



# the Organic Harvester

## Weekly CSA Member Version

Week of May 29<sup>th</sup>

*Welcome* to the 2005 Green Meadows Farm weekly newsletter. The goal of the newsletter is to keep you informed of all the activities on the farm. It's also an opportunity for the farmers to give you first hand information on how your crops are progressing in the fields. Please take the time to read the letter. It's short and a quick read and has important information on how best to enjoy everything the farm has to offer. Every year I'm dismayed when a member comes up to me with a suggestion for something like an herb garden or a PYO crop and I ask if they read the newsletter...that we did indeed grow an herb garden and it was mentioned in the newsletter. Last year we began listing what was going to be in the distribution. Many members have commented that this is a very helpful addition because it allows them to plan meals ahead of time. We'll keep the list going. Please inform us of any other suggestions you have for the newsletter.

### News From The Field

Cold, wet, windy, overcast...third straight year we've begun the season with nasty weather. So far in the month of May we've had six days of sun and two Nor'easters. These conditions are terrible for most vegetables, ideal for weeds (can't cultivate when the soil's wet), and seem to favor certain pests like cutworms. The weather notwithstanding, the crew has been busy planting, cultivating (when the sun comes out), taking care of all the animals, and getting ready for **the plant sale on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>**.

The weather conditions are forcing us to back up the **first distribution to June 14<sup>th</sup>**. Not to worry, you will still receive 20 weeks of fresh organic produce and more than likely, we'll end up throwing in an extra distribution if the season is bountiful. For those interested in issues surrounding organic food and where to find organic products, check out these helpful links.



### News From the Farm Stand

Now's the time to send suggestions on what you'd like to see being sold in the farm stand this season. The big sellers last year were Kim's organic baked goods, local cheeses, eggs, Puleo's Milk, and drinks. What else would you like to pick up when you come to distribution? Do you know of an artisanal product you'd like to see in the stand?

**Mark your calendar for the pot luck on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> from 3 until we're all stuffed.** At 3 sharp we'll have an orientation on how distribution works and then the crew is going to take everyone on a guided tour of the farm. We'll visit the animals, check on the crops, point out the best fishing hole and show you where you can find the best blueberries and wild blackberries.

### Helpful Links

**Organic Consumers Association**  
[www.organicconsumers.org](http://www.organicconsumers.org)

**Pesticide Action Network**  
[www.panna.org](http://www.panna.org)  
[www.greenpeople.org](http://www.greenpeople.org)

**Alternative Farming Systems Information Center**  
[www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/ofp/](http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/ofp/)

**New England Organic Farmers Association**  
[www.nofa.org](http://www.nofa.org)

### Current Events

#### **Organic Plant Sale** **Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**

We will be offering organically grown seedlings for sale in the farm stand on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 9-5. Plant them in your gardens to grow your own organic vegetables.

#### **Pot Luck and Orientation Dinner** **Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

We'll kick off the season with a pot luck dinner that will include an orientation on how distribution works. The crew will then take everyone on a guided tour of the farm. The Pot Luck will start at 3:00pm and will continue until we're all stuffed.



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