

Schreiber & Sons CSA

It's a Culinary Adventure

Schreiberandsons.com

June 28, 2010

In your box this week, you will receive:

- Carrots
- Beets
- Green onions
- Garlic
- Kohlrabi
- Cherries
- Romaine lettuce
- Bulb onions
- Cilantro
- Icicle radish
- Potatoes
- Cabbage (green) or broccoli
- Peas (small share members)

Notes on the contents of your box. The beets this week are on old heirloom variety called Bull's Blood. It has this name because of the dark red leaves. It is a red rooted beet. For what it is worth, you will be getting beets for the next few weeks. This week you get Bing cherries. Next week it will be Ranier cherries. The Romaine lettuce in your box is called Red Cash. What a strikingly beautiful color it is. We had some Hutterites stop by and ask to see the farm and the item that they were most impressed by was this variety of Romaine lettuce. They asked to have some for use as food decorations for a Hutterite wedding. The sudden hot weather has caused much of our broccoli to bolt (flower). We are picking what will be most of the last of the spring broccoli today. There is not enough to go around, so we are sending out what we have and the rest will get a head of green cabbage.

The Fourth of July. If you want to grill hamburgers for the Fourth of July, we have a lot of organic hamburger. The hamburger has not been moving as well as the rest of the organic meat. In order to move it out, we are lowering the price to \$4 a pound (that is \$2 off the regular price.)

The potatoes are some we do for July 4th each year that I think is really cool. We have a mix of three varieties of potatoes, one that is red, one that is blue and one that is white, so you can fix something for the 4th that is red, white and blue-how cool is that!!!!!!!!!!

What is going on at the farm. Now it is time to complain about the hot weather. On our farm we have a center pivot, two linear move systems, drip, hand line, sprinklers and a multitude of other systems. Watering on any farm is complicated but with the myriad of different systems we have, it is really complex. Add to it the different water needs for each crop and it is bordering on the impossible. We are watering 24 hours a day, 7 days a week now that it has warmed up. We have one person who works six days a week doing nothing but turning on, turning off or adjusting water-and he has lots of other people helping from time to time.

I have to confess. My family and I took five days off and traveled back to Missouri and Iowa to attend two family reunions, one from my fathers and one from my mothers side. It was great to see my extended family, see my dad who is in hospice and to have a few days off (I am at the farm 7 days a week). The down side is being away from the farm for five days is nerve wracking. When I came back after being gone for five days (and five days of warm weather) I could not believe the change in things. We had some crops such as peppers, eggplant and melons that had literally doubled in size in five days-they really are responding to the warm weather.

We are facing a double challenge of water and weeds. As described above, watering in warm weather is a real chore. The weeds do well in cool weather, but they love the warm weather. We have six people that do nothing but hand weed. We have another four people who switch around from various chores but spend part of their time weeding. We cannot use herbicides in the organic crops, so hand weeding is a given. We use herbicides in some of the conventional crops, but most of the time is spend handing weeding. *If anyone wanted to volunteer for weeding it would be much appreciated. We could pay you in product for your effort. Send us a note if you would like to volunteer.*

Regards

Your Farmer

Alan Schreiber