

We'll be bringing LOTS more Sweet Potatoes to Cobblestone this week! You'll also find Celery, Snacking Cucumbers, Garlic, Peppers and MORE! Check out the details below.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



These beautiful cosmos have been adding joy to our Anniversary Flower Bed. This is [Candyfloss Red](#), a variety that I found at Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds. It was an impulse purchase, but I'm so glad I did! It's one of the prettiest and most deeply colored cosmos that we've grown.

Whoo-Hoo! Sweet Taters Are In!

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Team Plum Granny (Jonny and Ray), ALL of the sweet potatoes have now been harvested. Those two miracle workers got the 4 beds of NC-122s out of the field and now they are tucked in the greenhouse staying warm and setting those sugars. Although they weren't as productive as the Bayou Belles that we harvested earlier, we still got over 1,000 pounds!

And Yee-Haw -- Our total yield was 3,569 pounds!!!

Here's some sweet potato trivia. Did you know that North Carolina is the largest producer in the US? According to the USDA, North Carolina harvested nearly 95,000 acres of sweet potatoes in 2016, nearly 30,000 more acres than California, Louisiana and Mississippi combined – also top producing states.

Also, did you know that the correct term is "sweetpotato" not "sweet potato"? The NC Sweetpotato Commission has been engaged in an educational effort to correctly identify this major crop. The one-word spelling was officially adopted by the National Sweetpotato Collaborators in 1989.

The effort stems from the need to ensure that the Sweetpotato (*Ipomoea batatas*) must not be confused in the minds of shippers, distributors, warehouse workers, and above all consumers with the equally unique and distinctive potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) or the yam (*Dioscorea* sp.) which are also grown and marketed commercially in the United States. There's even a [petition](#) to support this effort!

Whatever we call them, we know we sure love our tasty orange tubers! And we are SO happy to have them out of the ground!



Field Walk Time

Let's take a quick look around to see what else is going on here at the farm, shall we?

The latest planting of our famous Snacking Cucumbers is doing great! Lots of flowers means lots of cucumbers! And the cukes are starting to come in. Check out our table on Saturday!



This is the total harvest from our Winter Squash planting. A planting of over 100 plants. Thanks, Deer.

So sad.

Our snow peas are starting to set pods! Looks like it might be a pretty good crop -- it should come in towards the end of the month. Stay tuned!



Fair Daze!

We snuck off the farm for a few hours to go to the [Carolina Classic Fair](#) this week! The Butter Sculpture was a new item for us at this fair -- it's actually in a small trailer tucked back in the Marketplace Arena, a place we usually don't visit. But Cheryl noticed a listing of it in the program, so we had to find it. It's a bit smaller than the one at the [Iowa State Fair](#).



And of course we spent time in the Livestock Building! Unfortunately, we missed the Dairy Cattle shows but there were a few cows waiting to head back home. That's when we met this cutie (Shhhhh! Don't tell Cara and Mia!)



The Carolina Classic continues through Sunday.

Cobblestone Farmers Market Update

We almost had a **Sweet Potato** Stampede last Saturday! We ran out by 10:30 -- but don't worry we are bringing even more of them to market tomorrow. The Bayou Belles are scrumptious -- not super sweet but they have a great creamy texture. We made a terrific soup with them this week -- we'll have the recipe for you! Perfect for this cooler weather.



We'll also have **Snacking Cucumbers**, **Okra**, **Celery**, and lots of **Garlic** including the popular **Garlic Sampler Bags**. The **Tomatoes** are still rolling in -- although not as prolific as they were -- and the **Eggplant** is really starting to slow down so we may not have any.



Don't forget the **Peppers** -- from Sweet to Spicy! We'll have the full line-up of **Green Chile** -- from Medium to Extra Hot along with spicier peppers (Jalapeno, Serrano, Aji Amarillo, Aji Limo, Chinese Five Color and Habanero). We'll also have **Sweet Peppers** -- Corno di Toro, Picnic, Jimmy Nardello, and Lipstick Peppers. **Ready-to-Go Fire-Roasted Sweet Peppers (Pimento and Sweet Italian) and Green Chile will also be available.**

We look forward to seeing you! [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. Just look for the **Purple Tent** when you get into the Market area -- we are next to the white building!

That's all we have for this week, Friends! One civics-related reminder for you: **Voter Registration** ends at 5 p.m. TODAY although you can still [register during Early Voting](#) (with some exceptions). **Early Voting** begins on Thursday, October 17 and runs through Saturday, November 2. Find your Early Voting polling place [here](#).

A fun thing to do this weekend (the weather is supposed to be amazing!) is The Autumn Leaves Festival in Mount Airy. In its 58th year, the [Festival](#) features craftspeople, other vendors, food booths and musical performances. So, make the most of the weekend and head on up to Downtown Mayberry for the fun!

And one last thing....



Did you see the [Northern Lights](#) last night? This is a photo that Jonny took at his house in Tobaccoville around 10 p.m. Amazing! We saw a slight glow over Cook's Wall but it wasn't anything like this. According to [NOAA](#), there's a very slight chance of us seeing this again

tonight -- but we can hope, right?

Have a great Weekend!
Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

