

# Jenny-Jack Sun Farm

## "good food news"

An out of state visitor meandering through the farm may never realize the severity of Georgia's drought by the look of our vegetable plants. The upright, healthy demeanor transcending from the okra, beans, tomatoes, eggplant, and peppers tell a story rooted in adequate nutrients and water. This is only the case because of our exceptional drip irrigation system capable of slowly sending water below the surface embracing each plant's extensive root system. Many of our summer crops are able to take a greater advantage of our drip system by shading the water source with a crowded canopy of foliage or, like in the case of the tomatoes, employing both a rich canopy and a thick layer of wheat straw mulch. As southern farmers growing veggies through the drought-ridden days of summer, we must continue to be creative in our watering and conservation methods if we want a continuous, bountiful harvest. Obviously, water keeps plants growing, but it also plays a necessary role in the plants ability to absorb vital nutrients. A common problem amongst us tomato growers is bottom end rot which, as many growers know, is caused by meager amounts of calcium. However, the soil may have a fair supply of calcium, but due to inconsistent watering, the plants ability to absorb that calcium is negated resulting in more and more crop loss. We are forever grateful to the folks from the NRCS who made irrigation installation a priority with their grant money gifts, and for our deep, precious, life-giving well that keeps the clear liquid coming.

Tomatoes have arrived in number! Sungolds, Juliets, big hybrids, and heirlooms are rapidly ripening into globular ornaments of purples, reds, oranges, and pinks. Each variety offering something a little different in texture, taste, presentation, and purpose, but all downright good. If you are not a CSA member the best way to feast on one of summers finest pleasures is to come out on Wednesdays to our on farm market where we will have tomatoes for all of your snacking, sandwiching, and preserving needs. Yesterday was our first sizeable harvest, many of which will go to CSA folks, but do expect more to be available in weeks to come. Hope to see ya tomorrow!

### What's Available?

Summer Squash, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Peppers, Green Beans, Blueberries, Beets, Carrots, Onions, Garlic, Juliet Tomatoes, Sungold Tomatoes, Big Red Sandwich Tomatoes, Local Honey(Columbus), Stone-ground grits and free range eggs. Rachel will not be here with her baked goods.

## Picture of the Week



Max working hard picking the years first harvest of okra. The sunchokes are on the left towering above man and okra.

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