

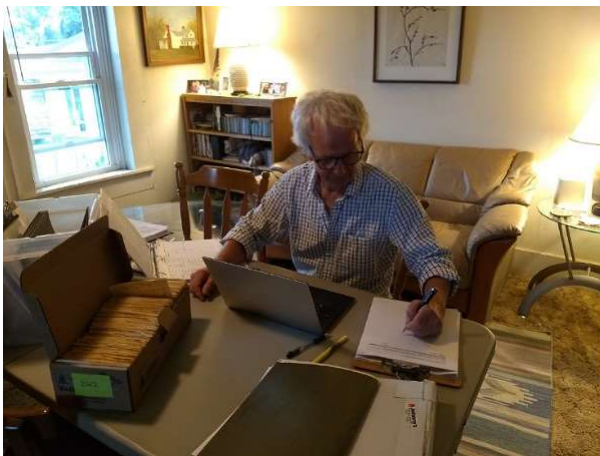


Happy Friday, Farm Friends!

Wow! What a difference a week makes!

The cooler temps this week have been an absolute joy. Isn't it amazing how much more energy one has when not fighting upper 90s heat indices?

Unfortunately, we haven't been able to take full advantage of these pleasant days this week. We have been stuck inside pulling together paperwork for our annual Organic inspection.



That's okay -- these records are really important to have. Farmers should know what they plant and when, where the seeds came from, what was harvested and when, and where it was sold. Seems pretty basic, right? Yes! But you

would probably be surprised how many farmers don't know these basic indicators.

This was our 13th inspection, but we still always get nervous and want to make sure that everything is in order. Gotta ace that test! Our farm, although it is very small, is very complicated. We grow lots of different crops along with transplants and do some processing of products (i.e. garlic powder). Our inspectors tell us that it takes as long to audit us as it does a farm with hundreds of acres of one or two crops such as soybeans or corn. Our audit takes about 4-5 hours and reviews all our documentation as well as physically inspects every field and building.

People frequently ask us why we choose to be Organic and go through the extra effort and cost to be certified. To us it is an important part of our commitment to organic agriculture. We wish more farmers shared this dedication. If farmers say they support organic principles and growing practices, then why don't they step up to the plate to truly commit to those principles?

It is very sad that we are the only Organic vegetable farm in either Stokes or Forsyth Counties. We frequently hear people talk about "all of those organic farms at Cobblestone" but in fact, we are the only one.

We are proud to have earned the privilege to show this seal on our products! We have worked hard to earn it! And we appreciate your support of

our farm and our commitment to Organic agriculture.



Celebrating the Birthday Twins!

BB and Tony celebrated their 7th birthday on Wednesday! While we didn't make a cake, they were treated to a very special delicacy -- watermelon! They LOVE watermelon -- as well as squash, pumpkins and just about any cucurbit. Tony is especially fond of the red lipstick effect he gets with the watermelon, though.

Tony usually has a few squash vines growing in the paddock but this year he has none. Perhaps he ate them??

Happiest of birthdays to our two little sheepies!



Next Weekend Plans? Fall Plant Sale!

It's hard to believe but NOW is the time to be thinking about your Fall Garden. Join us next **Saturday, August 27** (10-1) and **Sunday, August 28** (1-

4), for our **3rd Annual Fall Plant Sale**. Even though we still have a lot of hot weather ahead of us, NOW is the time to get your Fall Garden planted.

Let us help you create a delicious garden filled with cooler weather crops that will feed you until frost -- and beyond. Many fall crops get sweeter and tastier after a freeze -- sugars are a great anti-freeze. We'll have kale, broccoli, lettuce, collards and LOTS more! Stay tuned for a post next week with a link to a list of all of the plants available.

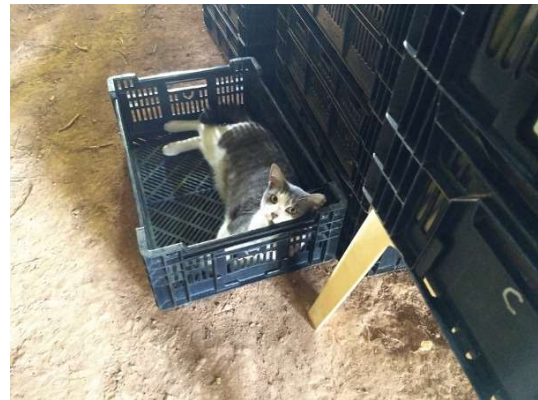
We hope to see you here next weekend!



Cat Nights of Summer

Now that the Dog Days of Summer are behind us, it's time for the cats to take center stage. Yes, there is really something called the [Cat Nights of Summer](#) which started on Wednesday. News to me!

Our family of cats think that every day is a Cat Day and a Cat Night!



That's a wrap for this week, folks! In closing, we would be remiss if we didn't mention that today is [National Potato Day](#).



Make today a spudtacular day!

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

