



Purdue Extension



JOHNSON COUNTY AGRI-TIMES

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2025



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY®

Extension - Agriculture
and Natural Resources

2025 MASTER GARDENER INTERNS

CONGRATULATIONS EMG INTERNS

A hearty congratulations to the 2025 Johnson County Purdue Extension Master Gardener Interns. The folks in the picture above spent 15 weeks learning more about gardening and all that it entails. From pesticides to fruit trees and everything in between, they are ready to help the community thrive! Are you interested in becoming one of them? The next Master Gardener class in Johnson County will start in January of 2026.

EDUCATOR NOTES

>>> SUMMER TIME

Another summer is creeping up on us, time flies when you are having fun! Speaking of fun, the ANR program has been having a lot of it since our last newsletter. This spring alone the ANR program has had over 64 learner sessions with over 8,000 learner minutes. Incredible data points for an incredible program!

Since the last issue we have completed the Master Gardener Basic Training, Chicken Embryology, Southwest Elementary Garden Club and Annie's Project in the Classroom. These programs have kept the schedules full and most importantly teaching people of ALL ages about the importance of agriculture.

In this issue you will find lots of resources for the garden, home and field this summer. Stay in touch with our programming on Facebook at Purdue Extension - Johnson County. See you at a program soon!

Shalee Bradley





Corn Fungicide ROI Calculator

Information on the Corn Fungicide ROI Calculator

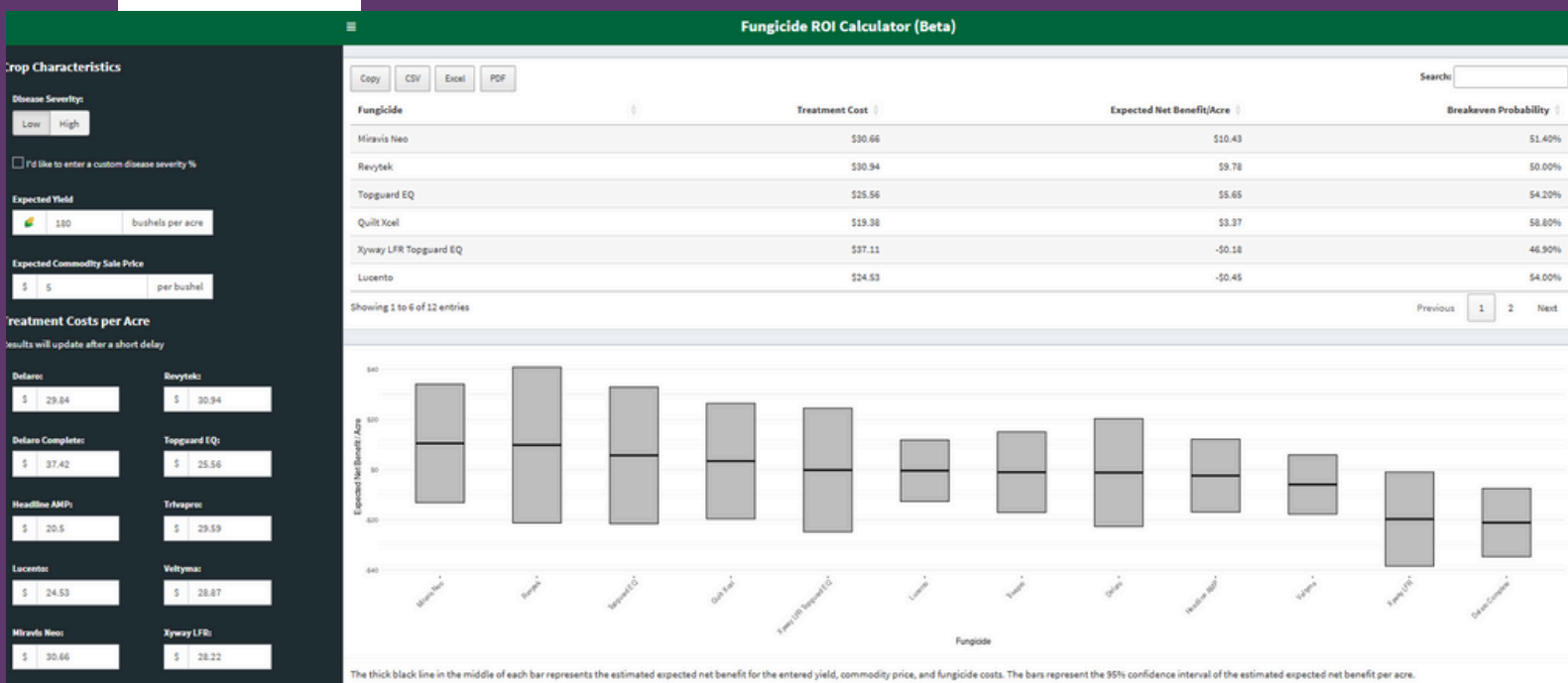
The purpose of this calculator is to share results from university uniform corn fungicide trials conducted in the United States and Canada, and allow farmers and others in the agricultural industry to calculate the potential return on investment (ROI) for corn fungicide application across a variety of user-defined factors, which is based on research data included in this calculator.

The treatment cost, expected benefits, and breakeven probability values shown in the calculator are estimates based on data and not guaranteed values. Also, values are derived from data collected in trials designed to test specific product comparisons, and data are not available for all labeled fungicides on corn. Data are not comprehensive and represent only the treatments tested in these trials.

Crop Protection Network. 2024. Corn Fungicide Return On Investment Calculator. Corn Disease Working Group. <https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/fungicide-roi-calculator>. [Doi.org/10.31274/cpn-20240724-0](https://doi.org/10.31274/cpn-20240724-0).



Click [HERE](#) to take you to the calculator



ALFALFA INSECT CONTROL RECOMMENDATIONS

Alfalfa growing season is underway and Extension Entomologists, Christian Krupke and John Obermeyer have a helpful chart of alfalfa insect control recommendations.

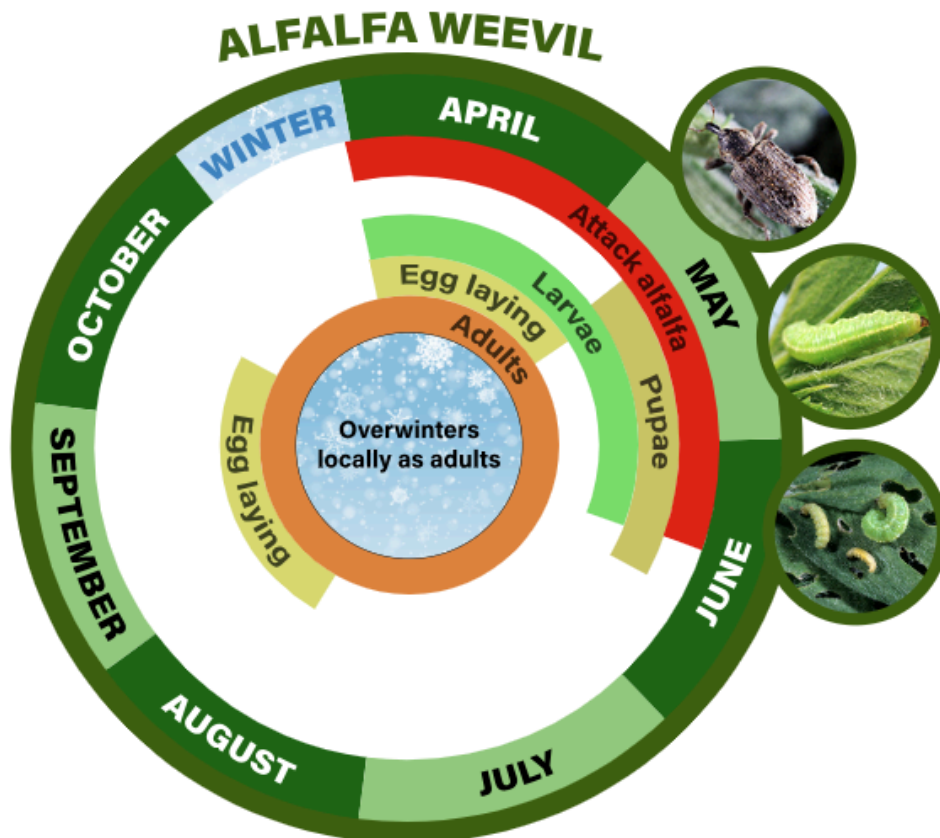
[LINK TO RECOMMENDATIONS](#)



Adult Alfalfa Weevil
Photo by J. Obermeyer



Larva and damaged tips
Photo by J. Obermeyer



WEED EMERGENCE SCOUTING TOOL (WEST)

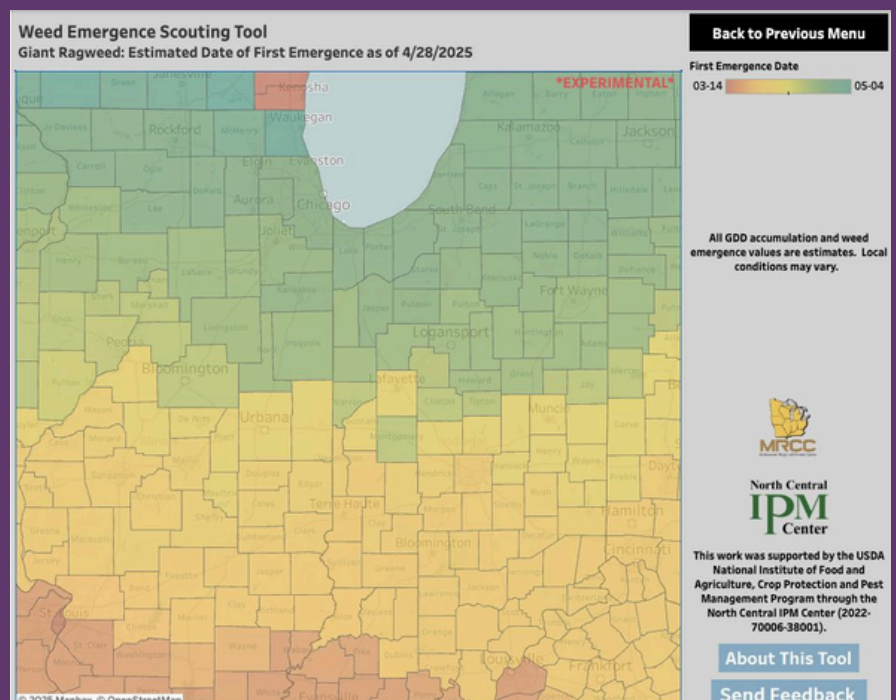
The Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC), supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Crop Protection and Pest Management Program through the North Central IPM Center (2022-70006-38001), has developed the experimental Weed Emergence Scouting Tool (W.E.S.T.) to help farmers estimate when agronomic weeds are likely first to emerge and reach peak emergence based on growing degree day (GDD) models. The tool is currently limited to two weeds: waterhemp and giant ragweed. The MRCC hopes to expand its focus to other weeds with future funding.

LINK TO WEST

The current version allows users to:

- Track GDD (base 48°F) accumulations over the current year (January 1 to the current date) for any Midwest County.
- Based on forecast data, determine whether giant ragweed or water hemp is expected to reach its peak emergence within six days and, if so, in how many days.
- Review the current season's emergence dates for giant ragweed or water hemp in specific Midwest counties.

Sources: Austin Pearson

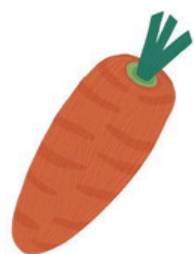


INDIANA HOME-BASED VENDOR HANDBOOK

In partnership with Health First Indiana and Purdue University, the Indiana Department of Health is proud to publish the Indiana Home-Based Vendor Handbook.

[LINK TO THE NEW HANDBOOK](#)





2025 Season

Farmer's

MARKETS



Locations

Franklin

Youngs Creek Park

Bargersville

Downtown Bargsville
24 N. Main St.

Edinburgh

201 W. Main St.

Greenwood

Greenwood United
Methodist Church

Trafalgar

Keller Williams
108 N. State Rd 135

Whiteland

350 Clearwater Blvd.

Times

8:00 am - noon

5:00 - 7:00pm

4:00 - 7:00pm

8:00 am - noon

4:30 - 7:30pm

5:30 - 7:30pm

Dates

Saturdays

May 31 - Sept. 13

Wednesdays

June 4 - Sept. 10

Thursdays

June 5 - Sept. 25

Saturdays

April 26 - Sept. 27

2nd & 4th

Thursdays

June - Oct.

Tuesdays

June 3 - Aug. 26



Created by the Johnson County Local Food Council



Johnson County Local Food Council



www.jocolocalfood.org

FARM WOMEN ARE DECISION MAKERS

ANNIE'S PROJECT PREPARES THEM WELL

Farm women are generating a cultural tide in American agriculture that is moving management, assets and opportunities to a new wave of farmers across the country. At Annie's Project courses, women in agriculture become empowered to be successful through education, networks, and resources.

Annie's Project is a six-week course that is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing and the legal field. There's plenty of time for questions, sharing, reacting and connecting with presenters and fellow participants. It's a relaxed, fun and dynamic way to learn, grow and meet other farm women.

Whether new or experienced, understanding the five areas of agricultural risk, knowing how to analyze agricultural spreadsheets and other necessary skills are vital. Learning them in a friendly environment where questions and discussion are welcomed, allow the learning process to flourish.

Annie's Project courses have successfully reached more than 15,000 farm and ranch women in 33 states. Purdue Extension in St. Joseph and Kosciusko counties are partnering to offer the course virtually beginning on June 3 via Zoom from 6-9pm ET (5-8pm CT).

The cost for the course is \$65 per person, which includes a workbook and support materials for all sessions. Course size is limited, so please register by May 26th at or call 574-235-9605.

For more information contact Emily Evers at 574-235-9605 or everse@purdue.edu or Emily Kresca at eluc@purdue.edu or 574-372-2340. More information can be found on the Annie's Project website at www.AnniesProject.org.

Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access University. If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Emily Evers prior to the meeting at 574-235-9605 or everse@purdue.edu by May 26, 2025. If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Emily Evers prior to the meeting at 574-235-9605 or everse@purdue.edu by May 26, 2025.



ANNIE'S PROJECT
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity university



ANNIE'S PROJECT

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE



Mission: Empower women in agriculture to be successful through education, networks, and resources

Tuesday Evenings
June 3 – July 8, 2025
6 - 9 PM
Virtual via Zoom

6 sessions with many topics!

- Estate planning
- Land leases and contracts
- Emergency preparedness
- Farm programs
- Financial documents
- Retirement for farm families
- Insurance for farm families
- Agricultural tax discussions
- Communication
- Grain marketing
- Crop insurance options
- Farm Safety

Why Annie's Project?

This six-week course is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial and tax management, human resources, marketing, and the legal field. There will be plenty of time for questions, sharing, reacting, and connecting with presenters and fellow participants.

It's a relaxed, fun and dynamic way to learn, grow and meet other farm women and includes great take-home resources!

Register by May 26th

at <https://cvent.me/aroDXe>

or call 574-235-9605

Cost: \$65 for all 6 sessions

Contact the St. Joseph County Extension office with questions at 574-235-9605, everse@purdue.edu, or eluc@purdue.edu

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5 Tips for a Successful Vegetable Garden

Whether you're planting your very first seeds or fine-tuning your green thumb, growing a thriving vegetable garden takes a mix of planning, patience, and practical know-how. Here are five essential tips to help you harvest healthy, delicious produce all season long.

1. **Start with the Right Spot** - Choose a location that gets at least 6–8 hours of direct sunlight per day. Most vegetables, especially tomatoes, peppers, and squash, love full sun. Also, make sure it has good drainage and access to water.
2. **Build Healthy Soil** - Your plants are only as strong as your soil. Mix in compost, aged manure, or organic matter to boost nutrients and improve texture. A simple soil test can help you adjust pH levels and fertility.
3. **Water Smartly** - Vegetables need about 1 inch of water per week, but consistency is key. Water early in the day at the base of plants to minimize evaporation and reduce disease risks. Soaker hoses or drip irrigation work best.
4. **Stay on Top of Weeds** - Weeds compete for water, nutrients, and light. Hand-pull or hoe regularly to keep them in check—especially early in the season when they're easiest to manage.
5. **Monitor for Pests and Disease** - Check your plants often for signs of trouble. Early detection helps you address issues before they spread.

With a bit of care and these practical tips, your vegetable garden can become a productive, nourishing space that brings joy (and tasty rewards!) all season long.

Happy Gardening!





2025 JOHNSON COUNTY 4-H & AGRICULTURAL FAIR

JULY 13-19, 2025



OPEN CLASS INFORMATION

Any Johnson County resident may enter exhibits into the Open Class at the fair. Paper copies of the open class book may be picked up at our office. Please call our office at 317-736-3724 if you have questions.

Open Class Scott Hall Exhibitors may pick up Exhibitor Number, Entry Cards and Entry Tags at the extension office from May 1 - July 10 during office hours.

Open Class Fitzpatrick Hall Exhibitors will pick up Entry Tags when they bring exhibits.

[LINK TO THE 2025 FAIR OPEN CLASS BOOK](#)

SUCCESSION PLANNING TEAM

Purdue University Extension

Cultivating Strong Indiana Farm Families through the Succession Planning Process by Providing Educational Opportunities and Current Resources



RESOURCES WE PROVIDE

- Regional Workshops
- First Steps in Succession Planning (introduction presentation)
- Farm Family Meetings
- YouTube Recoded Presentations
- *The Farm's Legacy: A Guidebook for Intra-Family Succession* workbook
- Podcast Series: *Farm Succession/Transition Planning Series*, in collaboration with Center for Commercial Agriculture

TOPICS WE COVER

Communication

Balancing Work and Family – Creating Boundaries

Operating Agreements

Buy/Sell Agreements

Job Descriptions

Management Transfer

Setting Goals and Objectives for the Business

Conflict Management

Advisory Board for Your Farm

Roadmapping Your Succession

Retirement Planning

Farm and Family Business Functioning (Using the FB-BRAG)

Financial Preparedness for Succession

Estimating Living Expenses and Income Needs

Dividing Business Income

Valuing Sweat Equity

Contingency Planning

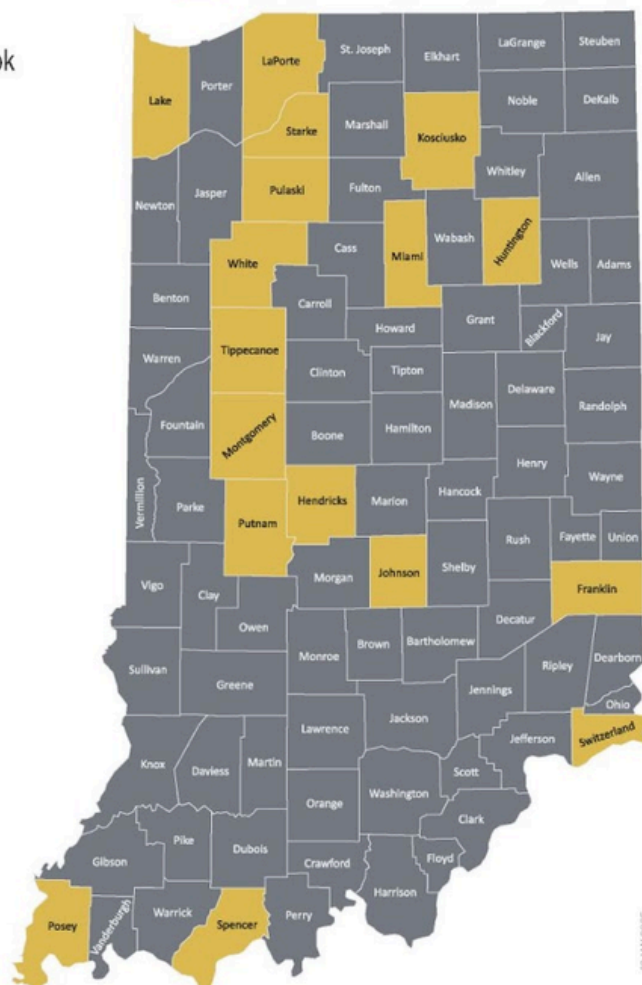
Risk Assessments

Transferring Farm Machinery through a Lease

Fair vs. Equal

SUCCESSION PLANNING TEAM (SPT) LOCATIONS

Counties indicate SPT locations



LEARN MORE

Visit web page:

<https://bit.ly/4161SeT>



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY Extension

The Succession Planning Team



SAVE THE DATE
2026

* Master Gardener

JANUARY 21ST, 2026

EVENING CLASS

WEDNESDAYS 6PM – 9PM



PURDUE | Extension
UNIVERSITY

PURDUE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

SHALEE L. BRADLEY

EXTENSION EDUCATOR

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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SDAMING@PURDUE.EDU

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