

# The Farm Weekly

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## LAST PICKUP IS TODAY

I don't think anybody is happier to see the season end than Hanter, Pedro, and Marco. On Saturday, Tim will load the guys and their luggage (including a brand new 24 inch color television) into the pickup truck and head to the airport. They actually had success taking a T.V. home on the airplane last year so hopefully they will have the same luck again.

We bought their one way tickets to Guadalajara, about a month ago. Part of our obligation in the eyes of the Department of Labor is to pay for their transportation to and from Mexico, one of the hoops we must jump to get them here legally. I couldn't help but wonder why we weren't going to Guadalajara too!

Today after packing boxes, waiting for Tim to take them home, they stood bundled up against the cold expressionless. If they only knew how much colder it will get. Their English is

minimally better than my Spanish which is lacking terribly. I raised my index finger and said, "One more day." They understood completely, and their faces glowed with the warmth of the tropical beaches they will soon be walking, back with their family again.

Three inches of rain ushered in the cold weather this week, but we still haven't had a hard frost. This is incredibly unusual, and if Tim hadn't had the guys take down the tomato supports for winter storage, we could probably find a few still to pick.

All of the rain forced a choice between harvesting the kale or harvesting spinach. Knowing that most folks prefer spinach over kale, we went with that, and apologize to those that were expecting kale in their boxes this week.

Many have asked about next year and when it will be possible to sign up again. One of the items at

the top of the "To Do List" is at season's end is rebuilding our website in Dreamweaver software. The Frontpage software we have been using is no longer supported by Windows, so we will work on that and try to have it completed by January 1st.

We will send an email out to everyone when we are ready to accept applications and we will accept requests for brochures then as well.

The popularity of CSAs appears to be on the rise along with an awareness of the benefits of locally grown produce. Because of this we have already written about 20 folks onto a list to contact at the beginning of next year. In the past we have increased the number of shares available for sale, but this coming year, we are fairly certain we are going to keep the CSA the same size.

We would like to suggest that you get your membership applications and deposits in at least before May 1st, for there is a good chance we will be sold out long before the season starts.

We feel pretty good about this past year. There are always things to tweak, and a large factor, the weather, is out of our control, but we are happy with everything overall. We hope that you are happy with your decision to join the CSA, and want all of our

members to know how much we appreciate your support. When we were a younger CSA, we would distribute a survey to customers at the end of the season, but in the interest of saving paper and postage, we have dropped that. We would like to invite folks to email us with any suggestions you might have to help improve the CSA.

Looking back, we would have liked to have more carrots this year and a better start to the season which was a little light. We did better with weed control and certainly enjoyed better rain fall this year. While we would love to offer sugar snap peas, it just doesn't happen, so we will probably abandon the idea for they take a huge amount of time at the expense of keeping up with the other veggies.

If you did not remember to return your boxes this week, please be sure to have them back to your pickup location by Tuesday. Tim will be traveling around to each pickup on Wednesday the 31st to pick up the boxes.

Last little bit of business is to ask that you make sure that we have current contact information for you and anyone that you may have divided you share with. This will guarantee that you are kept in the loop about next year.

Once again, THANK-YOU SO MUCH for participating in our CSA and have a great winter.

### *This Week's Box*

Onions  
Butternut Squash  
Garlic  
Green Peppers  
Potatoes  
Broccoli  
Lettuce  
Spinach  
Carrots

### *Next Week*

Absolutely  
Nothin'