

Iowana Farm

17749 Badger Ave Crescent, Iowa 51526

www.iowanafarm.com 712-545-9300

CERTIFIED ORGANIC

CSA Update

May 1, 2012

First Pack



Our first pack has spinach, kale, chard, lettuces, radishes, asparagus (1 pound for full shares and a half pound for half shares), green garlic and herbs (dill and mint). Recipes for kale chips and greens soup are included.

Half Share Feedback

Would you rather have smaller amounts of a lot of stuff, or more substantial amounts of less stuff? Please send feedback to terry@iowanafarm.com.

New Box Liner

We are lining our boxes with metal coated bubble wrap. A cold ice pack will be placed on top to keep produce fresh. Please, please, please return box, ice pack and liner next week so we can use it to repack your next share!

Volunteer Families



We have been honored to have several families volunteer to help us weed, cultivate, transplant and seed this year!

First Pickup Wednesday May 2!

CSA Pickup

Wednesday After 12 pm- OMAHA
Bread Oven – 119th and Pacific
Bread Oven – 51st and Underwood

Wednesday After 12 pm
Tazza di Caffe-928 Valley View
COUNCIL BLUFFS

Saturday and Sunday
Between 12 and 6 pm
Iowana Farm, Crescent , Iowa

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CSA Update

May 8, 2012

Second Pack

Napa cabbage has been added to the lineup of spinach, kale, chard, lettuces, asparagus (1 pound for full shares and ½ pound for half shares), radishes, green garlic and herbs (sage and rosemary). The cabbage is ready a couple of weeks ahead of schedule. The broccoli is also starting to head and we will add it to the packs in the coming weeks.

Half Share Feedback

Thank you half shares for feedback. You were unanimous about wanting an emphasis on lots of variety. We'll try to do it well.

Tomato Transplants

We hope to start planting about 1000 heirloom tomato plants in the field this weekend. Our volunteers will be fertilizing, planting and mulching. Next weekend we'll lay in irrigation and start the trellising. Some of the 400 tomatoes in the high tunnel are flowering. So it looks like our first tomatoes will be here in PJuly. The bulk of them will start to really produce in early August.

High School Organic Gardening Club Visit



We had a visit this week from the Abraham Lincoln High School (Council Bluffs) Organic Gardening Club.

There were lots of good questions and enthusiasm.

What fun.

Remember to Return Your Boxes and Ice Packs!

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Third Pack

This will be the last week we have spinach, until fall. It is bolting (going to seed) from the heat. We still have kale, chard and lettuces. Some of the broccoli is heading and we have put the limited number we have in the full shares and alphabetically in the half shares. Everyone else will have a head by next week. It is unbelievably crisp and sweet, even the stems. The cauliflower is starting to head. Let's keep our fingers crossed: it is very susceptible to heat. We also have some beautiful pink lady turnips. They are NOT radishes! You can taste the turnip in them but they are delicious raw or in a stir fry with their own greens! Also, we pulled our carrots that overwintered. There are some very ugly carrots, but some not so bad either. We have put at least one in each pack. This year's carrots are still itty bitty but will be here soon. Also in the pack is arugula, some wild and some cultivar. Very spicy and nice in a salad or stir fried.

Volunteers Rule!



We did not get the tomatoes in this week. But we did get the asparagus prepped for summer and some strawberries planted. We will not get fruit from the berries until next year, but we are getting started!

Change in Dundee Pickup Site to 5104 Charles Street



We have had a change in the pickup location in Dundee. Instead of picking up at the Bread Oven, Dundee shareholders will pick up at the Wilder's garage at 5104 Charles St. There is a custom sign posted in front of the house (as well as several pinwheels in the flower beds) making the house on the corner of 51st and Charles easy to spot. Charles runs parallel to Underwood but is about 8 or 9 blocks north.

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May 22, 2012

Fourth Pack

Even with the warm weather, the kale, chard and lettuces are holding on nicely. Also in the pack are radishes and fennel leaf (yes, there will be fennel in a couple of weeks). And we have plenty of broccolis for everyone. And we have started to pick the cauliflower. The broccoli and cauliflower are about 4 weeks early! And we are expecting snap peas next week, also 4 weeks early. So we are looking at really full packs for the next couple of weeks, but we are scared about the packs later in June. The midseason veggies are coming on now, but the hot season veggies may not be ahead of schedule. So we could have some light packs ahead of us. We will keep you posted!

Volunteers Still Rule!



Anna, on left, tilled with the Bolens garden tractor in the area between some potatoes and radishes before helping to plant strawberries. Also helping with the strawberries were Pat, Liz and Kate, the awesome trio. Unfortunately, the strawberries will not produce berries until next year ☹️. Casey, Terry and Andrew are pictured above. We are happy with our many volunteers this year. You're the best!

The CSA is Closed to New Members

We are at capacity in the CSA. We have 54 members this year and that is just about right. We planned for 50 members, plus 25%. And outside of the unusually warm spring, things are coming up nicely. As mentioned above, we could have some lean weeks waiting on the tomatoes and corn in late June and early July. The potatoes will be a little early, we think, and the green beans. We are unsure about the timing of the sweet corn, squash and cucumbers. But we are farmers, after all, and that means that we are optimists!

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May 29, 2012

Fifth Pack

We have several winners this pack: broccoli, cauliflower and sugar snap peas. We still have lettuces, kale and chard. Our herb this week is Mexican oregano. There is at least a pound of broccoli, cauliflower and peas each for full shares. There is a half pound for half shares. We should have snap peas again next week and for several more to come. There will be side shoots off of the broccoli and will be included in the pack also for several weeks.

Busy on the Farm



This week we finished transplanting tomatoes as well as planting sweet potato slips. Above are Kate tilling, Terry and Pat transplanting and Yura marking rows with the old Allis Chalmers G.

Beautiful Cauliflower



Anna is holding one of the beautiful cauliflowers we picked this week. There is an old saying that when potatoes plants are blooming on top they are making potatoes on the bottom!



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