that address common farmer trouble spots, like the lower back, shoulders, hips, and elbows/wrists. We'll also try out breathing and mindfulness techniques that let you stay centered and calm amidst a busy farm life. No experience needed. Only 30 yoga mats will be provided, so come early or bring your own.

URBAN AG / Shipping container farming*by DeMario Vitalis***10:00 – 11:00AM** CLASSROOM A

Shipping container farming is a way of using hydroponic technology to feed our families and communities and fill a need for local foods. We are not bound to the rules of traditional farming such as land. Technology allows us a new way to grow farm fresh food and take control of the supply chain.

FOCUS GROUP / Co-creating software for small farms*by Ankita Raturi***11:00AM – 12:00PM** CLASSROOM B-C

In this session, discuss the role of digital tools in supporting small farms in the Midwest and beyond. We will share a brief overview of the software landscape from farm to fork, discuss information management best practices, and frame out technology challenges and opportunities. The Ag Informatics Lab practices participatory design research with farmers and farm supporters to develop user-centered software and information artifacts for resilient foodsheds and sustainable agriculture. Participants will be invited to share their information practices, challenges with technology, and ideas around how to best co-create software for small farms.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

LIVESTOCK / Manure management for field application*by Robert Zupancic***2:30 – 3:20PM** SOUTH HALL

This presentation will cover the advantages and disadvantages of using compost or manure to provide nutrients for crops, forages and vegetables. Discuss the properties of these materials, how to use them, and how to apply them to soil. The discussion will cover the Principles of Soil Health, Principles of the Fertilizer 4R's (Right Source, Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place) and the importance of a neutral soil pH.

TECHNOLOGY ON SMALL FARMS / Making cents of technologies: Tools to understand the economic feasibility of technologies for specialty crops*by Ariana Torres***2:30 – 3:20PM** CONFERENCE ROOM

Learn about the tools developed by Ariana Torres to help understand the worth of technologies for specialty crops. These tools can provide growers with profitability projections, as well as sensitivity and breakeven analyses pre- and post- adopting new technologies.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

/ Managing brassica pests with synthetic and organic homeowner insecticides

*by Elizabeth Long***2:30 – 2:55PM** NORTH HALL

This presentation will highlight important insect pests of brassica crops and share results of managing caterpillar and flea beetle pests in three varieties of collard greens using synthetic and organic insecticides available for use without a pesticide applicators license.

/ Tomato pinworm in Indiana

*by Laura Ingwell***2:55 – 3:20PM** NORTH HALL

In recent years we have had a few reports of Tomato pinworm impacting tomato production in southern parts of the state. This caterpillar pest is native to the Southern US and Mexico but is rarely found way in Indiana, except for occasional occurrences in controlled production. This past year it was detected in many of the high tunnel tomato crops throughout the state. This session will provide information about biology, monitoring and management strategies.

URBAN AG / Working with youth in urban agriculture*by Danielle Guerin, Kate Franzman and Aster Bekele***2:30 – 3:20PM** CLASSROOM A

Tips and tricks on engaging with youth in urban agriculture and discussing best practices.

EQUITY IN THE FOOD SYSTEM / Creating and nurturing inclusivity: Creating a shared language around inclusivity*by Janelle White***2:30 – 4:20PM** CLASSROOM B-C

Without a shared language it is impossible to develop a shared vision. One of the major obstacles that communities face as they think through a collective vision for their equity and inclusion efforts is that they do not agree on basic terms. This session will serve as the cornerstone inclusion training for this level and the entire C.A.N. I. series. Participants will gain a basic understanding of the terms connected to inclusivity and work through a broad understanding of frameworks that will be used during the subsequent trainings. They will engage in practices of introspection and mindfulness to equip them for future conversations. By equipping our community with a shared language, we increase our ability to move toward a more effective, equitable, and inclusive space.

TECHNOLOGY ON SMALL FARMS / Everyday platforms for farm operations management*by Dennis Buckmaster***3:30 – 4:20PM** CONFERENCE ROOM

Free and intuitive platforms not necessarily designed for agriculture can be very useful in day-to-day business of farming regardless of scale. In this presentation, platforms like Trello and Air table will be demonstrated with agricultural applications. These, along with simple custom maps and spreadsheets can improve records and communications within your operation. You will get an introduction to the Spreadsheet Toolbox and learn of other resources to transition to digital records that are simple and enabling.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

LIVESTOCK / Haying independence: Haymaking for small farms*by Marti and Pat Goodwin***3:30 – 4:20PM** SOUTH HALL

The presentation will provide step-by-step instruction on how to bring haying independence to your small farm. Learn how to successfully:

- Assess your farms forage needs,
- Choose, repair, and maintain hay equipment sized for your farm including mowers, rakes, tedders, and balers,
- Follow the baling process of mowing, curing, tedding, raking, and baling,
- Store, feed, and market your hay.

URBAN AG / Common insect pests and options for management on urban farms*by Sam Willden***3:30 – 4:20PM** CLASSROOM A

Urban farms and community gardens experience unique growing conditions that impact the presence and severity of pests, and information on pests and pest management are not widely available for urban farms. This session will summarize pest data collected from 10 community gardens in Indiana during the 2021 growing season and preliminary data collected on growing conditions, pests, and biological control efficacy on high tunnel winter crops at urban versus rural farms.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION / Mechanical weed management*by Dan Brainard***3:30 – 4:20PM** NORTH HALL

This session will highlight key principles for managing weeds in vegetable crops with an emphasis on making the most of mechanical cultivation tools. Various approaches for reducing the weed seedbank and establishing a weed-competitive crop will be discussed, followed by notes and tips on selection and optimal use of specific cultivation tools and their mounting and guidance systems.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3**FRUIT PRODUCTION**

/ Updates on Spotted-wing drosophila and Spotted lanternfly in Indiana

*by Elizabeth Long***8:45 – 9:15AM** CONFERENCE ROOM

This presentation will provide research updates on the seasonal activity of the invasive Spotted-wing drosophila in Indiana blueberry production, and the more recent invasive Spotted lanternfly, including how to identify, report and help stop its spread.

/ Opportunities for growing strawberry on small farms

*by Wenjing Guan***9:15 – 9:45AM** CONFERENCE ROOM

This presentation will discuss potential opportunities and challenges of growing strawberries at small farms with different production systems.

VALUE ADDED

/ Honey and bee products

*by Nicky Jones***8:45 – 9:15AM** CLASSROOM A

Nicky Jones, full time beekeeper and owner of an Indiana company known as Earthling Bee Co. will be covering topics such as what it takes to start a colony of honeybees, the impact of honeybee pollination, and various products of the hive and their benefits. You will walk away with a basic understanding of why and how to involve beekeeping in your farm.

/ Maple syrup

*by Doug Mark***9:15 – 9:45AM** CLASSROOM A

This session will cover the basic equipment and information needed for maple syrup production.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION / Planning vegetable production for the student farm CSA*by Chris Adair***8:45 – 9:45AM** CLASSROOM B-C

Learn about how the Purdue Student Farm plans for the 22-week CSA program to provide vegetables, herbs and more to the local community. Discuss how we consider a variety of crops, planting timing, succession planting, and box composition.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

SOIL HEALTH**/ Increasing vegetable farm sustainability through a mixed systems approach***by Petrus Langenhoven***8:45 – 9:15AM** SOUTH HALL

High fertilizer prices and supply chain disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine are forcing growers to think about long-term soil fertility options. Adopting more environmentally friendly and holistic farming practices is urgently needed for the long-term sustainability of small and medium-sized vegetable farms. During this session, we will get input from growers to help us/them understand what their soil fertility goals are and the management practices they are using to accomplish these goals. We will also discuss the results of an ongoing 4-year USDA-funded grant that was designed to help answer some of these questions.

/ Seeding successful cover crops at Pinney Purdue Farm*by Liz Maynard and Marian M. Rodriguez-Soto***9:15 – 9:45AM** SOUTH HALL

From increasing soil organic matter and scavenging nutrients to creating pollinator habitats, planting cover crops has numerous benefits. To maximize cover crop benefits, we must successfully select, seed, and manage cover crops even in challenging conditions such as low moisture, low organic matter, and high weed pressure. This presentation will cover how to choose cover crops, prepare the soil with various implements, use tarps to eliminate the previous crop, and use resources available to seed cover crops successfully. The session will include the main practical takeaways from a cover crop demonstration at Pinney Purdue Agricultural Center (PPAC).

LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES / Indiana state Board of Animal Health (BOAH): Update and resources*by Denise Derrer Spears***8:45 – 9:45AM** NORTH HALL

Farmers who have livestock, poultry or even non-traditional animals as part of their operations will likely interact with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) at some point. From interstate animal movements to disease control programs to premises registration, the state agency works with producers to ensure Indiana's animals stay healthy and farmers do not experience barriers to selling products or animals. BOAH also offers a wealth of resources and information for producers, especially those producing meat, poultry and/or dairy products. Learn about BOAH program and authorities—including how and when to contact the agency, available resources and expertise, and where to get the information you need, when you need it.

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION / Crop-by-crop – Bed flips and advanced crop management*Panel Discussion by Genesis McKiernan-Allen, Anne Massie, and Lisa Hopman***10:00 – 11:00AM** CLASSROOM B-C

Listen to experienced growers at a variety of scales about how they plan for and manage their favorite crops. Growers will discuss the "nitty-gritty" details of their bed preparation and the tried-and-true methods of flipping a bed from one crop to another over the course of a year. Learn about soil health, pests, and nutrient management techniques used for the selected crop sequences, and hear how these growers successfully integrate cover crops, mulches, composts, and reduce disturbance within intensive rotations.

FLOWER FARMING / So you think you want to be a flower farmer?*by Jenifer and Broch Martindale***10:00 – 11:00AM** CLASSROOM A

Indiana's flower farming couple Broch & Jen Martindale of Wildflower Farms got their start as market farmers. They have since grown their 3.5-acre farm into a thriving cut flower and dahlia farm in Hendricks County, Indiana. In this session, learn about how they started growing for market and how to transition to farm sales. Discuss the challenges and success of the flower farming industry.

FOOD SAFETY / Treatment of agricultural water to reduce risk of contamination by a foodborne pathogen*by Scott Monroe***10:00 – 11:00AM** SOUTH HALL

This session will provide growers with options for treating production water used for irrigation or other purposes. Treatment of water may improve sanitary quality and result in a reduction in the risk of crop contamination by a foodborne pathogen. Watch a demonstration of treatment techniques and equipment using the Purdue Extension Mobile Demonstration Unit.

FRUIT PRODUCTION / Introduction to Growing Grapes*by Miranda Purcell***10:00 – 11:00AM** CONFERENCE ROOM

An overview of the basic biology and lifecycle of the grapevine followed by information on site selection, variety selection, vineyard design, trellising, fertilization, irrigation, pruning, canopy management and pest and disease control for beginning wine and table grape growers in Indiana.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

SMALL FARM ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES /

USDA - NRCS Resources for Small Farms

by Scott Wagner and Cara Bergschneider

10:00 – 11:00AM NORTH HALL

Do you farm and want to make improvements to the land that you own or lease? The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) offers technical and financial assistance to help farmers and forest landowners. No matter the size of your farm, NRCS helps with conservation planning and installing practices that are specific to your natural resource needs and business goals. From simple management systems, such as planting cover crops, to complex structural practices, such as animal waste management systems, NRCS has a conservation solution for you.

FOCUS GROUP / Perception of food safety

by Betty Feng

11:00AM – 1:00PM CLASSROOM B-C

Discuss the perceptions of food safety and willingness to pay.

VALUE ADDED / Open daily: Operating a farmer-owned retail and aggregation outlet

by Armonda Riggs and Mike Record

2:30 – 3:20PM CLASSROOM A

Mike Record and Armonda Riggs will discuss their roles and journey with Rose Hill Farm Stop. This session will discuss how a cooperative of small, local farmers in Indiana began Rose Hill Farm Stop in Bloomington, Indiana, and through it are working to build a stronger local food system in south central Indiana.

MARKETING / Preparing for selling wholesale

by Kristy Kikly

2:30 – 3:20PM CLASSROOM B-C

This session will touch on topics a producer will need to consider prior to having a discussion with potential wholesale buyers as well as help the producer make the decision if their business is ready to support both retail and wholesale sales. We will talk about the typical price reductions for direct wholesale versus wholesale to a distributor, insurance, barcodes, orders, deliveries, payments, consistency, volume fluctuations and more.

NCR-SARE FARMERS FORUM

/ Youth Grow Indy Programming: Developing year-round curriculum for youth on the farm

by Danielle Guerin

2:30 – 3:00PM NORTH HALL

Learn about the programming that Danielle Guerin offers within their operations, and how they developed a year-round curriculum in partnership with youth.

/ Truffle-hardwood orchard development: A new agro-forestry product for Indiana

by Mimi Kokoska

3:00 – 3:30PM NORTH HALL

Learn about the economic, environmental and social benefits. Discuss the materials and methods and results/ lessons learned.

/ Heritage corn: Keeping it GMO free inside the corn belt

by Zuleyja Prieto

3:30 – 4:00PM NORTH HALL

Learn about the cultural importance of heritage corn, earth friendly farming practices, working and educating in family plots, uses and methods. Discuss methods such as research plots, hand pollination vs. open pollination and share data on planting/tassel dates for several varieties in relation to commercial corn.

FARM FINANCES/VIABILITY / Farm finances / farm viability check-up

by Spencer Guinn; moderated by Liz Brownlee

2:30 – 3:20PM CONFERENCE ROOM

What worked this year? What didn't? What are you excited to improve or try? This reflective session is meant to join for conversation with fellow farmers. Discuss your holistic goals for your farm including finances and specific projects. The speed-dating structure means you'll get to talk with several other farmers to celebrate and commiserate, ponder future projects, and escape from the day-to-day on the farm. Co-hosted by Liz Brownlee from Partners IN Food and Farming (PIFF) and the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD).

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

WEED MANAGEMENT / Off-target herbicide impacts and underutilized weed management tactics*by Stephen Meyers***2:30 - 3:20PM** SOUTH HALL

Off-target herbicide movement remains a threat to the sustainability of fruit and vegetable production, and small farm operators have a genuine interest in reducing their own reliance on herbicides. In this session, we will share results from a recent herbicide-drift grower survey and the impacts of off-target herbicide exposure to vegetable crops. We will seek audience input on developing a grower-lead North Central SARE proposal to explore underutilized weed management tactics, with an emphasis on reducing reliance on plastic mulch, excessive tillage, and herbicides.

MARKETING / Thinking about wholesale or value chain, a buyer's perspective*by Virginia Pleasant, Joe Fischer and Anna Haas***3:30 - 4:20PM** CLASSROOM B-C

What do buyers really want? Get the scoop from chefs, value chain coordinators, and distributors who regularly buy local food in Indiana. Find out what they need from farmers in terms of products, quality, quantity, certifications, labeling, and all the rest of the nitty gritty. Listen to short presentations from Virginia Pleasant (Value Chain Coordinator for Region Roots Local Farm and Food Hub in northwest Indiana), Anna Haas (Program Director for What Chefs Want), and Joe Fischer. Then we'll break into small groups for conversations with the buyers.

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE / Permaculture primer*by Christine Maloney***3:30 - 4:20PM** SOUTH HALL

The goal of permaculture is to care for the earth and each other by creating harmonious and mutually beneficial relationships and systems. Through observation of and working with the existing patterns of nature, we can work toward creating a regenerative future. Permaculture can be applied to gardens, homes, businesses, communities, groups and any other designable system. Learn about the permaculture ethics and principles, and how to build resiliency in our current world.

VALUE ADDED

/ Supporting growers in accessing resources to create value-added food and beverage products

*by Allison Kingery***3:30 - 3:55PM** CLASSROOM A

The Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute (FEMI) is eager to support growers with their endeavors of creating and scaling value-added food and beverage products. Through trainings, access to testing facilities and a dedicated team of faculty, staff and students to support your unique needs, FEMI serves as a cohesive partner to aid in your business growth.

/ Mushroom-based value-added products

*by Cortland Carrington***3:55 - 4:20PM** CLASSROOM A

Why offer mushrooms to your customers? Mushrooms are a low calorie, high fiber food that have many antioxidants and other health benefits. Mushrooms are a non-animal protein that are considerably more efficient at converting biomass into human consumable food. This presentation will discuss how to incorporate fresh and dried mushrooms into your product line(s), and how to fruit mushrooms on your site. Learn about basic commercial kitchen requirements for mushroom processing, as well as packaging, and basic presentation.

*Silverthorn Farm*

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Ashley Adair specializes in organic agriculture education and outreach across all types of crops, including grain crops and specialty crops. Her Extension program aims to assist organic growers in their efforts to diversify their crop rotations and improve soil health, as well as to educate ag professionals about organic practices and build their capacity to help growers across Indiana.

/ holmes9@purdue.edu



Chris Adair is the Purdue Student Farm Manager, located in West Lafayette, Indiana. Prior to the Student Farm, Chris worked with Moody Meats and then University of Illinois Student Farm after receiving his bachelor's in environmental plant studies from Purdue in 2012.

/ ctadair@purdue.edu



Leslie Alejandra Aviles-Lopez is originally from San Salvador, El Salvador where she received her bachelor's from Zamorano University in Honduras, followed by her master's from Louisiana State University. She worked in the ecology of the Roseau cane scale in coastal Louisiana, and then came to Purdue to join the Ingwell Lab and study the pest management of Two-spotted spider mites in high tunnel systems.

/ laviles1@purdue.edu



Aster Bekele is the founder of Felege Hiywot Center (FHC), and learned agriculture with the urban youth as she was trying to teach science through an Eli Lilly science and education outreach program. Working with youth on a farm together created an informal way of teaching science using scientific theory to tackle societal issues. The experience taught her to be a better educator by including the young people in the decision-making process of farm activities.

/ info@fhcenter.org



Cara Bergschneider is the Indiana State Urban Conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). She works with conservation professionals to ensure that the small farm, specialty crop and urban farmers of Indiana are aware of conservation practices that can improve natural resources on their farms and have knowledge of available programs through NRCS.

/ cara.bergschneider@usda.gov



Elli Blaine works with the Urban Soil Health Program – a statewide initiative to support conservation partners and encourage diverse small-scale growers to improve soil health practices in their farms and gardens. Elli has a background in environmental studies, and experience working with Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District and a nonprofit farm Indy Urban Acres.

/ eliana.blaine@in.nacdnet.net

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Audra Boorman gained knowledge and experience from years in restaurants and the food industry. After experience years of rampant food waste, Audra was motivated to educate and service the local community with gardening, composting, and more green passion projects. In 2021, she started a community garden and Indy Go Green stemmed in response to the growing environmental challenges throughout many communities.

/ audra@audsolutions.net



Dan Brainard is a professor in the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State University with expertise in weed ecology and management on vegetable farms. Prior to graduate school at Cornell, he worked on commercial vegetable farms in the Northeast United States, and served as an agricultural Extension educator for the U.S. Peace Corps in Mali, West Africa. His current primary research and Extension interests include: development of reduced-tillage cover crop intensive vegetable production systems to help growers improve soils and increase crop resilience to stress, and weed ecology and integrated weed management in vegetables, with an emphasis on cultural and mechanical approaches.

/ brainar9@msu.edu



Liz Brownlee serves as Partners In Food and Farming (PIFF) Director of Farmer Programs. She has a passion for helping farmers connect and learn from each other. Liz and her husband, Nate, run Nightfall Farm, on her family's land in southeast Indiana, where they rotationally graze livestock on pasture and sell meat and eggs through their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.

/ liz@indianafarming.org



Dennis Buckmaster is a professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering and Dean Fellow for Digital Agriculture at Purdue University. He holds three degrees in Agricultural Engineering are from Purdue and Michigan State University. His past research includes forage systems and horticultural mechanization with teaching related to agricultural machinery design and systems management. Within his current research in digital agriculture, he and collaborators collect, curate, communicate and compute for improved agriculture and food systems. He is co-founder of the Purdue Open Ag Technology and Systems (OATS) Center with a focus on bringing open-source approaches to agriculture, speed innovation and workforce improvements. He is a co-PI on the IoT4Ag project, a partnership with four other institutions.

/ dbuckmas@purdue.edu



Brandon Caldwell received his bachelor's from the University of Indianapolis in May of 2022 with a Public Relations concentration and completed a 6-year contract in the United States Marine Corps in October and joined Indiana Grown in Nov 2022 as the Marketing and Communications Manager.

/ bcaldwell1@isda.in.gov

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Cortland Carrington is the owner of American Mushroom and Spice Co (AMSC 2014) in, Bloomington, Indiana. Cortland spent 10 years in the USAF Space & Missile Program and retired after 20 years of military service. After his military service he completed his bachelor's in Business Administration and began to explore high-value small-space agriculture and developed his mushroom business plan. AMSC produces fresh and dried mushrooms and powders and manufactured and produced over 120K pounds of mushroom substrate over the last 18 months. They also design and manufacture specialty processing equipment for mushrooms growers. Cortland is an IDH certified wild mushroom expert.
/ americanmushroomandspice@gmail.com



Daniel Egel conducts statewide vegetable disease research and Extension programs at Purdue University. His current efforts include managing tomato diseases with organic or alternative products and finding solutions to Fusarium wilt of watermelon transplants. He also runs the national MELCAST program, a weather-based disease-forecasting program, and works at the Southwest Purdue Ag Center in Vincennes, IN in the southwestern portion of the state.
/ egel@purdue.edu



Betty Fang is an assistant professor in the Department of Food Science. Her research program uses a sociological approach to explore human factors that affect food safety behaviors, identifying barriers to understanding food safety risks in kitchens and developing strategies that empower food handlers to make science-based decisions. She is dedicated to the research and extension of human factors in the safety of food.
/ yhfeng@purdue.edu



Kate Franzman is the Director of Impact for The Patachou Foundation, an organization with a mission is to cultivate opportunity for youth in Indianapolis through food. Kate directs operations for two urban farms that provide produce for Won't Stop Hospitality restaurants, The Patachou Foundation's production kitchen and a community farm stand. These urban farm sites also function as a classroom for kids of all ages, while Kate directs youth programming and curriculum that centers around the power of food as a tool for economic mobility and self-reliance. The Food Fellowship provides high schoolers with hands-on experience and food system career exploration. / kate@thepatachoufoundation.org



Marti and Pat Goodwin

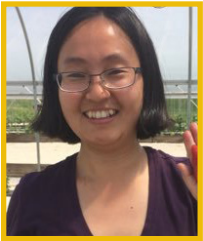
Marti Livengood Goodwin, author of "Haying Independence: The Ultimate Guide to Small-Farm Hay Production" spent forty years of her life on a small farm in west-central Indiana. During that time the farm maintained both a poultry and sheep operations and produced the grain and forage used to feed livestock. Marti and her husband, Pat, took the knowledge they gained on the farm and became dealers of small-farm machinery in 2009. This venture quickly evolved into the creation of Tractor Tools Direct in 2013, America's premier online source for small-farm hay equipment, where Pat serves as President and Marti serves as lead content writer and blogger.
/ pat@tractortoolsdirect.com

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Mandy Gray works for Purdue Extension-Hancock County as a Health and Human Sciences Educator with a background in health science, health education, and public health. She specializes in health and wellness teaching and developing many programs on stress and health, mindfulness, facilitates a state-wide book club on wellness, and is certified in Mental Health First Aid.

/ gray89@purdue.edu



Wenjing Guan is the Horticultural Specialist at the Southwest Purdue Agricultural Center in Vincennes, Indiana. She works with various scales of vegetable and fruit growers across the state.

/ guan40@purdue.edu



Danielle Guerin is an Indiana native, with degrees in Entrepreneurship from Bradley University and Public Affairs from Indiana University. Her interest in how food affects the human body led her to become involved with the local food movement and urban agriculture. She spent two years in West Africa working with farmers and has completed a summer farming program. She is passionate about working to end the food crisis in our Black communities and providing leadership opportunities to our today's youth. She founded Soul Food Project, a nonprofit urban farm in 2017 and currently serves as the Executive Director/ Director of Farm Operations. She is passionate about ending food apartheid in black communities and raising young leaders. / danielle.guerin@soulfoodprojectindy.org



Spencer Guinn has been a business development specialist for the Kentucky Center for Ag and Rural Development (KCARD) since August 2017. He enjoys working one on one with farmers to help them grow and improve their business. Spencer also operates Circle G Farms in central Kentucky, raising angus/ Hereford cross freezer beef, row crops (corn, soybeans, wheat and rye), hay and produce. The on-farm experience as a first-generation farmer overlaps nicely with the business development work with Kentucky producers.

/ sguinn@kcard.info



Anna Haas is Local Food Program Director for What Chefs Want and its internal food hub, Local Food Connection (LFC). Anna and the LFC team specialize in developing small and medium sized local farms and food producers' ability to access new markets. As a distributor for all types of local food, LFC helps restaurants, retailers, institutions and K-12 schools increase their local spending and make local programs stronger.

/ ahaas@whatchefswant.com

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Lisa Hopman is an urban homesteader with the goal to grow and raise as much of her own food as possible. High Voltage Garden is located on the far north side of Indianapolis and is just under 1 acre. Lisa spent several years as the Garden Coordinator at Paramount Schools of Excellence where she helped manage the school market garden, ran a year-round farm market and summer CSA, and supervised the summer youth program.

/ ljfisk@gmail.com



Laura Ingwell is an Extension Specialist in the Entomology Department at Purdue. Her work focuses on pest management in specialty crops production. She has particular interest in sustainability, which includes biological control, biopesticides and organic production techniques. Laura has expertise working in controlled environments, specifically trying to understand the unique pest pressures in high tunnel systems and indoor hydroponic production. Most recently, she has ventured into composting with Black soldier flies for urban farming applications.

/ lingwell@purdue.edu



Nicky Jones is a full-time beekeeper and owner of the Indiana bee company known as Earthling Bee Co. Earthling Bee Co. has a mission to connect others with 100% pure honey while promoting sustainable beekeeping practices, providing community education regarding bees and honey, and fostering a love of beekeeping. Nicky serves as a regional director for The Beekeepers of Indiana. He is also president of his local beekeeping club, Northwest Indiana Beekeepers Association, and a current board member in Purdue Extension. Nicky teaches beekeeping classes for JobLink and is partnered with Purdue University Northwest to provide and manage honeybee colonies on campus. / earthlingbeeco@gmail.com



Kristy Kikly and her husband Mike Hoopengardner own and operate Caprini Creamery, LLC in Spiceland, Indiana. They purchased 57 acres of cropland in 2007 and have planted over 40 acres of pasture consisting of a variety of grasses, legumes and forbs for grazing and hay. In August 2011 the commercial dairy was completed, and state certified. All the milk for their cheese comes from their herd of Nigerian Dwarf and Oberhasli goats. In January 2022, they sold the cheesemaking business to Sirocco Ridge Farm who are continuing the legacy of Caprini chevre and feta.

/ kristykikly@yahoo.com



Allison Kingery is the Managing Director of Purdue's Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute (FEMI). She is a Purdue Food Science alum (BS '09) and has spent her career blending culinary arts with knowledge of food chemistry, food processing and food safety. Through FEMI, she functions as a conduit for projects between external users and internal resources including access to departmental facilities, faculty expertise and student talent as growers, entrepreneurs and businesses strategize growth and scale food and beverage concepts to commercialization. Allison also oversees the Skidmore Product Development Laboratory, the certified commercial kitchen located within Nelson Hall of Food Science. / allie@purdue.edu

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Mimi Kokoska holds a B.S. in Biological Sciences, M.S. in Healthcare Management, and doctorate in Medicine. She enjoys learning and practicing agroforestry, with a focus on growing edible produce which enhances health and quality of life. Her family farm has expanded to include growing fungi, both above ground mushrooms and subterranean truffles. These efforts align with their farm mission to improve supply, nutrition, and sustainability. She is a member of the Indiana Nut and Fruit Growers Association, Indiana Mushroom Society, and North American Truffle Growers' Association.

/ mskokoska@gmail.com



Petrus Langenhoven is a horticulture and hydroponics crops specialist at Purdue University. Before coming to Purdue, he dedicated his career to the development of Sub-Saharan Africa's specialty crops sector. With a specialization in hydroponics and vegetable crop production, Petrus is a key member of the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture's Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) and Vegetable Production Teams. His strong background in horticulture production research and Extension allows him to leverage research and Extension programming around new technologies and expertise in high tunnel and greenhouse management and open field vegetable production. He serves as a co-director for the Purdue Student Farm and co-chair for the Indiana Horticultural Conference & Expo. / plangenh@purdue.edu



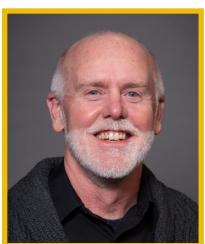
Elizabeth Long is an assistant professor in the Department of Entomology at Purdue University, with research and Extension efforts focused on the management of pest and beneficial insects in horticultural crop systems. Her research program focuses on understanding the ecological interactions between plants, insects and the environment, and how these interactions scale up to influence pest management strategies in commercial parsley, celery, mint and small fruit systems.

/ long132@purdue.edu



Christine Maloney is an Advanced Permaculture Designer and Educator and has over twenty years of experience educating, organic gardening, composting, foraging wild edibles, creating community and practicing various permaculture principles and techniques. She enjoys collaborating and connecting with others who are interested in regenerating culture and restoring balanced food systems through the lens of permaculture.

/ mcasamaloney@gmail.com



Doug Mark has been making maple syrup for over 20 years. He and his business partner started Maple Creations in Hendricks County, Indiana, as a small hobby operation with a homemade evaporator and 25 taps. While still a hobby, Maple Creations now has around 475 taps and he continues to enjoy making syrup, serving on the Indiana ACER Grant Advisory Committee, educating others about maple syrup.

/ drmark1966@yahoo.com

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Jenifer Martindale received her bachelor's from Indiana University and spent most of her career in orthopedics. She recently started working full-time on a flower farm, responsible for all the planning, seeding and tuber selections, planting, harvesting, and irrigation. With her partner, Broch, they host farm events, professional photographers, and classes.

/ wildflower_farms@yahoo.com



Broch Martindale grew up in a family greenhouse business where he discovered his passion for plants and the industry. Broch studied greenhouse production at Ohio State and joined Corteva 10 years ago and focused his work on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and greenhouse technology. He recently took on the role of National Nursery & Greenhouse Strategic Account Manager to work with nursery, greenhouse, and cut flower growers across the country.

/ broch.martindale@corteva.com



Anna Martinez is a yoga instructor and first commercial kombucha brewer in Northwest Indiana (NWI). She owns her own café and kombucha bar located in the Miller Beach area, and now serves as a Value Chain Coordinator for the NWI Food Council. She is deeply committed to improving healthy lifestyle options for families and elevating local food entrepreneurs in the process.

/ anna@nwifoodcouncil.org



Anne Massie has a bachelor's from Kalamazoo College in Psychology, Spanish and Philosophy and has spent the last 15 years building her career in local food advocacy in Northwest Indiana, gaining her farm knowledge through apprenticeships and workshops. From owning and operating her own diversified vegetable farm to leading significant non-profit work on food insecurity and farm viability, Anne has fully committed herself to changing the local food system as we know it. For the last 6 years, Anne has managed her own market garden farm, Grounded Earth Farm, where she produces year-round on half an acre and sells through farmers markets, her CSA, on farm pickups, and wholesale orders. She finds the most joy in collaborating with other farmers and committing her time to finding creative ways to bring local food to those who need it most while supporting viable farm businesses.

/ info@nwifoodcouncil.org



Liz Maynard serves as an Extension specialist for vegetable crops in Purdue's Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (HLA). Located in Valparaiso, Indiana, she develops educational programs and conducts applied research to support vegetable farming. She also manages research and demonstration trials at the Pinney Purdue Ag Center in Wanatah, Indiana. Recent trials have focused on organic potting media, production in high tunnels, cover crops, and no-till production of sweet corn and cucurbits following cereal rye.

/ emaynard@purdue.edu

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Genesis McKiernan-Allen is co-owner and operator of Full Hand Farm, a 4-acre organic market farm located on the Hamilton/Madison County line. She farms with her husband Eli Robb and a dedicated crew using a mix of human and tractor scale production techniques for year-round market and restaurant sales in the Indianapolis area.

/ genesisanna@gmail.com



Stephen Meyers is an assistant professor in the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Purdue University. He conducts research in weed biology, weed-crop interactions, herbicide tolerance and integrated weed management strategies, and provides the state's specialty crop producers with timely, research-based weed management recommendations. He and his wife also own and operate Meyers' Produce and Plants, a small farm in West Lafayette, Indiana specializing in warm season vegetables, cut flowers, honey, eggs, and maple syrup.

/ slmeyers@purdue.edu



Scott Monroe an Indiana native, is the sixth generation in his family to be involved in vegetable production and spent most of his youth working in his family's watermelon fields. He attended both Vincennes and Purdue, earning degrees in agriculture, horticultural science, and plant pathology. Scott has worked in various capacities in the produce industry, including self-employment as the operator of a farm supply store, R&D director for a large vegetable farm, and assistant plant breeder for Abbott & Cobb, Inc. Based in Southwestern Indiana, Scott conducts statewide produce food safety programming and research from the Purdue Extension Food Safety Training Hub near Vincennes, Indiana.

/ jmonroe@purdue.edu



Krishna Nemali is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Purdue University. His area of expertise is controlled environment agriculture which involves producing crops in greenhouse and indoor systems.

/ knemali@purdue.edu



Caroline Patrick has worked in the Indiana hospitality industry for over 25 years. She received a degree in culinary arts from The Culinary Institute of America and has lead operations within restaurants, hotels and contracted food service operations in the Indianapolis area. Caroline has been an advocate and supporter of locally grown, sourced and crafted Indiana products, and has served as the Indiana Grown program director since September 2022.

/ cpatrick@isda.in.gov



Dan Perkins is co-owner and lead farmer at Perkins' Good Earth Farm and is a Certified Crop Advisor. Perkins' Good Earth Farm is a certified organic farm growing Hardneck garlic and produce for a 175 member CSA, on-farm stand, small batch commercial kitchen, on-farm AirBnB and local wholesale accounts. He utilizes farm made leaf compost and locally purchased manure-based compost for his no-till veggie production.

/ perkinsgoodearthfarm@gmail.com

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Virginia Pleasant grew up in Northwest Indiana (NWI) and returned 6 years ago to help build the regional food system for future generations. She is the Vice President and Director of Community Food Networks for the NWI Food Council, as well as the Interim Director of Food Systems Initiatives at Purdue Northwest. She is also involved in many local, state and regional coalitions for food systems work, including leadership roles in the Indiana Value Chain Network and Indiana Grown for Schools. She works to weave networks along the food value chain from farmers to eaters, and all points in between, to build capacity, collaboration and community resilience. / virginia@nwifoodcouncil.org



Zuleyja Prieto holds heritage corn close to heart as a staple that brings nourishment and cultural value to the broader American continent and much of the world. Through her SARE project, she proposes a method to avoid cross pollination between commercial, GMO corn and heritage corn, as well as reclaiming stewardship of these seeds by educating and planting in family plots. After this project, she aspires to apply the new knowledge and experience to take on a larger production of heritage corn, to promote its conservation and consumption. / drazuleyja@gmail.com



Miranda Purcell is the Viticulture Extension Specialist at Purdue University. As part of The Purdue Wine Grape Team, she works with wine and table grape growers across Indiana. From beginning to experienced growers, Miranda helps with new vineyard establishment, variety selection, pest and disease control and more. / mrpurcel@purdue.edu



Ankita Raturi practices participatory design research and open-source software development to support increased resilience in food and farming systems. She is an assistant professor at Purdue University, where she runs the Agricultural Informatics Lab. Their current work includes improving decision making through user-centered digital tools (e.g., for horticulture, cover crops); supporting community-led data stewardship (e.g., for crop management, soil health); and exploring food and information flows to co-create better digital tools and services for regional foodsheds. Ankita advocates for responsible, accessible, and inclusive digital tools through the Gathering for Open Ag Tech, a community of farmers, researchers, coders, and allies. / ankita@purdue.edu



Mike Record, a native of Indianapolis, began his farming career in 2008 in Colorado. In 2013 he moved back to Indiana to start New Ground Farm, a certified organic market farm. Now in its ninth season, the farm sells predominantly through a self-serve honor stand that also consigns products from neighboring farms. In 2020, he was one of the founding members of the Rose Hill Farm Stop, and currently serves on its board of directors. / mike@newgroundfarm.com

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Armonda Riggs started her farming career in 2016 in Iowa where she sold produce through the Iowa Food Cooperative. In 2017, she began her diversified farm, Four Flags Farm, on 30 acres in Greene County, Indiana. She has been a seasonal vendor at the Linton Farmers Market in Linton, Indiana, and now sells produce through the Rose Hill Farm Stop in Bloomington. Being a regenerative farmer allows her to produce great products while best stewarding her land.

/ info@fourflagsfarm.com



Marian M. Rodriguez-Soto, originally from Maunabo, Puerto Rico, serves as an urban soil health specialist with the Urban Soil Health program (USH) covering the Northwest of Indiana from Indianapolis to the East of Chicago. Through the USH program, Marian engages in local partnerships with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), Extension, growers, and other conservation-oriented organizations to increase the adoption of soil health management systems by urban and small-scale farmers and gardeners. Marian also provides resources, technical assistance, and education on soil health principles to farmers and gardeners and has an entomology and agricultural sciences background. / mrodriguezsoto@urbansoilhealth.org



Olivia Schoentrup grew up in Wayne County, Indiana on a small family farm growing corn and soybeans and raising beef cattle. She participated as a 10 Year 4H member, member of the local FFA Chapter, and attended Purdue to study animal science. She worked as both an agricultural banker and personal banker while receiving her MBA, and in 2017 purchased a small farm with her partner Paul in Shelby County. They began implementing regenerative farming practices and selling meat directly to consumers through the Franklin Farmers Market. Together, they created a profitable and sustainable ecosystem with beef cattle, sows, feeder pigs, broiler chickens and laying hens. They share their story through a YouTube Channel and Facebook Page, *Breaking New Roots*. / schoentrupfarms@gmail.com



Denise Derrer Spears serves as the Public Information Director for the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH), where she works to develop outreach, education and training programs for livestock producers, veterinarians, consumers and others with a stake in the health of Indiana's animal population. She regularly participates in disaster training and exercises for all types of hazards (not just agricultural) through an inter-agency partnership with Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Denise is also part of the multi-agency communications team that activates during large-scale disasters.

/ dderrer@boah.in.gov



Mark Torkelson is a certified irrigation designer and the president of Indiana Irrigation Co. Inc. Three generations work at this family-owned business that has been serving growers for 45 years.

/ inirrigation@gmail.com

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Ariana Torres research focuses on the decision-making processes for farmers, buyers and consumers of specialty crops. Her expertise includes the economic modeling of adoption of new technologies, the development of decision-making tools for specialty crop growers and the economic impact analysis of growers decision-making processes. She is currently working on promoting the crop diversification in the Midwest, assessing the economic feasibility of biological control in high tunnel production, investigating the market barriers and opportunities for sustainably produced turfgrass and supporting small and minority farmers from Peru and Iraq reach markets with value-added products. / torres2@purdue.edu



DeMario Vitalis is the owner and founder of New Age Provisions Farms. Farming is a way for him to connect with his ancestors and provide for his family in a similar way to what his great grandparents did in the South. / newageprovision@gmail.com



Scott Wagner is an Agricultural Engineer with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Scott has been with USDA for over 18 years working as a field engineer in several offices throughout Indiana. He is currently an Agricultural Engineer at the NRCS State Office in Indianapolis where he's a "jack of all trades" to the many conservation engineering systems, tools and innovated technologies. Scott obtained a BS degree from the Department of Agriculture and Biological Engineering from Purdue in 2003. / scott.wagner@usda.gov



Samantha Willden received her B.S. and M.S. degrees at Utah State University where she was first exposed to insects and their important role in food systems. To gain more experience in specialty crop production, she moved to upstate New York to pursue a PhD in Entomology. She studied pests on strawberry plants to develop Integrated Pest Management (IPM) recommendations tailored to low tunnel production. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher at Purdue University working with Laura Ingwell on specialty crop production under high tunnels. Her work is focused on biological control and developing new tools for pest management on urban farms. / swillden@purdue.edu



Janelle White currently serves as the Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs at the University of Chicago and as an associate for the Consortium for Inclusion & Equity, LLC (CIE), an integrated diversity management consulting firm. Her work with CIE has allowed her to work with higher education, secondary, and elementary education professionals to explore concepts of justice, inclusion, and equity within their organizational leadership, curriculum development, and community engagement initiatives. Throughout her career, she has been committed to fostering a sense of community and belonging for underrepresented students, disrupting bias throughout educational systems, and advocating for historically underrepresented communities. / janellelovewhite@gmail.com



Robert Zupancic was raised on a diversified crop and livestock farm in Morgantown, Indiana. Now a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Grazing Specialist in Southeastern Indiana for the past 17 years. He is certified to write and review Comprehensive Nutrient Management (CNM) plans and enjoys helping agriculture producers solve problems and make their properties more productive. / robert.zupancic@usda.gov

TRADE SHOW VENDORS

East Coast Migrant Head Start Project*ecmhsp.org*

information@ecmhsp.org / 800-655-6831

High Mowing Organic Seeds*highmowingseeds.com*

mhochkeppel@highmowingseeds.com / 866-735-4454

Hoosier Young Farmers Coalition*hoosierafc.org*

info@hoosierafc.org

Indiana AgrAbility / Purdue Ag. Safety & Health*agrability.org*

bng@purdue.edu / 800-825-4264

Indiana Cooperative Development Center*cooperationworks.coop/member/indiana-cooperative-development-center*

cferroli@icdc.coop / 317-403-2801

Indiana Farm Bureau Inc.*infarmbureau.org*

atauer@infb.org / 800-327-6287

Indiana Farmers Union*indianafarmersunion.org*

IndianaFarmersUnion@gmail.com / 317-372-9508

Indiana Irrigation*indianairrigation.com*

inirrigation@gmail.com / 574-626-3398

Indiana Nut and Fruit Growers Association (INFGA)*infga.org*

infgainfo@gmail.com / 765-775-6693

Midwestern Regional Climate Center, Indiana State Climate Office, and Purdue Mesonet*mrcc.purdue.edu*

mrcc@purdue.edu / 765-494-6574

Nifty Hoops*niftyhoops.com*

info@niftyhoops.com / 734-845-0079

Office of Indiana State Chemist*oisc.purdue.edu*

akreider@purdue.edu / 765-494-1492

Partners IN Food and Farming*IndianaFarming.org*

Info@indianafarming.org

Purdue Farm Stress Team*extension.purdue.edu/farm_stress*

klanzzone@purdue.edu / 765-569-3176

Purdue Farmers' Food Safety Information Booth*ag.purdue.edu/foodsci/Fenglab*

ekontorm@purdue.edu

Purdue Hemp Project*ag.purdue.edu/hemp-project*

mbolt@purdue.edu / 765-496-1567

ReportINvasive*reportINvasive.com*

rfrbruner@purdue.edu / 765-494-0822

Safe Produce Indiana*ag.purdue.edu/departments/extension/safeproduce*

jsmonroe@purdue.edu / 765-494-0512

Society of St Andrew - Indiana*endhunger.org/indiana*

in-glean@endhunger.org / 317-607-0004

Urban Soil Health Program*urbansoilhealth.org*

info@urbansoilhealth.org

USDA-Indiana Farm Service Agency*fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Indiana/index*

angie.stuehrenberg@usda.gov / 317-290-3315

USDA-NASS Great Lakes Region*nass.usda.gov*

sm.as.fod.glr@usda.gov / 517-324-5300

USDA NRCS*NRCS.USDA.gov*

Brandon.Oconnor@usda.gov

Vermont Compost Company*vermontcompost.com*

emma@vermontcompst.com / 802-223-6049

RESOURCES

Purdue Extension Web Links

Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Extension Home Page

ag.purdue.edu/department/hla/extension/index.html

Entomology Extension Home Page

ag.purdue.edu/department/entm/extension/index.html

Commercial Nursery and Landscape

ag.purdue.edu/department/hla/extension/nursery-and-landscape.html

Consumer Horticulture (Indiana Yard & Garden)

purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/

Controlled Environment Agriculture

purdue.edu/hla/sites/cea/

Diversified Farming and Food Systems

extension.purdue.edu/anr/_teams/dffs/

Horticulture Business

purdue.edu/hla/sites/hortbusiness/

Pest & Crop Newsletter

extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop/

Purdue Master Gardener Program

hort.purdue.edu/mg

Entomology Extension Vegetables

extension.entm.purdue.edu/veg

Entomology Extension Fruit

extension.entm.purdue.edu/fruit

Midwest Vegetable Production Guide

mwvegguide.org/

Extension Newsletters & Blogs

Facts for Fancy Fruit

hort.purdue.edu/fff/fff.shtml

In The Grow

purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/publication/in-the-grow/

Purdue Landscape Report

PurdueLandscapeReport.org

Vegetable Crops Hotline

vegcropshotline.org/

Yard & Garden Calendar

purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/publication/gardening-calendars/

Yard & Garden News

purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/publication/yard-and-garden-news/

Consumer Horticulture (Indiana Yard & Garden) Facebook

@PurdueHomeHort

Purdue Extension NWCH Twitter

@PurdueHomeHort

Purdue Horticulture Extension Facebook

@PurdueHorticultureExtension

Purdue Hort Extension Twitter

@PurdueHortExt

Purdue Ent Extension Facebook

@PurdueFruitVegIPM

Purdue EntomologyExtension Twitter

@PurdueExtEnt

Purdue Landscape Report

Facebook @PurdueLandscapeReport
Twitter @PurdueLandscape

Purdue Master Gardener Program

Facebook @PurdueExtensionMasterGardenerProgram
Twitter @PurdueMG

Diversified Farming and Food Systems

extension.purdue.edu/anr/newsletter.html

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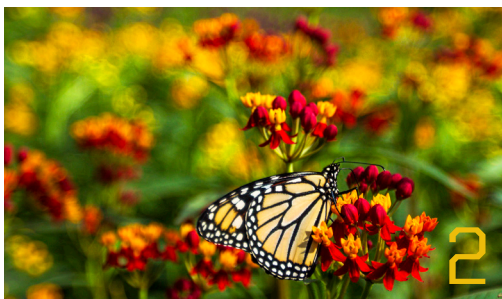
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March 2023



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- 3 Hawkins Family Farm
- 4 Growing Places Indy
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Purdue Diversified Farming and Food Systems is an Extension program made up of an interdisciplinary group of faculty, staff, Extension educators, students, practitioners and partners.

We work to connect programming, research and learning focused on urban agriculture, community wellness, local food, beginning farmers, small farms and organic agriculture, and the Purdue student farm.

www.purdue.edu/dffs

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