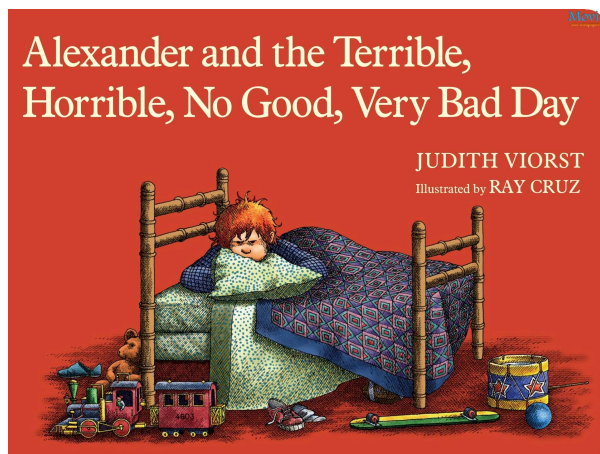




Happy Friday, Farm Friends! Happy June!

We missed you last week!

It feels like we have been stuck in a [Groundhog Day](#) version of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*.



Maybe we should have been on alert when Cheryl heard the story on [All Things Considered](#) that June 1st was the 50th anniversary of the publication of this classic children's book.

June 1st was about when it began.... A computer hard drive crash, broken

walk-behind tractor, broken sickle mower, credit card fraud, broken weed eater, broken tractor seat, very broken porch at our rental house, two vendors leaving us without product for *PlumFresh*...and the list goes on and on. It's like a broken record!

Yes, it could be a lot worse. Much worse. But it has taken its toll. That sense of defeat and wanting to crawl back under the covers like Alexander was one of the reasons we didn't publish a newsletter last week. First time in years!

But we are changing the dynamic of the situation and are moving in a more positive direction! It's not so terrible nor horrible and it's a pretty good day! At least that's what we are telling ourselves!

The sun has been shining and we got some hay in the barn and nobody got hurt. We'll call it good!

Hay Days

Making hay is enough to push the calmest and most optimistic person over the edge. The constant checking of weather apps to make sure that no rain is in sight, praying that the equipment doesn't break when you are in the field, making sure that there is room for everything in the barn... Whew!

We finally caught a window last week (and this week) to get a cutting and get everything raked and baled and stored. So on the hottest day of the year so far, Team Plum Granny set out to get'er done!



Yeah, there were a few sprinkles on the bales as we were getting them in the barn but we were able to make sure that it had room to dry -- even enlisting the covered space of one of our empty high tunnels. Good thing that it hadn't been planted yet!



So Spring Hay 2022 is in the books much to the delight of the ruminants who live here (plus one donkey!) Hooray! It was a pretty good Hay Day!

Flowers of the Field

One of the benefits of haying season is that you get walk through fields that you don't normally travel. One of those areas is below the greenhouse. Thanks to Ray's care and artful mowing, we have been able to preserve a beautiful patch of native *asclepias tuberosa* or butterfly weed. It is such a glorious blaze of color and is a beacon to butterflies, bees and other pollinators. I'm glad that Ray agrees that we just couldn't mow it down!



Flip, Flip, Plant, Plant

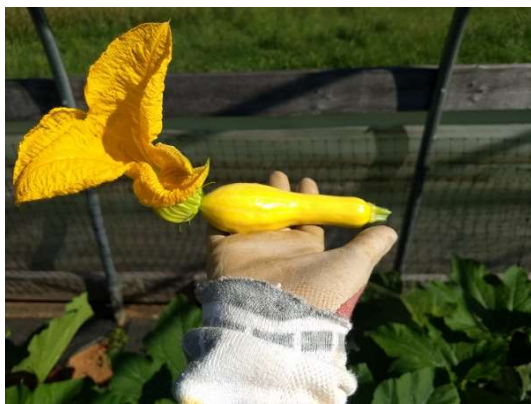
We are at that stage of the season when it is time to get out many of our early season crops -- mostly cool season brassicas like mustards, collards, broccoli, etc. -- and replace them with warm season plants like tomatoes and peppers. We've been making good progress this week on finishing the "flip." Elise was able to knock out the majority of the planting on Monday and Wednesday this week -- about 400 tomato plants and 200 sweet peppers! You

go, Girl!



Crop Report!

Some of our warmer season crops are starting to produce -- squash, tomatoes and it's almost time for GARLIC harvest! We'll start on that one next week!

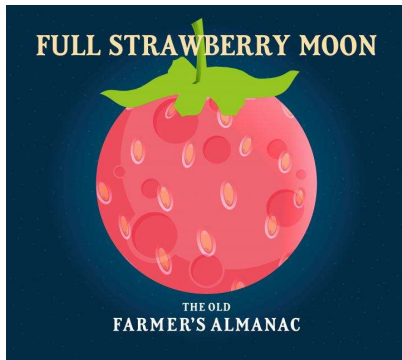


Flowers are also starting to pop up everywhere. We're a bit behind on our annual plantings but the perennials are strutting their stuff.



That's all we've got for this week, Friends. There's a Full Moon rising on Tuesday. The [Strawberry Full Moon](#) will reach peak illumination on Tuesday morning at 7:52 a.m. but will be best seen that evening as it rises from the Southeast. It will big and golden -- and it's a Supermoon! [Supermoons](#) appear brighter because they are closer to the earth when they are full. Get out there

and enjoy the sight!



Be kind, love your neighbor, pray for Peace and for an end to all of this senseless violence.

**Until next week,
*Cheryl & Ray***

