



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



As we move into the last week of February, it feels like we are pushing back the month. Kinda like we are trying to hold back a torrent of water with just our hands. It's not working!

Projects are moving along, and progress is being made. But for everything that's checked off the to-do list, five more things are added. Heavy sigh.

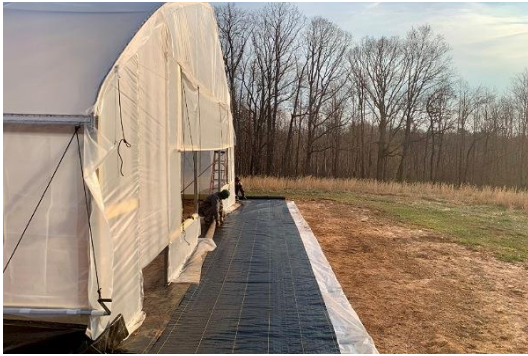
But we try to stay on the positive side to keep us as motivated as possible. Stepping back and looking at the things we've gotten accomplished is a pretty good start. Let's take a look, shall we?

Inches Away

Our centerpiece project, Lil' Abner, is just inches away from completion. The 2 people doors need to be installed along with some additional work on the

landscape fabric at the north end and along the sides. Ray is fabricating 2 sets of barn doors for the ends so that we can drive equipment or carry large loads of produce through when needed. There's probably a page-long punch list of littler things, but essentially that's what is left. Hooray!





And since we are scheduled to have the tomatoes planted in the tunnel during the first week of March, it's not a moment too soon! And the tomatoes definitely agree -- they are huge!



The Filling Greenhouse

We've begun our annual daily plant shuffle -- we're out of space here, so let's move some plants there. The good news is that we've got additional space this year with the Pavilion. Plants that are hardening off or are more tolerant of an unheated space can transition to this area. What a blessing!



Last weekend we got the sweet pepper plants potted up. They will be planted in Raz House in March.



We tried a new technique this year: they were seeded into 20-row trays and then we pricked them out and potted into the Fertipots. This saves a lot of room and results in a stronger plant. I've always heard that peppers are very sensitive about having their roots disturbed but hopefully this method will be a success. It better be -- this week Cheryl seeded all of the peppers this way. One thousand, five hundred and eighty-six seeds! Yes, we count each one.



And our Greenhouse Guardian has been hard at work. It's his favorite time of the year.



Strawberries!

Our bare-root ever-bearing strawberries arrived last week so it was time to get them into pots and get 'em growing. Elise and Jonny powered through the task

and got 93 hanging baskets completed yesterday. These will be available at the **Summer Plant Sale** (April 19-21). We'll also have Fertipots as well. Y'all definitely loved our strawberries last year and we sold out! These baskets are so wonderful -- we know of at least one person getting berries on her plants in September!



That's the news we have for this week! But before we go, we want to let you know about a special upcoming event.

INTERESTED IN AGRITOURISM?

Attend this one-day conference beginning at Forsyth Tech Stokes County Center and traveling to local agribusinesses!

Saturday, March 16, 2024
8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

Registration is \$ 25
 Register by 3/9 to reserve your spot

<http://tinyurl.com/stokesagtour>

In partnership with:

Sponsored by:

Stokes County Extension in collaboration with Forsyth Tech and the Stokes County Arts Council are sponsoring an Agritourism Tour featuring farms in Stokes County -- including us! Other featured farms include [Buffalo Creek Farm and Creamery](#), [Robertson Family Farm](#), and [Dragon Glass Winery](#). Lunch will be provided by the [Daily Basket](#).

It's going to be a great day and we're really looking forward to it! [Registration](#) is required by March 9th and is \$25 (what a deal!). We hope to see you on the tour!

Have a great weekend -- and don't miss the [Full Snow Moon](#) tonight and tomorrow!



Until next week,

Cheryl & Ray

