

Jimmy Acres: A Tommerdahl Family Farm

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Hello Friends and Neighbors!

Whew, it's that time of year when days seem to speed by without knowing where they've gone. We've been busy in the garden this month with picking, picking, and more picking! Our kitchens (and bellies) have been full of a delightfully colorful array of veggies, and we've been so busy that we've had minimal time for picture-taking to show y'all what's been going on!



Besides taking care of (and eating) tomatoes, we've done a few other things this month:

- ♣ Cucumbers, squash, green beans, peppers, and okra have also made their way to the farm stands this month. They may not be quite as popular as tomatoes, but they still deliver a taste of summer that you don't want to pass by!



- ♣ We've really enjoyed meeting so many new people at both of the farm stands this month and have seen some impressive pictures of what y'all have done with your Jimmy Acres produce! We always love seeing our veggies being used in ways that allow them to reach their full culinary potential (although eating them fresh and raw is always a great option as well!). We also love when you tell your friends and neighbors



about us—thanks to all who have passed the word along!

- ♣ After talking about it for about three years, drip irrigation was finally set up in (most of) the garden!! Jake has also started burying lines to irrigate the blueberries. Although the farm has seen a storm or two this month, most of the rain has decided to roll right on around us and just make us jealous with all the thunder and lightning. It's been great having irrigation since the plants sure do like having water when they're working so hard to provide us with food!
- ♣ Out in the orchard, the trees are starting to look happier. Most of the trees are in an area previously occupied by tobacco fields where the soil has been depleted and run down. With a little help from some manure, mulch, and worms (plus the rest of the soil ecosystem!) to mix it all up, the trees are starting to dig their roots down deeper, establishing their place on the landscape. Several of the pear trees are loaded this year and we're watching them closely to make sure the birds and squirrels don't beat us to the fruit!
- ♣ Chris and Keith had their second successful honey harvest! We didn't collect quite as much honey as last year, but we're grateful that the bees were willing to share about a gallon of their stores with us. Shout out to Linda for letting us borrow her extractor! Interestingly, the honey from our hive is a different color and flavor than Linda's even though her hives are next door and well within bees' typical two mile foraging radius... it just goes to show how local 'local honey' can be!
- ♣ The cows up at Summerfield (Jake's other stomping ground) grazed their way through a very hot and very dry June and July. Plants commonly viewed as weeds, such as Johnson grass, ragweed and even milkweed, have been filling in the herd's diets during this dry period when grass growth has slowed to a crawl. With the recent rains, we can't wait to see what late summer grasses start to pop up!

You Say Tomato, I Eat A Tomato

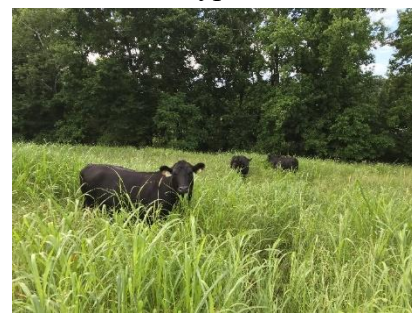
Somehow, I'm yet to be tired of eating tomatoes. A few with breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks in between makes each day a continuous juicy delight. With so many varieties to choose from, each one is a new and exciting adventure for your taste buds... and you have to keep eating more to figure out which one you like best. So far, my favorite kind is whichever one is in my mouth at the moment! Between the bite-sized striped Sunrise and Pink Bumblebee cherry tomatoes that deliver an explosion of flavor, the Snow Whites with a tangy burst, the Anna Russians with their simultaneous sweet and tangy flavor, the beautiful marbling of a Northern Light, or the creamy chocolate color of a Southern Night, the



rich taste of a Cherokee Purple, or the smooth creamy texture of a Big White Pink Stripe, the crazy coloration of a Dark Galaxy and Atomic Grape, or the good 'ol Red



Brandywine, the unique knobbed structure of a Reisetomato, or the perfect flawless form of an Arkansas Traveler, the snackable size of a Green Zebra, or the slice of Monomakh's Hat that hangs over the edge of your tomato sandwich (to name just a few), how can you pick a favorite?! We hope that y'all have been enjoying tomato season as much as we have and that you have let your taste buds venture out of their comfort zone of regular looking tomatoes to explore the exciting variety that's out there!



If you have any suggestions for things you'd like to see in future newsletters, or have any ideas for how we can improve our customer service or your produce-buying and -consuming experience, please let us know! And as always, please feel free to pass this along to all of your produce-loving friends and neighbors!

"Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful, and most noble employment of man."

~George Washington~

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