



CSA Newsletter | Week # 6

Notes from the Field

While there are some benefits that accrue to farmers when we experience several weeks of very hot weather in a row, i.e. the squash, beans and peas kick into production overdrive, on balance, the heat, combined with the complete absence of any real precipitation for almost three weeks, is not a net positive for our agricultural production. Our soil is showing the telltale signs of extreme moisture loss; powdery dust on top and deep, wide cracks opening up in the soil sub-structure. We need some rain, folks! So put on your dancing shoes and dance a bit of a rain dance for us and our plants! Or, if you're more into prayer, put on your prayer caps and pray for some precipitation!

In spite of the heat and dryness, our gardens are faring decently well. Some things, like the aforementioned beans, peas and summer squash, have responded to the conditions by flooding us with their fruits. This is a challenge of a different sort, as we are stretched to the limit in terms of capacity for picking the fruits of these plants before they are over-mature, which can happen in less than 24 hours. Other crops, like the cabbage, carrots, beets, etc, prefer cooler weather and require a bit more water, and are slow to grow to a size at which we might harvest them. The weeds, as per usual, are thriving regardless! The one conclusion we can draw from comparisons between last year's weather and this year's, is that we have to be prepared for anything, be it excessive heat and dryness, or too much rain and muddy harvesting conditions. The new normal for weather seems to be that there is no normal, no predictable pattern, just unpredictability! In the end, this unpredictability will help us become more resilient as food producers and hopefully, more adept at producing food reliably and profitably in spite of the changing climate.

We hope you enjoy the bounty in this week's CSA share. See you all soon!

What's in Your Box?

- ★ Beans
- ★ Big Green Wonder Lettuce Mix **with Edible Flowers**
- ★ Broccoli
- ★ Carrot Bunch
- ★ Chard
- ★ Collards
- ★ Kale
- ★ New Potatoes
- ★ New Zealand Spinach
- ★ Peas
- ★ Summer Squash

Add-on Shares

- ★ Bratwurst Sausage
- ★ Farm Fresh Eggs
- ★ Flower Bouquets

BC Fruit Available this week

- ★ Fresh Organic Garlic – **Honest Food Farm (BC)**
- ★ Heirloom Tomatoes - **Sunshine Earth Works (AB)**
- ★ Organic Cherries - **Cawston (BC) LAST WEEK!**
- ★ Organic Apricots - **Zebroff's Organic Farm (BC)**



Beans & Peas are ready



Flamingo Pink Chard



Broccoli has started