



More Online Exclusives

Find past articles, features, information and announcements posted exclusively on the Hobby Farms website!

Old-country Italian Farmers

Learn how small-scale farming and organic farming has always been part of Italy's culture and what we can learn from their way of life. [More>>](#)

Eat This: Foraged Foods Guide

Don't pass up the green and blooming bounty around your homestead that many count as weeds or decoration: Find out what's safe and make something to eat instead! [More>>](#)

14 Heirloom Tomatoes to Try

Anita Stone dishes up information about 14 of the most inspiring heirloom tomatoes. (Don't miss her story about the Mortgage Lifter heirloom tomato.)

Ag Leaders: Rodney Miller

How did Rodney Miller get to be one of those people who seems like he has the best job in the world? Leader of McCormick International talks tractors, dealers and relationships. [MORE >>](#)

More Great Grafting Diagrams

Whether you love to experiment with new ways to coax and guide plants into new directions -- or need a fix for a plant that's not doing so well, you'll enjoy perusing a few more of Rick Gush's grafting diagrams.

Horse-Ready Checklist

Your new horse needs you as much as you need him. Take time to be sure you've done your homework to prepare to become a horse owner. Lisa Munniksma's horse-ready checklist will help you out![Eco-friendly Bags for All Your Stuff](#)

You can't have too many bags. Whether heading to the office, the gym or the feed store, show the world you support eco-responsibility and look good doing it. Managing Editor Lisa Munniksma reviews some great choices. [Read more](#)

Start a Farm Blog: Five Tips and More

It's easy to feel overwhelmed when starting a farm blog when there's so many other things to do around the farm. Veteran blogger Lisa Kivist has five fun, basic tips--and more!--to get you started.

Diary of a Class: Food Gifts, Friendship...

Read about Holly Coleman's trip to the John C. Campbell Folk School--recipes included!--and find links to more class diaries: fall gardening, green woodturning and tinsmithing.

Check Out This Video

"Good Food, Good Business," produced by Arnold Creek Productions, enlightens and inspires. Watch a preview, learn where to get a copy and find out what else they have to offer.

Make Your Own Paper

Barbara Berst Adams walks us through the steps for making paper, gives us tons of creative ideas and shares some practical papermaking stories. [Click to continue>>](#)



You Can Build a Root Cellar Read about building a custom root cellar--complete with a shed over the top! Read how to get it done and get some helpful tips, too!

Root Stimulants and Transplanting

Transplanting this fall? Read this first! Rick Gush offers the basics about the root stimulants that may help your trees and shrubs survive the transplanting process. Get transplanting advice, a root glossary diagram and more.

Beneficial Insects

Read this concise article by gardener Susan Brackney describing the basic beneficial bugs--predatory and parasitic--and where to get them. Plus get links to more information about organics and IPM.

Ice Cream Making

Learn how making ice cream can be a fun group activity--or a niche-marketing project. Barbara Berst Adams gets us started with her myriad ideas, including a long list of ice cream flavors and variations you can try!

Rescue Dogs

No farm is complete without a trusty farm dog. Contribute to the solution, rather than the problem, by adopting a rescue dog. Learn tips for choosing a dog and where to get one, too. Cherie Langlois tell us how.

Rust Dyeing

Maggie Howe used to view rusty items as a nuisance, but now she says, "I've discovered the fun art and craft of rust dyeing--I enjoy finding these rusty 'treasures.'" Read how to make your own rust-dyed creations

Wildlife Management

Learn how to create and use two types of wildlife habitats: nest boxes and travel corridors--to help manage wildlife on your farm. Wildlife biologist John Morgan tells how. [Click to continue](#)

Top Garden Shows and How Best to Enjoy!

Jessica Walliser writes about six of her favorite garden and flower shows from around the country, including tips to make the most of your trip. BONUS! Read about the best International Garden Shows.

Farming and Entrepreneurial Life

If you're ready to break free from your "day job" and dive into your real passion (or passions), read Lisa Kivirist's first-hand advice about farming and entrepreneurial life. [Click to continue](#) Companion Planting and Decoy Crops

With the right combinations of companion plants and decoy crops, Susan Brackney tells us how we can battle garden bugs and save our favorite vegetables.

[Click to continue](#) Take a Trip to Amish Country

Learn what one Amish travel spot has to offer: Read Kimberly Button's article "Take a Trip to Amish Country" for a tour of the fall colors, comfort foods and Amish quilts and crafts in Lancaster County, Penn.

Learn about the Farm Bill

Take time to understand more about the Farm Bill: how it began, how it's evolved, where it should be today.

[Read more](#)

Becoming An Expert



Agricultural experts and agricultural consultants are needed many areas. What's your chosen field? Read Rick Gush's "Becoming An Expert" to learn how to market yourself as an agricultural expert or consultant.

Squirrel Appreciation Day

Hey, fellow farm dogs—January 21 is Squirrel Appreciation Day! Listen up as Pippin, Cherie Langlois' Treeing Walker Coonhound mix barks up some cool facts about squirrels. [Click to continue](#)

Winter Weather Reminders and Tips

Living on a farm means taking a few steps BEFORE the frigid weather arrives, including home and barn preparation and livestock care, as well as other tips to prevent frozen pipes. [Click to continue.](#)

Bees Threatened by Colony Collapse

Bee good to pollinators! Leading researchers and scientists are saying it's time to protect native pollinators. Read beekeeper and gardener Tom Meade's article to learn more.

Alpaca Pre-Purchase Exam Guide

This document, prepared by Dr. Leslie Richardson, DVM, details the type of questions you should consider when conducting a pre-purchase examination of an alpaca. [Guide to Alpaca Pre-Purchase Examinations](#) [Tips for Pest-Free Tomatoes](#)

Keep your tomato plants pest-free this summer by monitoring tomato pest activity--and try these tips for an organic approach. [More](#)

Guidestone's farm-centered ventures

David Lynch's Colorado farm leads by example teaching children, supporting sustainable agriculture and CSAs ad more. Read LaDaryn Backstrum's article about the farm-centered venture. [More](#) [The Perfect Hobby Farm](#)

At the 1900 Farm at Living History Farms visitors learn how men and women worked side-by-side to run a farm in the early 20th century. Gretchen Heim Olson reports on the experiences of those who work there. [More](#)

Pharm Solutions: Certified-Organic Pesticides

Pharm Solutions put its money where its mouth is by developing the world's only pesticides to be certified as USDA-compliant with organic regulations. More about this company can be found in the May/June 2007 Hobby Farms "Happenings" Department. [Hogs to Heaven: More Before and After](#)

See more before and after pictures of the Bobo's western Kentucky farm, which the family transformed from a used-up hog farm to a graceful homestead. For inspiration and details on how they accomplished this amazing rehabilitation, read H. M. Murrell's "Hogs to Heaven" in the March/April 2007 Hobby Farms. [More](#)
[Back to Hobby Farms Web Exclusives!](#)