

Women in Agriculture January 2021 Winter Newsletter

2020 Women in Ag -Award Winners

Three Indiana women were honored for their dedication and contributions to the agriculture industry at the Indiana Statehouse on Aug. 20. The recipients were selected by the Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture team. Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and Karen Plaut, the Glenn W. Sample Dean of the Purdue College of Agriculture, presented the team's awards.

The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture Leadership Award recognizes a woman in an agribusiness or policy-making position who has actively impacted Indiana agriculture. Plaut presented this year's award to Roberta Ressler, crop protection product design and process R&D leader at Corteva Agriscience in Westfield, Indiana. Ressler leads a team of scientists and engineers who design and develop new crop protection products with an emphasis on sustainable farming. She graduated from Purdue's College of Engineering and continues to partner with Purdue across disciplines. Ressler leads the Joint Steering Team, a partnership between Corteva and Purdue that provides opportunities for research projects, classroom speakers and other events.

"Roberta is passionate about the role of women in agriculture and often speaks to student groups and graduate students about women in agriculture," Plaut said. "There is no doubt that Roberta has helped advance women in agriculture in the state of Indiana."

Abigail Powell was presented the Emerging Women in Agriculture Leadership award, which recognizes the accomplishments of a high school or undergraduate student who made a positive impact on agriculture. Powell is a sophomore at Purdue majoring in agriculture business marketing and agriculture communications. Before attending Purdue, Powell was an active member of 4-H, the Triton FFA Chapter and the Marshall County community. At Purdue, she was a member of the Purdue Ag Week Task Force and helped serve at the annual Purdue Ag Alumni Fish Fry. Currently, Powell serves on the Purdue College of Agriculture Council and is in the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, where she is the Alpha Theta Chapter treasurer. Powell worked in the Marshall County Extension Office, where she assisted with the planning and implementation of countywide events. Most recently, she was an agriculture banking intern at 1st Source Bank, where she analyzed agriculture marketing trends and generated reports for local lending officers.



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"Abigail's passion for agriculture is evident in her involvement with organizations professionally and personally. She is a great example of an emerging leader in the field who is willing to keep learning and striving to be a positive advocate for agriculture," Plaut said.

The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture Achievement Award recognizes women who are directly involved in a home farm operation. The 2020 award was presented to Sara Creech of Hendricks County, Indiana. Creech owns and operates Blue Yonder Organic Farm, a 40-acre farm located in North Salem. She raises chickens, ducks, turkeys, sheep, cattle, mushrooms, bees and produce. Creech sells her produce and meat at area farmers markets and has a community-supported agriculture program for locals. She was instrumental in starting the Indiana chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition, a group that works with military veterans to provide farm educational and leadership opportunities. Recently, she partnered with a local farm family, the Indiana Farmer Veteran Coalition and the Hendricks County Soil and Water Conservation District to initiate Porter Farm in Danville. The farm educates veterans and community members on small farm and conservation best practices. In 2018, Creech was elected as the first female member of the Hendricks County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

"Sara has not only provided food, but educational and leadership opportunities to veterans and community members with her efforts. She is an invaluable member of Indiana agriculture," Plaut said.

The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture awards committee was co-chaired by Lori Bouslog, and Extension educator in Vermillion County, and Beth Vansickle, an Extension educator in Madison County. The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture team provides educational opportunities and resources for women in the agriculture industry and coordinates the Midwest Women in Agriculture conference.



Purdue Center for Commercial Ag Podcasts and Resources

The Purdue Center for Commercial Ag (<https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/>) has many resources available to farmers. Recent podcasts have been posted on the website covering topics including:

- Farmer Adoption Of Enhanced Conservation
- Farm Succession: Human Resources For Transition Planning
- Corn and Soybean Outlook Updates

Future podcasts are planned for this winter (hosted by Brady Brewer) include business structures (LLC, S-Corp, C-Corp, Sole Proprietor); Buy/Sell Agreements; Operating Agreements; Contingency Planning and Retirement Planning.

Other resources at this website include tools such as the [2021 Purdue Crop Cost and Return Guide](#), which provides estimates of crop income and expenses for low, medium and high producing soils. Another valuable tool is the [Crop Basis Tool](#), which can be used to examine weekly nearby and deferred basis for corn and soybeans in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

So you Inherited a Farm, Now What?

The Purdue Extension Land Lease Team invites those who have inherited or who might inherit farmland soon to attend the two-session virtual workshop, “So You’ve Inherited a Farm, Now What?”. The workshop will be offered on Thursday, Jan. 21 and Jan. 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Adapted from a University of Nebraska Extension program, the series will discuss best strategies for managing farmland and farm assets. Presenters include Purdue Extension educators and Indiana attorney, Kent Frandsen, who will discuss legal aspects and decisions to successfully inherit a farm for your family.

The workshop will explore the following:

- Property options and financial implications
- Land management
- Legal aspects
- Lease considerations
- Strategies for dealing with family and communication issues.

The registration fee is \$25 per person, household or farm. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/inheritedfarm> by Jan. 19. For reasonable accommodation or more information, contact Kelly Heckaman at 574-372-2340 or kheckaman@purdue.edu.

Late Winter Garden Calendar, by Rosie Learner, retired Purdue Home Horticulturist



Home (indoor plants and activities)

- Repot houseplants as they outgrow current pots.
- Check stored produce and flower bulbs for rot, shriveling, or excess moisture. Discard any damaged items.
- Most houseplants require less water in the winter because growth is slow or stopped. Check the soil for dryness before watering. Move houseplants to brighter windows, but don't place plants in drafty places or against cold windowpanes.
- Potted spring-flowering bulbs forced into early blooming can make good gifts for a sweetheart. Keep these plants in a bright, cool location for longer-lasting blooms. Forced bulbs make poor garden flowers, and you should discard them as blooms fade

Yard (lawns, woody ornamentals and fruits)

- Check young trees for rodent injury on lower trunks. Prevent injury with hardware cloth or protective collars.
- Keep road and sidewalk salt away from plants. Construct a screen of burlap, if necessary, to keep salt spray off plants.
- Choose appropriate plant species and cultivars, and begin drawing your landscape plans.
- Cut branches of forsythia, pussy willow, crabapple, quince, honeysuckle, and other early spring-flowering plants to force them into bloom indoors. Place the branches in warm water, and set them in a cool location.
- Prune landscape plants (except early spring bloomers that should be pruned after flowers fade). Birches, maples, dogwoods, and other heavy sap bleeders can be pruned in early summer to avoid the sap flow, although bleeding is not harmful to the tree. Delay pruning fruit plants until you can assess winter injury.

Garden (flowers, vegetables and small fruits)

- Sketch your garden plans on paper, including what to grow, spacing, arrangement and number of plants needed. Remember to include plants to replace or replant crops that you will harvest in spring or early summer.
- Order seeds and plants as early as possible for best selection.
- Wood ashes from the fireplace can be spread in the garden, but don't overdo it. Wood ashes increase soil pH, and excess application can make some nutrients unavailable for plant uptake. Have soil tested to be certain of the pH before adding wood ash.
- Start seeds indoors for cool-season vegetables so they will be ready to transplant to the garden early in the season. You should start broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage seeds five to seven weeks prior to transplanting.

Farm Stress

What is the Most Important Asset on a Farm?

If you were to ask a group of farmers this question, you might receive many answers. Those involved in crop production might say the land. A dairy farmer might say the cows. Some may mention equipment, grain storage, and handling systems, a confinement hog building, a greenhouse, or some other physical asset, depending on the type of farming operation.

The Purdue Farm Stress Team believes the most important farm assets are farmers, farm families and farm employees. Everything else is replaceable. You are not.

How Stress Affects YOUR...



Body:

- Racing Heart
- High Blood Pressure
- Sweaty Palms
- Fatigue
- Upset Stomach
- Tapping Fingers
- Sore Neck
- Chest Feels Tight
- Change in Appetite

Thoughts:

- Easily Angered
- Nervous
- Cynical
- Restlessness
- Inability to Sleep
- Can't Concentrate
- Feeling Depressed
- Crying
- Feeling Bored
- Exhausted

Actions:

- Arguing
- Sleeping to Escape
- Social Withdraw
- Breaking things
- Inattention to Detail
- Drinking/Smoking
- Undereating/
Overeating

Get more info at [Facebook.com/PurdueFarmStressTeam](https://www.facebook.com/PurdueFarmStressTeam)



Equal Access/Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Handling Stress

Think "B-R-A-I-N"

- B Breathe.** Breathe deeply 5 times. Release air slowly.
- R Relax.** Tell yourself to relax, whether in your head or out loud. Notice areas of tension in your body, and try to release that tension.
- A Ask.** Ask yourself what you need or want to feel. We usually ask why the other person is a jerk or why we goofed up. Instead, ask yourself what you need to feel: calm, in control, at peace, etc.
- I Imagine.** Imagine feeling that way.
- N Now.** After doing those four things, ask yourself, "How do I feel now?"

Get more info at [Facebook.com/PurdueFarmStressTeam](https://www.facebook.com/PurdueFarmStressTeam)



Morning Ag Mixers

Connect with other farm women and agri-business professionals.

You are not alone in this and we are here to support you.

January 19, 2021

February 16, 2021

March 16, 2021

April 20, 2021

9am - 10am (EST)

Join Us via Zoom @ <http://bit.ly/MorningAgMixer>

You do not need to pre-register.



Purdue Women in Agriculture Refrigerator Page

January 2021

1/13/2021 The In's & Outs of the Indiana Grown Program

Time: 12:30 PM EST Cost: Free

Register: https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwofuyrqT8sHNCZkdQQC8JsEq_SUbl4ZNwf

1/18/2021 Hemp Essentials Online Course

Register: <https://www.eventreg.purdue.edu/info/hemp-essentials/>

Cost: In-State: \$500 Out of State: \$550

1/19/2021 Beef Basics Program (7-week course)

Time: 6:30-8:30 PM EST Cost: \$40

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/PUBeefBasics>

Register by 1/17/2021

1/20/2021 First Steps in Succession Planning

Time: 12:30 PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrf-GsrzMuHNFaBxniocD8NPE6wrNXMO0p>

Register by 1/20/2021

1/21/2021 Bi-State Garden Conference

Time: 7:00PM-9:00PM EST Cost: \$10

Register: <https://bit.ly/2021GardenConf>

Register by 1/14/2021

1/21/2021 Beginning Farmer Workshops (7-week course)

Time: 7:00-8:30PM EST Cost: \$48

Register: <https://www.cvent.com/d/77q6zz>

Register by 1/8/2021

1/21/2021 So You've Inherited a Farm, Now What? (2-week course)

Time: 6:30-8:30PM EST Cost: \$25

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/inheritedfarm>

Register by 1/19/2021

1/26/2021 Food Budgeting and Meal Planning

Time: 11:00AM or 6:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <http://ow.ly/CWoW50D2GC7>

1/27/2021 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAVs) Uses for Your Farm

Time: 12:30PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0lceiqgTlvGNbvSTYFaVAJmyvxj82kSxKT>

1/28/2021 Crop Management Workshop 2021

Time: 8:00AM-12:35PM EST Cost: \$50

Register <https://web.cvent.com/event/ad2f4738-352a-4329-8378-3bb0272066fa/summary>

1/28/2021 Preparing for Lambing/Kidding-Small Ruminant Webinar

Time: 12:00PM- 1:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <https://bit.ly/LambKidPrep>



February 2021

2/1/2021 Pasture Weed Control Virtual Field Day

Time: 7:00PM-8:30PM EST Cost: Free

Register: www.purdueag.tv

2/4/2021 DIY Lawncare Series

Time: 6:30PM-9:00PM Cost: \$20

Register: <https://puext.in/DIYLawncareRegister>

2/8/2021 Keeping the Farm Resilient in Uncertain Times (3-week course)

Time: 6:30PM-8:30PM EST Cost: \$30/ Family

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/PU-SP2021>

2/9/2021 Move More Indoors

Time: 11:00 AM or 6:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <http://ow.ly/CWoW50D2GC7>

2/12/2021 The Big Pine Creek Watershed Project

Time: 12:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlIc6grj0qHteYWIUf9rla8ckPxdsAA7V2>

2/16/2021 Beyond the Screen

Time: 11:00 AM or 6:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <http://ow.ly/CWoW50D2GC7>

2/18/2021 Starting Seeds Indoors- Virtual Lunch & Learn

Time: 12:00PM- 1:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <http://bit.ly/2Wk7gdO>

2/23/2021 Annie's Project- (6-week virtual course)

Time: 9:00AM-12:00PM EST OR 1:00PM-4:00PM EST Cost: \$65

Register: <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/WIA/Pages/default.aspx>

Register by 2/9/2021

2/23/2021 Annie's Project: Farming in Indiana's Cities and Urban Fringe

Time: 6:00PM-9:00PM EST Cost: \$65

Register: <https://www.cvent.com/d/m7qh6q>

2/25/2021 Managing the Doe or Ewe During Lambing or Kidding- Small Ruminant Webinar

Time: 12:00PM-1:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <https://bit.ly/EweDoeMgmt>

March 2021

3/4/2021-3/6/2021 Indiana Small Farm Conference

Time: 8:00AM- 5:00PM Cost: \$35 for all 3 days

Register: <http://www.cvent.com/events/indiana-small-farm-conference/event-summary-f733ceedd59e4a02be470dcbeb646591.aspx>

3/18/2021 Raised Garden Beds- Virtual Lunch & Learn

Time: 12:00PM EST-1:00PM EST Cost: Free

Register: <http://bit.ly/3oZ7K5m>

