



What's "growing" on?

Newsletter

Bring on the HEAT!

Hello CSA Members!

Here is the third edition of our farm newsletter, arriving in your in-box about two weeks later than I had hoped. This was due in-part to a video card malfunction in my computer that left me without technology for just over a week. I have to admit, with everything going on around the farm, I barely missed having the computer available.

CSA pick-ups have been going well! I have enjoyed getting to know our members and many of you share my enthusiasm for growing and consuming fresh produce.

The warm weather has provided great growing conditions for the garden. We are thankful that we escaped the worst of the storms that have been looming around our area for the past week.

As it always is with farming, some crops flourish while others fail. It would appear as though the sugar-pea crop received too much water and then to add insult to injury the heat of summer has made them turn yellow, wilt and die. But,

hope is not lost, peas are a short-season crop and I intent to plant some more in August for a fall harvest.

The beans and the zucchini are close to picking and we have even been able to rob a few potatoes from the plants that have flowered.

I would like to share a personal story that highlights how environmental episodes can impact food security.

Although the waters have receded, for many in our city (some CSA members included), the recent flooding of the South Saskatchewan River has dramatically changed the lives of some people forever. For others, the impact was less significant, but still felt, even if only in an indirect way.

On Tuesday, July 2, I took my son out for supper to one of his favorite restaurants. He enjoys chicken from a local fried chicken establishment, so we stopped by for a bite to

eat. When I placed my order for a chicken sandwich the attendant promptly told me that my sandwich would come without lettuce because there was none available. This was due to the fact that the flood had impacted both of our city's major food wholesalers. WHAT! I thought to myself, the only component of this meal that resembles anything green and healthy was the lettuce, and it was unavailable?! As I sulked, and choked down my chicken sandwich, I pondered the irony of this situation. At home I had more lettuce growing than I knew what to do with, but here I sat with no lettuce to complete my meal. This made me question the security of our food system. It became obvious that both local and worldly events can have a significant impact on the availability of the food that we take for granted will always be there.

facebook

It has been exciting visiting with members and finding out about their many culinary creations to utilize the veggies in their weekly CSA bins. We have recently created a closed facebook group called Neubauer Farms CSA. If you are on facebook and are interested in joining the group please send me a friend request (Nichole Neubauer) and I will invite you to the group. Thanks to the members who are already uploading recipes and pictures! You are creating a community of sharing for our CSA!



"If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you."

~Steve Jobs