

Broad Branch Farm, Ltd.
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Broad Branch Farm
Community Supported Agriculture Program
August 9, 2018
www.broadbranchfarm.com

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, August 21
Deadline to order extra items
Thursday, August 23
Next CSA Delivery

Vegetable Share

Tomatoes

Sweet Sungold cherry tomatoes and beautiful sweet slicers. The tomatoes have loved the heat and they are absolutely delicious. All of these tomatoes are grown in our hoopouses where irrigation is controlled and weather is ideal.

Green Onions

Fresh Basil

Our basil is abundant this year.

Roots

Salad Greens

Lots of arugula today with a splash of red leaf lettuce and escarole.

Fresh Parsley

Garlic Scapes

Grab Bag

One more delicious item in your box today.

Grilled Stuffed Tomatoes

Here is an easy way to use up some tomatoes if they are accumulating on your counter. These go together very quickly. Great project for the young cook. Feel free to sub your favorite cheese. Definitely creamy goat cheese or herbed ricotta would be excellent.

Slicing Tomatoes

Fresh Basil

Fresh Garlic

Olive Oil

Cheese

Bread Crumbs

Herbs – Parsley, Oregano, Thyme, etc

Cut open the tops of tomatoes and gently remove the seed cavities and most of juice reserving for another use. Or, just drink it – so sweet and good.

With mortar and pestle, smash a clove of garlic and sprinkle of salt into a paste. Add fresh basil and little olive oil and continue with pestle until basil is pulverized.

Coat the insides of the tomatoes with the basil/garlic paste. Add favorite cheese leaving room for bread crumbs. Prepare bread crumbs by heating with a little olive oil and finely chopped herbs just until coated and combined. Spoon over the tomatoes.

Place tomatoes on a slow grill and allow to heat through. It's a little tricky to remove these from the grill and may require a spatula and large spoon.



Farm News

Nature Rules.

That was the comment made by a customer recently when comparing gardening notes about this year's tomato and pepper plants.

Nature definitely does rule and it's been high farm drama the last couple weeks watching the weather radar. The rain keeps missing our Chillicothe farm. Painful! We're terribly dry and we need rain. Our turn will come but the last couple systems seem within an arm's reach and then miss us. We've had customers say, "Well, we got rain at our house!" Good to hear but it doesn't mean the same happened on our farm. The rain is so incredibly spotty that even the 12 miles between our Wyoming homestead and our new farm is a dramatic difference. We've received timely rains at the home place but we're begging for moisture at the new farm. Although it's not the same as rain, fortunately we can irrigate our garden either from our deep well or the pond. But, our pastures are another thing altogether. We have roughly 40 acres of pasture that could use a slow steady inch or two that will slowly seep into the soil and reach deep down to the roots. Seems that request is going to be hard to fill.

Fortunately, the pastures are going into this dry period in relatively good shape. That means not overgrazed which exposes the soil, heats it up, dries it out and compromises the biological activity of the soil. There is an art and science to rotational grazing that requires constant attention to the livestock, weather, soil health and the forage. The livestock are allowed to graze just enough and then moved on to the next paddock. If we can do that successfully, it helps preserve the pasture in times of heat or lack of moisture stress. This requires a lot more management than throwing a bucket of feed into a trough. It's time, effort and a commitment to grass feeding/pasturing livestock. We believe in it 100%.

We do have some good news! Happy to announce the birth of two healthy heifer calves. What a joy to watch these young ones go from just a few days old, sleeping their days away to lively, tails in the air, running circles around the herd, toddlers.

With a backdrop of thick timber and green forage, it's an idyllic life for our beautiful grass-fed beef herd.