

Broad Branch Farm, Ltd.
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Broad Branch Farm
Community Supported Agriculture Program
September 20, 2018
www.broadbranchfarm.com

Dates to Remember
Tuesday, October 2 - Order deadline for extra items
Thursday, October 4 - Next CSA Delivery
November 15 - Last CSA delivery

Vegetable Share

Tomatoes

Cold nights are on the way - we'll see if the tomatoes will keep on ripening..

Summer Squash

Salad Greens

You will receive some combination of arugula, lettuce, chard and Scarlet kale.

Peppers

Cucumbers

Late planting of cukes is just starting to produce. Delicious!

Radishes

French breakfast radish variety D'Avignon or the larger Watermelon radishes.

Bok Choy

Another crop we haven't seen in awhile. This planting will love the cooler weather. Bok Choy is an excellent stir fry vegetable.

Basil

Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bowl

Summer squash, diced into 1" pieces

Onion, cut into half rings

Peppers, diced into 1" pieces

3-4 Tomatoes, quartered

2-3 T Tomato Paste

Olive Oil

1/2 cup Fresh Basil, coarsely chopped

Parmesean Cheese, grated

8 oz Pasta - your choice

Start water for pasta. Place summer squash, onion, peppers on a baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil, sprinkle of salt and roast at 325 degrees until vegetables begin to brown.

At the same time, place tomatoes in a separate baking dish and sprinkle with salt and drizzle with olive oil. Roast tomatoes until heated through and juices are bubbling.

Cook pasta, drain and drizzle with olive oil to keep from sticking. Add roasted squash, peppers, onions and toss. Add tomatoes, tomato paste and coarsely chopped fresh basil. Toss to combine. Finish with another drizzle of olive oil and plenty of freshly grated parmesan cheese.

Farm News

Change is definitely in the air. The heat blew out of the area overnight and today is much cooler. Temperatures hit 94 degrees on Thursday and our predicted low tonight is 47. Just a mere 47 degree shift...Illinois weather will never cease to surprise us.

We are hoping this cool off can hold for awhile - not asking for real cold - but just more pleasant moderate temperatures. We've got spinach on the mind and these cool temperatures are just what we need. I know there are Veggie CSA customers out there hungry for some fall spinach - so are we! It is one green we cannot coax to grow in the hot summer temps.

Our house is getting so close to being done and one of the recent additions is the porch railing. Ever since the porch railings have been installed, a few rogue chickens who fly over their fence have found the porch. For some reason, the railing changed it for these hens and it acts like an invitation to enjoy the porch. At first, the laying hens were just milling around the house checking things out. Then, a hen took the bold move and hopped up the front stairs. It was only inevitable that one would find a nook or cranny amongst the leftover boards to lay an egg. There is no way we could ever train a hen to lay an egg on our porch but one has decided outside our front door near a pile of porch spindles is a fine place to leave an egg every day. Even with saws sawing and hammers hammering, the little hen is not deterred. Hens are very determined once they have their favorite laying spot. There was a slight crisis this week when our carpenter, David, not knowing the hen's routine, moved the spindles causing confusion and delay. The hen paced back and forth, talking to herself, not knowing what to do because her 'place' had been disturbed. She apparently got over it because we collected an egg that afternoon.

Another recent farm story involves a pig family and a classic children's rhyme. On Monday, Lucy was in the garden and noticed our mother Guinea hog, Porky, taking her two young piglets on a walk, past the garden fence heading for the south tree line. It was a hot day and we figure she has a cool spot to escape the heat. 'Nothing to marvel at other than watching mama leading her babes through the tall grass is charming. After lunch, Lucy was again in the garden working and all the sudden heard a little pig making lots of noise and "jumping" through the clumps of grass making its way north along the garden fence. Obviously, the piglet was distressed and mama and brother were nowhere to be found. Lucy followed the little guy and he ran, squealing and generally making noise, all the way back to the lean-to shelter (maybe 500 ft) where the pigs have a cool spot to spend the afternoon. There was mama and brother and that little piglet was so happy to find his family again. He must have been taking quite a nap when his family sauntered back to the north and upon waking, was seriously upset to be left behind. And, that brings to mind the children's rhyme "...this little piggy cried wee, wee, wee all the way home." He sure did!