

The Farm Weekly

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SEASON COMES TO AN END

Today is the last day of the season and with the cold weather and rain, Marco, Pedro, and Hanter couldn't be happier. With the thermometer reading at least 10 degrees below normal for this time of year, they have had a hard time keeping warm.

Tim has kept a close eye on the weather to be sure to harvest when it isn't precipitating to keep the misery to a minimum. Not wasting any time, Tim will be driving them to the airport for their flight back to Mexico on Saturday evening.

The week has been pretty uneventful. The garlic is planted for next year's crop, although Tim thinks he might put in another row or two. The shallots are not as far along, but hopefully the guys will get a good jump on them after packing up the boxes this afternoon.

The major project Tim wanted to accomplish before the guys left was recovering the greenhouse. Every few years the plastic cover must be replaced and

this is definitely not a one man job. The weather needs to be pretty calm to finagle a huge 60 foot plastic sheet over pipes that are 12 feet up in the air. A sudden breeze could carry them all to Columbus, which could save Tim the trip on Saturday!

The question everyone asks is what do you do after the season ends? Since we start seed in the greenhouse in January, wood has to be brought and split in to keep the greenhouse warm.

If the weather cooperates, Tim still has to get some cover crops planted and the ground prepared to accommodate them. He would also like to clear some trails back in the woods that have become overgrown. That will make it easier to get to some of the deadfall logs that we use for firewood.

There are plenty of equipment repairs to make that have been put off and at the top of the list is the acquisition of a new delivery truck. This year we

reached capacity with 3 boxes riding in the front seat with Tim on the way down south. In order to add new members we need to increase the truck capacity.

Tim enjoys working on different machines and has a tractor to fiddle with that has been in the back of the barn for a few years. He also usually has an implement or two to design and create. We aren't sure about the potato digger, so he may end up creating something for the spuds as well.

Of course the alpacas always need our attention, especially in the winter, when they are more dependent on hay and are given access to the barn. Being lazy, they don't bother with leaving the barn to relieve themselves, so cleanup has to happen every day or two.

We want to sincerely thank all of you for your participation in our CSA this year. While we had some crop failures, such as carrots and corn, we felt that overall

it was a good year especially compared to last year.

A recent conversation with the Department of Labor has informed us that we need to start the process to bring Marco, Pedro, and Hanter back even earlier. The "game" now requires that we have their application completed in their hands at least by February 1st, for them to arrive in May. So many of our problems with our crops are directly attributable to weed overgrowth due to our inability to have them here to cultivate. We are certain that next year we can get them here earlier.

We always welcome your suggestions and hope that you will contact us with yours. We will be in touch at the beginning of the new year with new applications. Until then, thanks again and God's Blessings to you and your's.

This Week's Box

Onions
Garlic
Kale
?Cabbage
Potatoes
?Summer Squash
?Broccoli

Celeriac
Turnips

Next Week
Nuttin'

PLEASE
Return All Boxes to Your
Pickup Location By Next Fri-
day, November 3rd
Tim Will Be Picking Them Up
Then.
THANKS!