



My Minnesota Farmer CSA

My basket this week may include

- ❖ **Celery** – Don't forget to use the leaves! Celery you purchase at the local grocery store is grown in different conditions than those grown on our farm. Our celery will be shorter and have thinner stalks. Also the leaves are cut off of the celery in the store but we know that those are just as delicious as the stalks. Use them to flavor soups or stews or freeze or dry them for in tomato soup or salad toppings. I tried my best to do a quick clean on this but with all the rain there will still be some remnants of mud. Break it apart and it will be much easier to remove the soil from the stalks.
- ❖ **Parsley** – This herb is great for garlic roasted potatoes if you still have potatoes in your house. (We are not sending potatoes out this week because we have 9 more rows to dig but are not sure we will be able to get to them because of the mud. I pray they aren't rotting out there!) This will last well in the refrigerator or freeze it for a fun herb in winter.
- ❖ **Yellow Onions** – We will send out mostly yellow storage onions this week with possibly some reds mixed in. These all should be good for storage. Keep them in a dry, cool, dark place.
- ❖ **Sweet Peppers** – These are some things on our farm that are not slowing down much. The red and orange peppers are amazing. Keep it up pepper plants!

- ❖ **Tomatoes** – Wow the tomatoes have slowed down! It is amazing how few we have now compared to last week at this time. I hope I got all of my canning complete. I'm not sure there will be many more for that. Enjoy your last tomatoes as you can.
- ❖ **Summer Squash** – I think there will be enough for everyone to get one squash in their box this week. This is also something that will fade out of the boxes pretty quickly.
- ❖ **Mesculun Mix** – This is a great mix but there are definitely some mustard greens in here. There is not a lot of the frilly light green leaf in the middle that got into boxes but you need to know if you go tone of these BEWARE! They are not for the light hearted. They pack quite a kick. Not a jalapeno but with plenty of spicy pizzazz!



- ❖ **Cucumbers** – This supply is dwindling also. Now is the time to order your pickling cucumbers if you need any. I don't think we will have many left in a week or two.

- ❖ **Anaheim and Jalapeno Peppers** – These have been producing so well I am sure you have been getting them in your box really frequently. You may have a little pile of them in your fridge. Feel free to stick these in the freezer. They can also be dried in the oven or on a dehydrator. Then you can crumble them up to flavor the chili you will be making this winter!
☺

- ❖ **Garlic** – Garlic stores great. I will send you a head or two for the last couple of weeks so you can use it through the winter. Store it in a cooler place or on the cupboard is fine. Just don't warm it up or the garlic may begin to sprout because it thinks it is spring. ☺ Don't want any spring garlic growing in your kitchens. If it does start to sprout just use it. There is nothing wrong with sprouted garlic it just may get a bit soft.



Tunnel 10 Tomatoes

Here is a photo of one of our tomato tunnels that still looks great. This (tunnel number 10) has great fertility and just keeps producing great fruit. This is a lot less tomato plants than we have on the farm and they don't all look this amazing though so there will be fewer tomatoes in the boxes. It is amazing how the wet affects the plants even though these are in high tunnels. The water still seeps in from the sides and humidifies the air. I just have to remember how sad I am when the air is so dry in the winter to help me appreciate this beautiful wet fall.

Cats walking on the new cement?!?!? Is that enough reason to not have cats around anymore? ;) No, they are sort of cute and we saw it not too long afterwards, troweled it out and you can't even see it happened.



Next Box

Swiss Chard
Peppers
Onions
Cucumbers
Squash
Tomatoes What we have
Swiss Chard
Garlic
Celery
Potatoes



Fall Work and Cement

The fall is so wet! Practically out of necessity we have been pouring a lot of cement. It will be useful for years to come not only this year. Too bad you can't pour cement between the rows. ;) Above is a picture of four of our kids out helping smash potato bugs off of the eggplant. When more of our crew goes off to college and school the kids help out more after they do their schooling in the morning.