



News from Your Local Extension Crops and Soils Educator

August 2026

This newsletter is written by your local UW-Madison Extension Crops and Soils Educator, **Grace Finnerty**.

Field Notes

I started in this position on June 8th and am excited to be serving our community! I studied plant and soil science at the University of Minnesota and have a background in researching soil health and farmer peer networks. I am looking forward to meeting you and hearing about your top concerns as well as your hopes for your farm.

Feel free to give me a call at 608-418-3262 or fill out this anonymous survey to share your thoughts: [Click here for survey](#).

It has been great to meet farmers and coworkers in the community at dairy breakfasts, field days, and county fairs these last couple months.

I know it's a busy time of year, but we have some events coming up that I hope you can squeeze in, including a soybean gall midge field day this Friday, August 7th from 2-4pm hosted by UW River Falls and a Beef Producers Field Day on August 24th from 6-8pm near Arcadia.

- Grace Finnerty

Upcoming Events



Soybean Gall Midge Field Day, August 7th - UW River Falls

This field day provides hands-on training in identifying, scouting, and managing soybean gall midge, an emerging and economically important pest in Midwest soybean systems.

While not yet found in Wisconsin, participants will learn how to detect early infestations, distinguish damage from other issues, and apply integrated management strategies.

[Registration](#)

[More Information](#)



Beef Producer's Field Day, August 24th - Arcadia, WI

Get practical tips on improving pastures and making smart decisions for a healthy herd, while connecting with fellow producers and gathering ideas you can use right away. This workshop will cover essential topics including Pasture Management & Soil Fertility, Building Your Herd: Selecting Replacements, Weed Control in Pasture Systems, and Flies and Ticks: Updates and Control.

[Registration](#)

[More Information](#)



Badger Crop Connect

Twice-monthly in-season webinars for Wisconsin farmers, agronomists, and crop consultants

go.wisc.edu/BadgerCropConnect

Agronomy and Soils Field Day, August 26th - Arlington Agricultural Research Station

Travel through four field stops—forages, grains, pest management, and soils—to see the latest UW crop and pest management research in action.

[Registration](#)

[More Information](#)

Badger Crop Connect Webinars 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Noon

The **Badger Crop Connect webinar series** continues every second and fourth Thursday of the month through October. Tune in for research updates and timely topics for the Wisconsin farmer or agronomist. CCA CEUs available.

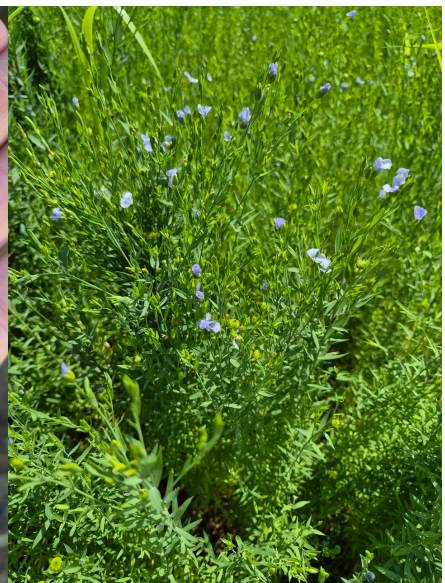
[Register for Webinars](#)

Images from the Field



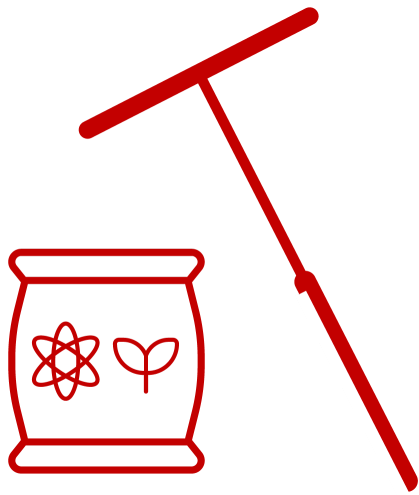
Soil sample from the pasture hosting the beef producer's field day

Rye inter-seeding trial in corn.



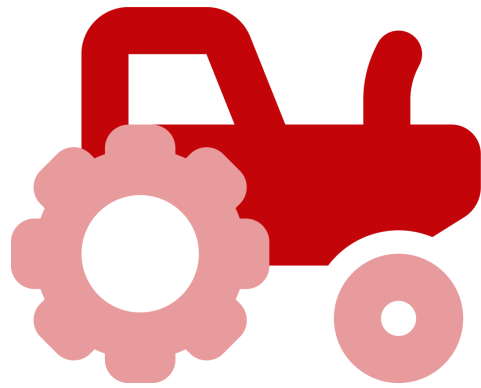
Left to right: beans inter-seeded into cut camelina, camelina seeds, flax growing at Alternative Crops Field Day

Timely Tips



What Your Plant Tissue Samples are Trying to Tell You

[Read Article](#)



How to Build a Partnership with a Custom Operator

[Read Article](#)



The Cutting Edge: Field Notes, Reflections on the Honeyberry Season with Brett Amundson of Farm Lola

[Listen here](#)



15 Tips for Effective Livestock Handling in Small Ruminant Grazing Systems

[Read Article](#)



Research Brief: Nitrogen Fertilization vs Legumes for Dairy Heifer Grazing

[Read Article](#)



When is the Best Time to Sample Manure? Research Proven Answers for Farmers.

[Read Article](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

Weed Management Workshop - September 2, 2026

Wisconsin Water and Soil Health (WWASH) Conference - December 15-16th, 2026

[More Information](#)

Meet your Educator



Grace Finnerty

Regional Crops and Soils Educator

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Thank you and enjoy!

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You may request materials in an alternative language and/or format to make them more accessible. Contact us at cropsandsoils@extension.wisc.edu. It takes time to make arrangements. To help us serve you best, please contact us as early as you can. There is no added cost to you for these services.



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