

Riverdog Farm Veggie Box News
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September 7, 2009
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Box Contents:

1½ lbs Autumn Royal Grapes
1 lb Summer Squash
1 bskt Cherry Tomatoes
1 Orange Honeydew Melon
1½ lbs Yellow Onions
½ lb Green Beans
2 Flamingo Sweet Peppers
1-2 Cucumbers

Field Notes: A smoky haze has settled in our windless valley today. The smoke was so thick Monday night that it caused our eyes to sting and our breathing took notice. We are hoping for a light wind to clear the air. The smoke is coming from a 300-500 acre wildfire along the Colusa and Lake County borders about 6 miles west of State Route 16 near State Route 20. It's amazing how much smoke a fire of this size produces. The burning area is thick with wild land vegetation. Luckily, no homes or structures are threatened.

Box Notes: The table grapes are from Terra Firma Farm (certified organic by CCOF) in Winters. The variety is Autumn Royal, a black, crisp grape with sweet, juicy flavor. The grapes indicate that fall is around the corner. The bulk of the box contents are a fine sampling of late summer – the green bean fields continue to produce, the orange honeydew melon planting is prolific, late summer harvested onions will make their appearance throughout the coming months, sweet peppers are at their peak of production and flavor in September, and the cherry tomatoes are rebounding after a brief high heat hiatus. This is a week for cooking onions with all your home-cooked meals. Saute them with mushrooms and sweet peppers, roast them with cubed summer squash, chop finely and sprinkle them on tacos, slice thinly and enjoy in a cucumber onion salad. They are delicious raw or cooked.

The **Yolo Land Trust** is celebrating 21 years of preserving farm and open space in Yolo County at their annual fundraiser, "A Day in the Country." The event will be held on Sunday, September 13, from 3:00 – 6:00 pm at the beautiful Elkhorn Basin Ranch, between the Yolo Bypass and the Sacramento River, north of Hwy 5. This event is open to the public. Restaurants from around the Sacramento/Bay Area will feature produce donated by farms in Yolo County. For ticket information please visit:
www.yololandtrust.org/events.php.

Hoes Down Harvest Festival!

Saturday October 3, 2009 from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm at Full Belly Farm in Guinda. This fun event to celebrate rural living is down the road from Riverdog Farm.

For more information go to www.hoesdown.org. The Saturday event costs \$20.00 for adults & \$5.00 for children ages 2-12. Children under 2 are free! On Sunday October 4, 2009 there will be several farm-related workshops such as Meet your Meat, The Chicken and Egg, Olive Oil 101, and Home Brewing. The Sunday workshops require pre-registration. To defray the admission cost to the Saturday event, volunteer opportunities are available.

Early Girl & Roma Tomatoes: Early Girl and Roma tomatoes are available by the 20 lb case for making sauce, freezing, or canning whole.

Early Girls or Romas: 20 lb case is \$30.00

Place your order by Sunday for delivery during the following week. Please send payment when you place your order.

Payment Reminder: The veggie box price is \$20 per week. Fourth Quarter / October payment is due by September 25, 2009.

Monthly payment for four **Wednesday** deliveries in October is \$80.

Monthly payment for five **Thursday / Friday** deliveries in October is \$100.

Quarterly payment for 11 weeks of **Wednesday** deliveries from October through the third week in December is \$220.

Quarterly payment for 12 weeks of **Thursday / Friday** deliveries from October through the third week in December is \$240.

If you have any questions about your account status, please email us at csa@riverdogfarm.com or call (530) 796-3802.

Please check the "Ordered-Through" column on the sign-out sheet. If the printed date in the column is earlier than the end of the month, your payment for the remainder of the current month is due by the printed date. Without timely receipt of payment, deliveries might be interrupted.

We don't advertise our CSA program. We currently have space for additional subscribers. Endorsement from members who enjoy our service is the best advertisement we could ever hope for! If you like what we do and know folks who would enjoy receiving our weekly veggie box deliveries, please have them give us a call, send us an email, or visit our website: www.riverdogfarm.com.

Riverdog Farm Pork Sausages! Enjoy for barbeque season, a 10 lb case of Riverdog Farm assorted pork sausages is now available. Sausages are made from pasture-raised Riverdog Farm hogs certified organic by CCOF. Pork and sausage are processed at non-certified facilities. We use quality pork for our sausages – not just the trim! Riverdog Farm pork sausages do not contain nitrates or any artificial ingredients. Each case is \$65 and contains an assortment of flavors. The sausages are uncooked and delivered frozen to your pick-up location. Email or phone your order by the Sunday before your delivery day. Please remit payment to our address when placing your order.

Riverdog Farm Pastured-Pork: Pork shares include an assortment of cuts and sausages. Riverdog Farm hogs are certified organic by CCOF. Pork and sausage are processed at non-certified facilities. Our pork has great flavor and good marbling! Pork shares are \$7 per pound and range from 20 to 27 pounds. The assortment includes cut-and-wrapped ribs, loin chops, shoulder steaks, sirloin chops, tenderloin, shoulder roasts, and sausages. Each share is packed into a cardboard box (the same size box as the veggie box) and delivered frozen to your pick-up location. To request a detailed list of availability or to place an order, email csa@riverdogfarm.com or call (530) 796-3802. For photos of our hog operation, visit our *Hog Blog* at riverdoghog.blogspot.com.

Chicken Salad with Grapes

From <http://southernfood.about.com/od/chickensandwiches/r/bl60829d.htm>

1 to 1½ cups diced chicken

4 tablespoons mayonnaise

1 green onion, with about 2 inches of green, chopped [Or diced RDF onion here-RDF]

Salt and pepper, to taste

8 to 12 red or green seedless grapes, halved

1 rib celery, chopped

Dash curry powder, or to taste, optional

Combine ingredients until blended. Spread on bread for sandwiches or arrange on lettuce leaves. Serves 4.