

As Fall arrives, it's time to start thinking about growing garlic. We can help with that! Let us be your source for having the best garlic crop ever!



Happy Friday, Farm Friends! Hay there!



Yep. It's that time of year again -- time for the fall hay cutting. Although the grass isn't as thick and lush as spring, it still results in good quality hay for our animals. This year, we've been able to get several cuttings and will have a good supply. We have fewer mouths to feed this winter (sniff!), but the cows alone go through about 500 bales!



Working on our pastures to get them even more productive is on the fall and winter to-do list. Over-seeding, lime and fertilizer are all things that need to be done to improve yield. As one of the few Organic hay growers in the state, we always have more folks interested in the crop than what we have available.

Flip, Plant, Repeat!

We continue our workout regimen of pulling out spent crops and putting in new ones. This is an ongoing process for a small market farm as it's important to keep our growing spaces in production so that we have crops for our customers. It always seems like we are running behind schedule, so it feels good when things get in on time -- or mostly.

One of the raised beds we have tucked between 2 of our high tunnels is a high value space. So far this year, it's been home to carrots, beets and a failed crop of summer spinach. Now it sports a crop of transplanted pac choi, tatsoi and mustards. What a transformation!



Before



After bed clearing and with
landscape fabric installed



Newly planted bed!

We've also been harvesting lots of beautiful produce lately -- our peppers have really started coming in (green chile will be available soon!) and the eggplant, tomatoes and okra are spectacular!



And we can't forget our cucumbers! The "Net House" that Ray constructed around the plants is doing a great job of reducing our pest pressure. The plants are doing incredibly well and are starting to provide us with some pretty good yields. I think we have a new technique that's a keeper.



Kitty Cam

So many of you have commented about our new barn kitties -- thank you for your interest in them! They are doing great -- eating up a storm and growing like weeds (which farmers know is really fast!). They both weigh over a pound now (the black and white one is the smaller of the 2) and started eating kitten chow yesterday. They'll be moving into a bigger crate in the Cat House next week.



Detroit and RingBob have registered their complaints about the new neighbors.



Got Garlic? Don't Miss Out!



If you want to have a great crop of garlic at home in 2024, NOW is the time to plan for it! Join us on **Sunday, October 8 from 2-5** for our hands-on workshop that will give you the advantage of our 15+ years of experience.

This popular workshop includes all instruction, handouts and seed garlic. This workshop always sells out! [Click here for a link to register.](#)



If you are looking for seed garlic, we got our inventory sorted out and we have Chesnok, Lorz Italian, Inchelium Red and Red Toch available. We'll be bringing it to Cobblestone Farmers Market next week.

That's the news of the week, friends!

Although the weather won't be the best, welcome the [Autumnal Equinox](#) at 2:50 a.m. tomorrow, September 23.



With the arrival of Fall, there will be many activities to celebrate this season of harvest including [Apple Fest](#) at the Historic Bethabara Park and apple picking at [Levering Orchard](#) in Ararat, Virginia. Although it's not necessarily harvest-related, this week is the [Bookmarks Festival of Books and Authors](#) in Downtown Winston-Salem. A harvest of words, perhaps? Get out and enjoy!

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

