

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will NOT be at Cobblestone Farmers Market on Saturday. We'll be back in May after our plant sales.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



How about some nice [wisteria](#)? The fragrance fills the air, and these little pea-like flowers create a pretty haze of purple on whatever it is climbing. Yes, wisteria can be invasive. And yes, it can kill surrounding trees and other vegetation if it is not managed (i.e. severely pruned). But let's just enjoy this fleeting beauty with the intoxicating smell, shall we?

Tater Time!

We've been wanting to get our potatoes planted for a couple of weeks now. But between freeze warnings and huge downpours, we're just getting a chance to get some spuds in the ground.

First up, cutting the potatoes into properly sized pieces with healthy "eyes." This is the art of the task -- you don't want the pieces to be too big or too small. And you want to minimize the cut area so that the potential for rot is reduced.



Looks like a poker game, huh?! Nope - just 3 folks sitting around guarding their (potato) chips.

The potatoes are gorgeous. This is Sangre - a dark red skin, white flesh early potato.



This year we have a better method of planting with the old [Holland Transplanter](#) than we did last year. Ray found out that they actually make parts that are meant for potatoes (as well as bulbs) that would protect the seed piece and place it more accurately and closely. Last year, the transplanter planted them too far apart, too shallow or too deep! No wonder we had such terrible yields!

So, with a truckload of potatoes, off we went to get them planted!



Jonny and Alyssa kept up with the spinning holders on a disc that holds the potatoes. Once we checked the trial, they were being planted at the proper depth and about every 8-9 inches which is perfect. Much better than last year! Plus, potatoes

weren't getting stuck in the plant holders. Hooray!

So, if things go well (fingers crossed), our early potatoes will start coming in around mid-June. Spud-o-rama, here we come!

Let's take a peek at some of the other stuff we've been up to this week, shall we?



The yellow squash are starting to kick into gear! We'll have some available at the Plant Sale next weekend (along with Snacking Cucumbers and more).

The Snow Peas said we trash-talked them last week and they got embarrassed. So, they decided to put some pods on those vines just to show us. Yippee!



The Louisiana Purple fig has lots of itty-bitty fruit all over it!

Eggplant has its new home in our high tunnel, Tabby. Its new neighbors will be those flavorful, colorful Lunchbox peppers -- they are moving in a couple of weeks. Cannot wait!



Cara and Mia have been enjoying some quality pasture time. There's nothing like seeing a happy heifer out in the grass (and her mom, too)!

Summer Plant Sale Update

It's starting to get real around here as we get ready for the [Summer Plant Sale](#)! The Pavilion has been rearranged to accommodate the additional plants for this sale -- and that is giving us some room to move plants out of the greenhouse to expose them to more wind and real-world conditions.



We keep on potting up and tagging and organizing to make sure that everything is just right for you. It's pretty important to make sure plants get tagged with the correct tag! We sure don't want you to have a Slicer Tomato when you thought you were getting a Cherry Tomato! Maggie and Tiffany have been rock stars in this process!



So why should you buy plants from us? We carefully curate our varieties based on our experience as well as customer input. Most of our seeds are Certified Organic and we grow each and every plant using approved methods and inputs (plus love).

Our seed mix comes from [Purple Cow Organics](#) which is based in Wisconsin. We've tried several other seeding mixes, and Purple Cow has performed best in our environment. It's a compost-based blend includes peat moss, perlite, vermiculite, and more providing seedlings enough fertility for up to 45 days.

We add a [Endomycorrhizal Inoculant \(BEI\)](#) to our seeding mix to promote stronger and more vigorous root systems. This results in a healthier and stronger transplant.

We also provide a bit of fertility and additional preventive root protection to the seedlings when they are 1-2 months old. We feed them with a gentle solution of [Rootshield Plus](#), [Inocucor](#) and [Howler](#) to boost their disease resistance and vigor.

Most of our plants are potted up into [Fertilpots](#). We are so committed to reducing our use of plastics and Fertilpots help us achieve that goal. And plants love them! The pots are a byproduct of sustainable forest thinning and are made of wood fibers from these trees. There are no glues or binders, which results in a porous material. Since the roots grow through the pots, there's no root circling. Plant the Pot!



We take lots of extra steps and care to provide a strong, healthy, Organic plant for you and your garden. We want to play a small part in your gardening success -- and we take that job very seriously.

Our updated availability list can be found [here](#).

Mark your calendar for the biggest Organic plant sale in the area!

That's the news for this week, friends! We'll be back at Cobblestone Farmers Market in a couple of weeks.

Tuesday is [Earth Day](#). This year's theme is Our Power, Our Planet. Which is advocating for a tripling of global renewable energy generation by 2030 — by creating electricity through solar, wind, hydro, tidal, and geothermal. That's truly about taking care of our planet for our children and grandchildren.



In this season of renewal and rebirth. Easter weekend is upon us, and Passover is still underway. Sending you blessings for this Holy Season.

Have a great weekend!

**Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray**



