



The Beanstalk

Easy Bean Farm's Weekly Newsletter

Easy Bean Farm

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WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

Arcadia Broccoli: *This round of broccoli is lovely; The heads are fairly large and the flavor is superb. Broccoli really likes cool nights... and this round got them! There is one more round of broccoli in the field... but I'm not sure if it will mature in time to make it into our last box!*



Cubanelle Peppers (Full): *These are the long light green guys.*

Red Russian Kale (Full): *These are the bouquets of frilly green leaves.*

Ace Green Peppers: *The walls are thick and juicy (from last week's rain) and the flavor is perfect. Expect more and more of these in the next few weeks.*

Kennebec Potatoes : *The ground has really been too wet to dig these... though I did get a small amount out of the ground on Saturday. Hopefully, by tomorrow, we will be able to get in and finally get our potato crop out of the ground!*

Red Night Red Bell Peppers: *The red bells are soooooo sweet and juicy right now!*

Carmen Sweet Pepper: *These are the horn shaped sweet peppers that look hot but are not. This is my very favorite pepper.*

Nadia Eggplant: *I love eggplant... so I am happy that the harvest has gone on this*



long. Now that we will be having cooler days I highly recommend making an egg-plant parmesan..

Ailsa Craig Sweet Onions or Red Onions: *These onions are among the very sweetest onions I have ever grown. While these can be cooked, I like them raw on sandwiches or in salads. Unlike many of our other onions, these will not keep for a long time... so use them this week.*

Taxi/Orange Slicer, Cherokee Purple/ Roma Tomatoes/ Brandywine Tomatoes: *The Tomato crop is starting to wind down now. There is a good chance that there will still be some next week, assuming no frost. It was a late year for the tomatoes but I am glad that we had a good number of weeks with a fairly heavy harvest.*

Butternut Winter Squash: *The Winter Squash crop did very well and there is an abundance of it. The Butternuts, on average,*

were quite large and very tasty this year. Yesterday I baked one and it looks like it will supply three meals for three people! Look up a recipe for Squash Enchiladas if you have not already done so.

Leeks: We dug the first few leeks today to see how the crop did. When we get a cool night later this week, make yourself some potato leek soup!

Lunchbox Peppers (Full): These are the Orange and Yellow Peppers that are bagged. They are insanely sweet!





From the Fields

Folks,

Week 16!

Since there is just one more week of newsletters I am going to refrain from complaining about the weather this week! Today is the last day of September and our second to last week of deliveries for the main season (Maggie IS still offering a frozen/canned share to Montevideo and Morris members).

This last week I had a chance to catch up with a number of other CSA farmers in MN and Wisconsin and I was surprised to find that, for many, this was a very difficult year. I guess that I have been a little isolated for the last few weeks! The weather HAS been challenging this year, with the late start and amount of rain, but from my perspective, this year seemed much easier than last summer! While we DID have many wet weeks we also had fewer 3-4" rainfall events and, somehow, we always managed to get caught up with our work. There must have been just enough dry days, spaced out through the summer, to make things go a little smoother. This is not to say that everything went as planned! I have farmed long enough to know that such a year is probably just in the farmer's imagination! Somewhere out there is the "perfect" year with the exact number of rainy days and sunny days, warm weather and cool nights... but this year was perfect enough for me!



In last week's newsletter I had predicted that there would be Brussels Sprouts in this week's box... but then one of our employees had an emergency and we ended up short staffed... so all of the Brussies for the season will have to find their way into next week's boxes.

Best Guess for next week: Leeks, Potatoes, Onions, Red Napa, Broccoli (full), Cooking Greens, Celery Root, Brussels Sprouts, Peppers, Tomatoes and an abundance of Winter Squash!



