

WSU ORGANIC FARM
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Welcome, everyone, to the 2007 WSU Organic Farm CSA (community supported agriculture). This is the farm's third season to offer the CSA and we are very excited about the upcoming season. We will again have close to 100 members, including our excellent volunteer staff. There are some exciting changes for the farm this season, and I'll keep you informed of them with this newsletter.

The first change is in newsletter editors! Our editor for the past two seasons, Carol Spurling, will be leaving for Europe later this summer with her family to visit and work on family-run organic farms as part of the WWOOF program (www.woof.org). Stepping in for Carol will be long-time CSA member Jyotsna "Jo" Sreenivasan.

This spring has been great for getting our crops in the ground on schedule. I haven't missed a planting yet, compared to last spring, when I went for 3 weeks between the first early plantings. So it has been drier but also cooler. The crops we do have are growing slowly but should be ready for our first harvest starting the third week of May. For Moscow pick-ups that will be Tuesday, May 15, and for Pullman pick-ups that will be Friday, May 18. I'm including the pick-up day you requested on the back of this letter. **We actually have quite a few more members for Fridays this year and I'd like to see if anyone would like to switch to Tuesdays. If you are able to change, please get in touch with me as soon as possible.**

Another exciting change this year is that the orchard block directly north of the farm will be certified organic. We will hopefully have a little of their pears and apples in the CSA during October, but all their fruit will be available separately. Contact the orchard manager, Deb Pehrson, with any questions (debpehrson@wsu.edu; 335-6700). Please be mindful of the trees, sprinklers, and other equipment that may be near the orchard roads and parking areas.

Feel free to email or call me if you have questions as well. You are all members of this farm and your input is appreciated. Thank you for your support.

How does the CSA work??!

Every week you will pick up your share at the scheduled pick-up location. We will have a list of the members so we can check you off after you've picked up. Some members are splitting boxes with other people, but there will only be one name on the list. It is up to you to actually split the share.

There will be two box sizes: full and half. The full shares have more quantity and variety. The half shares are not exactly half as much as the fulls. We will be using the same reusable plastic boxes this year. There are two sizes so that should help in identifying the fulls and halves.

ALL members are required to repack their share into another container of your choice. Many people were doing this last year with cloth bags or their own boxes. Then we will keep the plastic box and reuse it for the next harvest. If you forget your own bags we will have a limited amount of bags available.

If you are not able to pick up your box for any week, you are welcome to have a neighbor or friend pick up in your place. All they need to know is your name so we can check you off on our list. Boxes will not be held past the set pick-up times, and any unclaimed boxes will be donated to the food bank partners.

-Brad Jaeckel, manager

Visitors

Visitors are welcome to come to the farm. Friday afternoons are the best times to visit since we'll be distributing boxes then. However, we are flexible and will welcome you for visits on other days. Our summer field course students will be meeting on Wednesday mornings through the end of July, so that is not a good time to visit. Tuesday and Friday mornings are harvest times and are VERY busy, so that would be the other bad time to visit. If you do visit, please check in with a manager before touring the gardens. We can give you important info. on where and where not to walk. And please leave your pets at home.

Moscow Pick-up:

The Moscow pick-up is Tuesday afternoons at the Moscow Food Co-op (5th and Washington) parking lot between 4:30 and 6:30pm. We will be set up with other growers and the weekly BBQ. The parking lot is small and I encourage you to walk or park nearby rather than in the lot. If you do enter the parking lot, PLEASE DO NOT leave your car idling in front of the table. We are grateful to the Co-op for lending us the space and we hope everyone will be respectful of other shoppers and drivers. If problems arise please let me know and we will try to find solutions. Remember that the Co-op has a "Leave Your Car @ Home" punch card available, so if you choose not to drive to pick up your CSA share, and spend at least \$5 inside the store, you'll be one punch closer to getting \$5 off at the Co-op.

Pullman Pick-up:

The Pullman pick-up will be Friday afternoons at the farm inside the Tukey Orchard between 3 and 6pm. From Pullman, head east towards Moscow. At the last stoplight turn left onto Airport Road. Continue past

Grimes Way (and the bears) about 3/4 mile to last driveway on right before the intersection to the airport. Turn right into driveway with big red sign: "Tukey Horticultural Orchard." Go through gate and past shop buildings. Follow paved road up hill through the orchard. At the top of hill turn right at the grey shed and go about 200 yards. There is a gravel parking area on the right directly above the farm. Please park here and walk down to the gardens.