



## CSA Newsletter | Week # 9

### Notes from the Field

As I sit down to write this, clouds are hanging in the sky, maintaining a comfortable working temperature, and we are hanging on the hope that we might get a little bit of precipitation later today. We are into the seventh week of hot, dry weather and are honestly surprised that our plants have managed to do as well as they have. The squash is still growing like crazy and our peas and beans have been forced through a truncated but very productive period of voluminous production by the heat and lack of moisture. Our potato harvest has been especially impacted by the dryness and heat, and our other root crops have also shown a dramatic decrease in growth and productivity. Our heavy leafy crops, kale, collards, and chard, are surviving but barely growing whatsoever. They and the brassiceae, cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli, really need at least an inch of rain in order to be brought back to a state of vigorous health. The lighter greens, spinach, lettuce, etc., are being kept alive by our drip irrigation system and should yet produce decent quantities of produce for the remainder of the season. Our grain crops have definitely been damaged by the drought and heat, with estimates of productivity pegged at less than 50% of anticipated yields. Seemingly, the only living things that have thrived this summer are the pests, as we have never experienced this level of pest pressure on many of our crops before! The forecast suggests that we will have one more week of hot, dry weather before cooler and wetter conditions take hold. We are looking forward to that welcome change and optimistic that the last half of our CSA will still be bountiful and delicious and less stressful than the summer has been of late!

This week sees the first delivery of honey shares from our friend Eliese of ABC. Eliese has also remarked on the impact that the dry, hot weather has had on nectar flows and thus on honey production. We are in good company!

Thank you all for being so supportive of our efforts in spite of the adverse conditions we have experienced this year. We truly appreciate your words of support and your encouragement and hope this has been a positive experience for you all. In spite of the challenges, we consider ourselves blessed to be able to be food producers and to have the support of a great community. See you all soon!

#### What's in Your Box?

- ★ Beans
- ★ Beet Bunch
- ★ Big Green Wonder Lettuce Mix **with Edible Flowers**
- ★ Broccoli
- ★ Carrot Bunch
- ★ Cauliflower
- ★ Fennel
- ★ New Zealand Spinach
- ★ Potatoes
- ★ Rainbow Chard
- ★ Summer Squash
- ★ Vivid Choy

#### Add-on Shares

- ★ Chorizo Sausage
- ★ Farm Fresh Eggs
- ★ Flower Bouquets
- ★ Honey

#### BC Fruit Available this week

- ★ Heirloom Tomatoes - **Sunshine Earth Works (AB)**
- ★ Organic Apples (Sunrise) – **Cawston (BC)**
- ★ Organic Cherry Tomatoes Pints – **Cawston (BC)**
- ★ Organic Garlic – **Cawston (BC)**
- ★ Organic Gold & Red ♥ Plums - **Cawston (BC)**
- ★ Organic Onions Walla Walla & Red – **Cawston (BC)**
- ★ Organic Peaches – **Cawston (BC)**



Made some pickles & relish this week

ABC & BMT Honey Shares

Our flower artist this week is Duncan!

