

It looks like we are forming a habit -- Weekly Pop-Up Farm Markets! This week has some great things to choose from: 5 varieties of freshly dug Potatoes, tons of Tomatoes, Fresh Garlic, Sweet Peppers, Eggplant, and MORE. Hours are 9-11 here at the Farm. Details below.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



It's Plum Granny Season! Our namesake flower is starting to pop up all over the front yard flower beds. One of its favorite growing spots is in our farm sign bed -- go figure!

For those of you new to our farm, you may be wondering “What exactly is a plum granny?” We are so glad you asked! And it is really not a new look for our favorite grandma — purple hair and all! Nope, a plum granny is the old-timey, Appalachian name for what some call a [passion flower](#). They are vines with beautiful flowers with very showy centers, and which bear a small plum-shaped fruit that tastes like passionfruit. These flowers grow wild around the farm — especially in the Meadow and the front yard. Naming the farm after this flower is a tip of the hat to Cheryl’s dad,

Holt Ferguson, who told her about the flowers so many years ago on one of their walks in the Meadow. Thanks, Daddy for sharing your knowledge!

Spudville!

Our potato harvest cranked up in earnest this week. The potato lifter got cleaned up and greased and off to Ruth's Field it went.



Thankfully Jonny had worked his weed-eater magic to get the aisles cleared of weeds. Cheryl wasn't able to get J-Cub back in the field to cultivate because of rain but the weed-eater did a great job!

There's nothing like seeing our harvester doing its thing -- lifting the potatoes out of the ground and shaking the soil off. Check out [this video of the process in action](#).

This week we got nearly 1,600 pounds of potatoes harvested in two days. Jonny and Cheryl were busy lil' harvesting machines!



And this is what 1,600 pounds looks like in the walk-in --



We're about halfway through the harvest so this space will be pretty full soon.

Farmer Ray Update: Week 6



Oh -- what a happy man! Ray was cleared to crawl back up on the tractor and plow potatoes this week. And we're all happy about that around here!

Ray keeps getting good reports from his physicians and started Cardiac Rehab last week. That's a 12-week program (3 times per week) where he exercises under supervision. He gets wired up and monitored while he bikes or walks on the treadmill. Those folks are very happy with his progress as well.

Despite the glowing reports, it's going to be a long process. We want Ray to feel better and have more stamina again right away but unfortunately that's not the way it works. Patience, grasshopper.

Keep those good vibes and prayers coming. We can feel them and are grateful for each and every one!

Saturday On-Farm Market!

It was great to see so many of you turn out for TWO Farm Markets last week! We don't plan on making a habit of that but we hope to continue our Saturday markets for a while.

Join us this **Saturday, July 12 from 9-11**. We'll be set up at the **Tobacco Barn** and we'll have LOTS of delicious Organic produce for you!

This will be the first week for our famous **Potato Bar**. We've got FIVE varieties of potatoes for you: Natasha (yellow skin and flesh -- limited quantity), Sangre (red skin with white flesh), Plum Gold (dark purple with yellow flesh), Gold Rush (russet type with dry white flesh), and Soraya (yellow skin with tasty yellow flesh). You're bound to find a potato of your pleasin' in our selection!



We still have lots of **Organic Slicer Tomatoes** -- Maggie and Suzi have been hauling oodles of these tasty fruits out of our high tunnels. And we're having a sale -- there's bulk pricing on 5 pounds or more.



We'll also have more delicious **Eggplant** and lots of recipes to help you showcase this beautiful and versatile veggie.



Peppers are making the scene as well. Our harvests of Jimmy Nardello Sweet Italian Frying Peppers, Shishitos and Pimento Peppers are increasing weekly. And a new planting of sweet **Carmen and Escamillo Italian Peppers** are starting to pop.



We'll also have **Bulb Garlic** -- Music has cured nicely and is ready to go!

And Breaking News! Our friend J French of Felsbeck Farm will be bringing **Sweet Corn** and Blueberries! We have worked with J over the years, and he and Connee live just down the road from us on YMCA Camp Road. While they are not Organic, they use sustainable practices, and we feel good about how they grow.



Photo credit: Hoss Seeds

That's all we've got for you this week, friends! But first, did you know that Sunday is [International Rock Day](#)? Yep! We are true rock lovers here at Plum Granny Farm -- our rock collection spills across windowsills, tables, desks (and SO many boxes!).

To celebrate this special occasion, [Kaleideum](#) is hosting a great event featuring --

ROCKS! This sounds like so much fun -- should we take all our rocks with us?



Have a great weekend!

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

