



Lettuce Mix*

Swiss Chard*

Asian Greens

Basil*

Garlic Scapes

Scallions*

Carrots*

Radish

*Half Shares

Farm Notes, Week #2

We are just settling down from the rush of spring seeding and transplanting. Just got the fall cabbages and brussels sprouts in last Friday! Now, down to the weekly routine of seeding greens and transplanting lettuces. Trying to stay on top of the weeding and irrigation.

The field grown produce is coming on early, and some of your produce this week has matured with the benefit of season extension. Last week's napa and kohlrabi and this week's scallions and carrots were seeded in mid March in a mobile high tunnel after the winter spinach was plowed down. We dedicate that tunnel's production to the first couple of CSA boxes so that you have more than just salad greens in your first couple of boxes. Basil was transplanted in to heated greenhouses in April and May and has been producing well for several weeks now. (Cherry tomatoes are looking great!) We do have extra for putting up pesto, get in touch if you are interested!

With the snowpack coming off 5 weeks early, we were able to plow and seed some experimental beds in the field on March 14th to see how they would compare the same seeding on April 15th. Carrots will be 10 days earlier to harvest. Peas are the same, flowering within a day of each other. Lettuce mix is a week earlier, and spinach is closest, maybe 2 weeks earlier. The major difference is weed pressure. It is much less on the earlier planted beds. Interesting! In spite of the early spring, we did get caught behind with our summer crop planting with the constantly wet weather in May and the



first week of June. We were unable to plow at our field in Belgrade and the winter squash and melons and the field tomatoes, eggplant, and peppers went in a week or two late. However, those crops all are planted into IRT plastic mulch, and its soil warming and weed suppressing properties should get them caught up quickly. It has been awhile since we used plastic mulch in the field, mostly because we didn't want to use more plastic. However, our yields could have been better over the last few years, and our labor costs in weeding our Belgrade field have been too much. If it works out, we will try biodegradable mulch next year. Not sure if it is made of GM Corn. So many trade offs!

The major change for us this year is a fully new crew. With a growing family and wanting to simplify our lives, we dropped the internship program that we've run here since 2005. Just hourly work here now, and that suits us better. Katie and Chris are off to new farming endeavors, they left us with big shoes to fill. We have happily welcomed Dana Lane (from Bozeman), Danielle (Georgia), Molly (Cali), Max (Michigan), Sam (Tennessee), and Colin (Minnesota) to our full time crew this year. Plus a few part timers!

At a glance, this week's produce has Thai stir fry written all over it. Chop up and stir fry those Asian Greens. Grill those scapes and/or make pesto. The carrots may not make it home if you have children. On the horizon are strawberries, beets, more greens, scallions, turnips...cherry tomatoes are still green!

Stop by and get your hands dirty some Friday afternoon!

Thanks, bon appétit!

~Matt

Enjoy your produce! Matt, Jacy, and Crew
Please be careful with and return your boxes!!!
The tops and bottoms fold and slide to lock/unlock!!!

