

# Jenny-Jack Sun Farm

## "good food news"

A couple of weeks ago my friend Randy was out here talking with us while we ate lunch. He made a historical reflection that I quickly forgot soon after he left and did not remember until this morning when Jenny drove to the farm early to start watering. He said that in 1920-something it rained in April and this part of Georgia did not see rain again until that December. I'm optimistic 2012 will not repeat the weather patterns of the dust bowl years but its spring and it's really dry. Flowers are supposed to grow from April showers not well water dripping through plastic emitters. These dry early, early days of summer make us grateful for our irrigation system and electricity and the ease of rotating a brass valve to release clean, life-giving water. Until the skies drop rain, we will continue to arrive a little earlier and stay a little later rotating water from dry field to dry field.

Even though rain is scarce the grass around our crop patches is growing tall developing seed heads ready to spread onto our weed-free rows of vegetables. Usually I mow and weed-whack regularly, but this year my erratic schedule is evident in the farm landscape. So, for the next few days I will switch between bush hog and weedeater, shortening the grass around our irrigation valves, fence rows, blueberries and all in between. The rest of the crew will plant our second succession of tomatoes tomorrow morning, heavily mulch their new ground, and install t-posts for trellising. This year we are planting five successions of tomatoes compared to last year's three. Each succession will include fewer plants with the hope of less daily volume and a steadier, stretched harvest. With the first tomato installment near the first of April, we should see the beloved fruit at least by mid-June. May the wheat straw bedded below the beefsteaks and the heirlooms retain irrigation as well as the dead leaves on the forest floor and may the spring rains wake up wholeheartedly and anxiously enter familiar ground.

### What's Available?

Chard, Kale, Spinach, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, beets, Collards, green onions, green garlic, stone-ground grits and free range eggs all (minus the grits) from our farm. Rachel will also be here with her delicious baked goods!

### Just So You Know...

We have reached capacity with our CSA shares for the spring/summer season! At 125 shares we are growing for about 15 more members than last year. If you are interested in joining for the fall season send us an e-mail and we will add you to our waiting list. You will receive info regarding the next season via e-mail in July. Thank ya'll so very much for supporting our small farm.

### Spring Farm Dinner

On Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> join us in celebrating the Spring here at our farm from 4-8. We will have talented musicians, a host of local artisans, a farm tour, and a really good meal. E-mail Kelly at [dinneronthefarm@yahoo.com](mailto:dinneronthefarm@yahoo.com) to make reservations or for questions.

### Picture of the Week



Molly weeding, Max mulching, and Jenny searching for Native American artifacts. Okra was seeded a week ago in the eight rows to the left of these hardworking people and is just now peeking through the topsoil. Molly is weeding around two rows of Sunchoke we

planted in early Spring. We distribute these tubers in November to our CSA members and hold back some to plant out like these in our okra patch.



Jenny and Molly pulling hunks of crab grass and Bermuda grass from our Cilantro bed. The sugar snaps are finally serving up their sweet, crunchy bean pods. CSA members should see this treat very soon in their shares.

Our produce may be found at the downtown Columbus Market on Saturdays from 9-12 and our On Farm Market Wednesdays from 9-1. We have a 125 member CSA with drop-off locations in Lagrange, Columbus, and On-farm. You can also find our produce on the menu of Food Blossoms Catering out of Hamilton and the Bakery and Café in Pine Mountain.

Take good care,  
Chris and Jenny