

## Happy Friday Farm Friends!

What a week! Tuesday's weather promised to throw everything at us -- wind, rain, tornados -- but thankfully we just got rain and wind.



The rain gauge still had water in it from Saturday's rain (.65"), but we still got a LOT! And more on the way tonight! I'd say that we are firmly stuck in Mud Season around here....

It's been a good week to work on getting more SEEDS in our lives. We just completed the annual inventory of all our seeds, so it was time to order for this year. So far, we've ordered about 150 these packs of promises from 6 different companies -- and we're not finished. On top of that, we've ordered seed potatoes (750 pounds) and will be getting our blackberry, raspberry and everbearing strawberry orders finalized this weekend. It's definitely a time when lots of money goes out the door in preparation for the new season of growing good things for YOU!

Seeds are going into trays as well. Elise got the last of the onions seeded on Thursday while Jonny worked on washing the giant stack of trays we had accumulated from last year's transplants. With all of the seeding we'll be doing over the next couple of months, it was important to get the trays sanitized and ready to go!







And more and more baby plants are emerging! Nearly all of the onions seeded at the end of the year have now popped. It's always so exciting -- what a miracle!



## Lil' Abner Update!

Great progress on our new high tunnel! All of the purlins and wind braces are installed as well as the hipboards. Ray got started on the baseboard today and hopefully will get it done early next week. We are still on track to have the house completely framed and ready to cover by the end of the month. We'll be needing some volunteers to help us, so stay tuned!





## **Need Garden Supplies?**

Plans are underway for our first <u>Seven Springs</u> cooperative order of the year. By joining in with other farmers and gardeners, we can all save money on shipping! It's easy to put in your order -- just go to our <u>website</u> and you'll find a link to either a printable order form or an Excel version that can be emailed.

Orders are due by **Tuesday**, **January 30** and pick-up is scheduled for **February 9th** here at the farm. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions! Email is the best way to reach us: <a href="mailto:farm@plumgrannyfarm.com">farm@plumgrannyfarm.com</a>



If all this talk of seeds and plants and soil amendments is getting you excited about doing some of your own planting, here are the plant sales that we have scheduled for 2024 -- make a note on your calendar now!

Spring Plant Sale March 22-23

Summer Plant Sale April 19-22

2nd Chance Summer Plant Sale May 3-4

Fall Plant Sale
 September 6-7

It hasn't all been seeds and high tunnels and rain this week -- Jonny and Elise got some great stuff done! Take a look...

We started work on clearing and pruning the brambles. The Triple Crown blackberries have outlived their productive years, so we are removing them and will be planting new ones. These blackberries were planted in 2010!





Jonny and Elise got
Wally cleared of spent
Asian Greens and
arugula -- and tidied up
the celery. The bed to
the right will be occluded
and we'll be seeding
more arugula next
month.

After getting everything ready, Elise planted some lettuce and frisée. Some early greens are in your future!



That's the news from the farm for another week.

Monday we will be celebrating <u>Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday</u>. 2024 marks 56 years since his assassination. Did you know that this federal holiday is the only one dedicated to volunteerism and a day of service?



Here's one of my favorite quotes from Dr. King -- maybe because it feels a lot like farming....

Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step

Let us all pray for peace.

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray







