



This Week's Share May

Include:

- **Heirloom tomatoes**
- **Red tomatoes**
- **Cherry tomatoes**
- **Edamame**
- **Specialty Peppers**
- **Green Peppers**
- **Cukes**
- **Watermelon**
- **Sweet Onions**
- **Kale**
- **Carrots**
- **Garlic**
- **Hot peppers**

On the Farm this Week

August may be one of the most challenging months of the year for organic vegetable farmers in Rhode Island. It's a time when every farmer must admit that the weeds have taken over a few sections of the farm. We've battled some of them back, but we are so busy picking and washing produce that some other important tasks have fallen to the wayside. Tomatoes are coming on strong and we find ourselves cleaning them until late at night. Melons are also a wonderful August crop, but they are such a pain to lug around! The August heat and humidity have been grueling this year, making our long workdays especially challenging.

We do not, however, want to just complain about the challenges we've had to face this week. We want to celebrate the cool weather this past week, the start of the fruit share, and the accomplishments: the onion crop was pulled this week and is curing in the barn; the raspberry field got a facelift; and fall greens were planted. In addition, we were featured on a brief segment on Channel 10 news. It was fascinating to see how a local interest segment is produced.

The First Annual Rhode Island International Farm Olympics was held at Casey Farm on Sunday, where a group of weary and overworked organic farmers joined together for some much-needed fun. Activities included a watermelon-eating contest, egg toss, leek javelin toss, hay-bale rolling contest, and a ridiculous relay race that included hurling rotten tomatoes at a Monsanto target and catching live chickens. We are proud to announce our crew placed third in overall standings!

General Reminders for Members

Peaches and apples at the pick-up are only for families that purchased the additional fruit share from Barden Orchards. Please don't forget your fruit at the pick-up if you are a fruit share member.

Both of our CSA pick-ups are from 3pm until 7pm. Please do not arrive early at the pick-ups. There are so many stress factors in farming that we can't avoid. Please help us eliminate this factor that can be avoided. We would like to be able to take our time starting the pick-up and setting it up properly without feeling rushed. Thank you for respecting this request.

Tomato Festival

The Third Annual Tomato Festival at the Coastal Growers Market is August 25. From 9:00am till noon, swing by Casey Farm on Route 1A in Saundertown for this unique celebration. There will be an opportunity to taste samples of over 20 types of heirloom tomatoes and to purchase them from certified organic growers (including us) at the market. This is a one day event and we encourage you to come early since it is a wildly popular event.

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