

The Farm Weekly

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JUNE HAS TAKEN FLIGHT

I hope that the speed with which June flew by is not an indicator of the velocity at which the remaining summer will run. I swear the kids just got out of school last week! I am certain that June's pace is a reflection of our own, but I know I don't move that fast anymore. Perhaps instead the mathematical formula actually is the velocity of time is directly proportional to the length of the "to do" list.

The weather took some of the pressure off Tim for irrigating, but he was back at hooking up the individual rows of hoses for the drip irrigation yesterday. They transplanted fall broccoli, cabbage, and collards this week, so it is important that these young transplants are given adequate moisture to have good start.

The deer ate approximately 1000 heads of lettuce last week. Fortunately, these were heads that were just about to bolt and weren't going to be usable anyway, but now we are in a rush to get mowing done. We theorize that the

less high grass they have to hide in, the less comfortable they will be in the fields munching on the veggies. Tim spent a hefty part of last winter clearing brush and saplings to keep the does from birthing their bambies in the fields, but they still come in for snacks.

Some shorter rodents set up housekeeping this winter in the engine of the small tractor known as an Allis Chalmers "G". Tim uses this funny looking antique tractor for cultivating, eliminating weeds by disturbing the soil and uplifting them. So on Sunday, he and Luke removed the engine, cleaned things out, and almost have it back together again.

Hannah who is itching to get behind the wheel of a car has had tractor duty for some mowing with the bush-hog this month, and may get some time behind the wheel of the "G" as well. It may not be what she was thinking of, but it is experience being behind a steering wheel and can't hurt!

We are having box

issues this season a little earlier than normal. One problem is that many folks are not collapsing their boxes. This is not the responsibility of the pickup location folks, so please carefully collapse your boxes flat.

The other problem is that members are not returning their boxes. This is a perennial headache for us, and we recommend that you bring something to the pickups to transfer your produce into. The plastic laundry baskets are perfect for this, since they are waterproof and will keep your produce from getting your car wet. Doing this will keep you from having to remember to bring the box back.

We know it sounds silly to get so uptight about boxes, but these cost over \$3.00 each and we have to have at least 2 boxes per member in circulation. A few forgetful folks at each location really messes our system up.

We would like to thank everyone for the care you are showing while opening the boxes. We are having much less damage to the boxes this year from tearing, and we appreciate it tremendously.

In the critter department, Tim's bee herds are doing well and working the yellow and white clover that is in full bloom, so we should have plenty of honey later this season for sale.

Ursula and Galla-

**ANNUAL
FARM OPEN
HOUSE
SATURDAY
22 JULY
10:00 TO 4:00**

gher are settling in fairly well although one forgets what puppies can accomplish, much like a woman forgets the pain of childbirth. It has been interesting to watch the reaction of the alpacas to them. The crias, much to their mothers' consternation will approach the dogs, while the older gals are almost in attack mode.

These newest employees have been moved from the barn where they enjoyed tearing up the feed bags, to a smaller shed with chicken wire faced panels, which should keep them penned and out of trouble. We are allowing them the freedom of the pastures during the day, but want them in at night for now, so they won't inadvertently panic the alpacas or escape for even greater adventures outside the pastures.

We promise more details next week for the Open House! Have a good week!

This Week's Box

**Lettuce
Early Onions
Broccoli
Spinach
Summer Squash**

Next Week

**Green Cabbage
Onions
Summer Squash
Chinese Cabbage
Kohlrabi
? Beets**