



CSA NEWSLETTER

June 6, 2009

CSA Pick-Up Information

June 9th is the first **Tuesday** pick-up (2:30-6).

June 11th is the first **Thursday** pick-up (2:30-6).

June 13th is the first **Saturday** pick-up (Richmond Farmers Market, 9-10:30).

Parking:

Park in the front of the farmstand or in back of the farmstand on the driveway. The driveway makes a loop – no need to back out onto the street.

The farmstand will have the two garage doors open when it is time to pick-up your shares. The sign at the farm reads “Dimeos’ Farm”, for those of you who have not been to the farm yet. We are leasing the land from the Dimeo family, so it is run by Cedar Edge Farm.

Welcome to our 1st CSA pick-up!

Good News: The strawberries are in and more are slowly ripening! Ellie has been taking every opportunity to help with the strawberry quality control. The strawberries do not seem to be affected by all of the rain we had so far – which is very surprising (excess wetness can foster diseases that harm the fruit) and exciting.



Reminder: Strawberries are picked for flavor and not shelf-life

Bad News: Every year the weather and other factors favor some crops over others. The greens and lettuces will be ready the following week due to the excessive amounts of rain. To make up for the delay in produce due to weather conditions, we will be providing

extra produce during the middle months. We did not want members to miss out on strawberry season, so opted not to postpone the CSA pick-up for another week.

What to expect this 1st week:

- Strawberries
- Herb transplants
 - If you do not have gardens or yards, the herbs can be planted indoors. We leave ours in a pot on our kitchen counter to use. The herbs can be used for cooking now rather than growing them out.
 - Do not shy away from the “uncommon” herbs. For example, lemon mint or common mints are excellent in teas and culinary dishes. Lemon basil can be used on chicken dishes and many others as well. Red Rubin basil is similar in flavor to Italian basil, except that it is a slower grower. Summer savory is similar in flavor to thyme and can be used in stews, chowder, etc.

What to expect next week:

- Strawberries
- Vegetable & Herb Transplants
- Lettuces
- Greens

Please bring reusable bags or containers to pick-up produce & transplants



The farming season started in late February with the start of seedlings in the greenhouse. The planting will continue on from February into the early fall. The weather has slowed the growth of some of our vegetables – with these last few days of warm weather, the crops seem to be perking up. Memorial Day weekend was one of our large planting weekends at the farm. All of the melons, flowers, potatoes, and some rows of cucumbers & zucchini, tomatoes, arugula, and radishes got into the ground. This weekend we planted all of the eggplants and peppers. Soon to be in the ground are the winter squash, pumpkins and many other varieties. At this time, the following crops are planted: strawberries, melons, tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, potatoes, zucchini, summer

squash, lettuce, mibuna, mizuna, arugula, bok choy, tat soi, vitamin greens, kale, swiss chard, collards, napa cabbage, green cabbage, red cabbage, radishes, beets, carrots, celery, beans, peas and flowers.

The geese have been distracted with the clover rather than the greens this year (keep your fingers crossed). The turkeys have been roaming the fields, but seem to be pecking at the insect pests rather than the crops as well. The deer unfortunately ate the tops off of all of our peas, so now we have to wait for the new planting to come in. We are hoping to have the deer fence up next weekend.

The Richmond Farmers' Market started strong three weeks ago with numerous vendors including vegetables, fruits, honey, seafood, wool, meats, eggs, transplants, annuals, perennials, etc.



Seedlings starting out



Richmond Farmers' Market



Planting of the tomatoes

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to e-mail me (jkocab@cedaredgefarm.com) in the interim or during the CSA pick-ups feel free questions.

Looking forward to seeing you this week!