

How about welcoming June with a delicious Tomato Sandwich? We'll be happy to help you make that dream come true -- we'll have lots of Tomatoes this week at Cobblestone! Plus more goodies including Spinach, Squash, Garlic Scapes and MORE! See the details below.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends! Happy End of May!



Is your mind as boggled as mine? How in the world is it the day before June?! At least we have a new round of summer flowers to enjoy -- and so much more. This daylily was the first of the parade of blooms we'll have this season.

Thanks so much to all of you who reached out to wish me well with the skin cancer. I'm doing well and the incision is healing. I'm just having to deal with a nose that looks like it belongs on a famous Irish American politician! Here's hoping the swelling completely goes away and that the coloration becomes less like a cherry!

Busy week around the farm, for sure. Getting ready to plant sweet potatoes AND making hay are two pretty sizable tasks. Today we'll be sprinting in hopes of crossing the finish line.

For sweet potatoes, the slips arrived this week. We ordered them from [Country Farm and Home](#) in Pittsboro as well as from [Jones Family Farms](#) in Bailey, NC.

This year we'll be growing only two varieties: NC-122 and Bayou Belle. Last year was our first year for NC-122 (developed at NC State) and we were extremely impressed with it. Bayou Belle has been a favorite for the past few years. We can't wait to share them with you this fall!

Cheryl went to pick up the slips in Pittsboro on Tuesday and she ran into a fellow farmer friend, Natalie Sevin from [Sungold Farm](#)! I guess we should have coordinated our pick-ups better! But at least we got to chat over a cup of coffee.



The slips from both sources are beautiful this year! A nice change from what we have received in some years.



The field is prepped and is looking good. The last step in getting these slips in the ground is the fence. Thankfully, it is almost completed -- what a job! The fenced area is comprised of 3 fields -- nearly an acre. The largest field will hold sweet potatoes as well as okra and winter squash. Tomatoes, tomatillos, eggplant, green chile and hot peppers will be in the other two. **So** many t-posts!



Take a look at the Exclusion Zone!





Hay Day! Hay Day!

Meanwhile, on the hay front, Ray has been busy on the tractor mowing and tedding. On Friday, he'll start baling and we hope to get things tucked into the barn by Sunday. The hay is beautiful this year -- and we hope it provides good nutrition to our picky 4-footed eaters (looking at you, BB) as well as to our wonderful customers. Organic hay is EXTREMELY hard to find!



And even with all this acreage to mow, Ray still makes time to bring me wildflower bouquets that he saves from the mower! Awwwww.....



Field Walk Time

Even with all these other major projects underway, other things are happening as well. Let's take a quick virtual field walk, shall we?

Trellising the summer squash was one of the best decisions we've made this year! It is so wonderful to harvest without having to rummage through all the foliage! We miss fewer squash and are able to harvest a cleaner product because the squash isn't on the ground.



Our Elephant Flowers (aka scapes) are starting to bloom! These delightful flowers are a special treat for us as well as the bumblebees.

A quick peek at our pepper house showed that we're starting to get color on some of our sweet Lunchbox Peppers. Oh Yum!





If the number of clusters of grapes are an indication of yield, we'll be having lots of sweet table grapes this year! There's a lot of time between tiny green grapes and delicious ripe grapes -- as well as time for Japanese Beetles to decimate the crop. But maybe we can catch them in time this year!

Shear Bliss

Thursday was BB's Spring shearing day! Her fleece was getting a bit thick and heavy for the coming summer heat. Our friend [John Brasfield](#) does a great job with shearing -- and we know that BB feels much better after that haircut! She looks much sleeker and more alert, too!





Cobblestone Farmers Market Update

Even though we'll have cool market morning on Saturday, we'll be heating things up with some delicious tomatoes! We'll have both **Slicing Tomatoes** and **Fruit Tomatoes**. Our Tomato Fruit Boxes are filled with incredibly delicious grape and cherry varieties. These are our go-to in the kitchen -- pop them in your mouth, toss into a salad, roast up with some olive oil. Amazing!



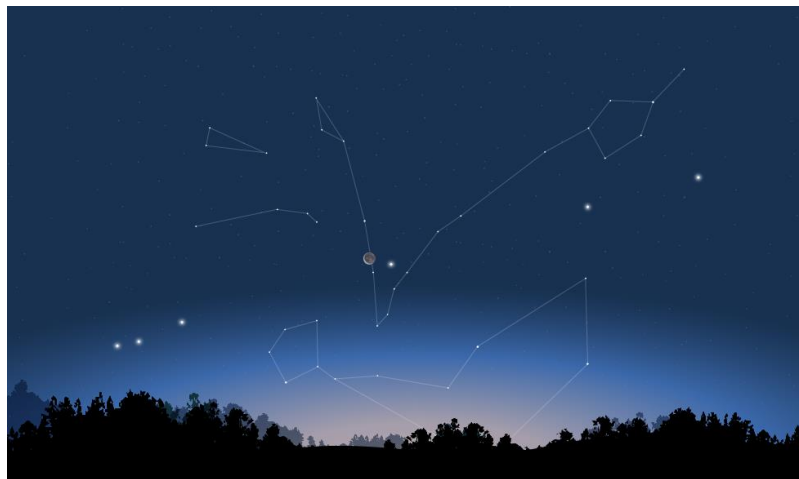
You'll also find **Baby and Perfectly Sized Regular-Summer Squash**, **Spinach**, and **Garlic Scapes**! These alien-looking curlicues make a phenomenal white bean dip or pesto for your weekend noshing, and they also grill up nicely for burgers or steaks. Ask fir a recipe!



We still have plants! We are coming to the end of our **Everbearing Strawberry Hanging Baskets** so, if you've been thinking about getting one, time is running out! We also have **Blackberry, Raspberry** and **Ginger Plants** to bring fruit and extra flavor to your home!

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday at market! [Cobblestone Farmers Market](#) is open from **8:30-noon every Saturday**. It is located at 1007 Marshall Street SW (at the intersection of Salem Avenue). Plenty of parking surrounds market but make sure not to block entrances or park on grass or other landscaping.

That's what we've got for you this week, friends! On our way out, let us tell you about an buzzy astronomical event happening on Monday -- [The Parade of Planets](#). You may have heard that on June 3rd, 6 of the 8 planets in our solar system will be visible in the early morning. Unfortunately, that's just not quite true. [NASA](#) states that "in reality, only two of the six planets supposedly on display (Saturn and Mars) will actually be visible. In early June, Jupiter and Mercury will be at or below the horizon in morning twilight and not visible; Uranus and Neptune are far too faint to see without a telescope, especially as the morning sky brightens. The closest thing to a planet parade will be June 29, when Saturn, the Moon, Mars, and Jupiter will line up across the morning sky. This arrangement persists into July." There you have it from the



experts!

Photo Source: USA Today

But why worry about it -- just get out and enjoy the morning sky! It's beautiful regardless.

Enjoy your weekend!

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

