

**Heads Up! We will NOT be at Cobblestone Farmers
Market tomorrow.**



Happy Friday, Farm Friends! Welcome July!



The first of the Oriental Lilies have started to bloom! Their intoxicating fragrance and intense beauty almost make the heat bearable!

These lilies (and their friends) would sure benefit from some nice rain. Our attempts to irrigate our flower patches is spotty at best and nothing would beat a nice soaking rain. This weekend and next week hold promise!

Weeding Frenzy

It's been a very busy week here at the farm. A shortened Holiday week for the team but Ray and I have been working through the heat every day. Lots of

sweat, for sure!

We went into this week with a plan for getting the farm weeded. Pigweed, dock, foxtail and fescue (just to name a few!) were threatening to overtake the place. We are happy to report that we made Excellent progress on this plan! Take a look at some of the before and after shots:



Before



After



Before



Before



Same Field After
*The plants you see in
the foreground are
watermelon. We've got
some nice-sized Sugar
Babies in there!*

The Weed Obliteration Team (WOT) also cleared several other fields, high tunnels and raised beds including the sweet potatoes! WOT has things looking mighty good! Next week, we'll move into Operation Blackberry Rescue (OBR) and Save the Awesome Taters (STAT)!

A HUGE thanks to our amazing WOT -- we brought in a couple of extra hands to get the job done: Jonny, Elise, Celina, Brady and Holden.

In addition to the weeding extravaganza, we've also been doing more bed flips and planting. Eggplant and fruit tomatoes replace the squash in Ajo. The plants had an amazing run, cranking out over 725 pounds of delicious squash since mid-April! Unfortunately, our luck ran out and the squash bugs and borers found the plants. On Monday, Ray took out the remaining bed -- these plants were HUGE!



We got all the debris to the compost pile and decided it would be a good thing to cover the mound of squash plants since they were so infested with pests. Hopefully having the pile covered with this clear plastic (reused greenhouse covering) will help make sure that this population of pests doesn't reappear and move to our other crops.



A few other sightings around the farm this week:

We found our onions under the weeds! One of the varieties was ready for harvest so we got them out of the ground and are now curing in the Pavilion.



Poppa Johnny's Apple tree has a pretty nice fruit set this year. This is a pippin-type heirloom that dates back to a tree we had grafted about 8 years ago. Poppa Johnny planted the original tree around 1900.

Cobblestone Farmers Market Update

We WON'T be under the Purple Tent tomorrow -- we are sorry to miss you, but we'll see you back next week.

Have a terrific weekend -- stay cool and hydrated!

Until next week,

Cheryl & Ray



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