

April 28, 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1

# food for thought

*The newsletter of J.L. Hawkins Family Farm/ 260-982-4961*

## Shares for sale

A few weeks ago we launched a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) effort on our farm, mailing a lot of paperwork to anyone who had previously done business with us. We are grateful for the support of many thus far, especially those who have been creative in "sharing shares" with others. Please know that we will continue to sell shares until all 50 are sold (even though we set April 15 as a target date) so if you had hoped to buy one but thought you were too late, well, you are in luck! Contact us for an order form, or go to our web site and download the forms from there.

Update on items included in a share:

- ✓ 2 varieties of green beans
- ✓ 2 varieties of carrots
- ✓ All star gourmet lettuce mix
- ✓ Romaine
- ✓ Spinach
- ✓ Arugula
- ✓ Sugar snap peas (Spring)
- ✓ Fall peas
- ✓ Easter egg radishes
- ✓ Spring and Fall broccoli
- ✓ Big beef tomato; grape tomato
- ✓ Green, red, yellow peppers
- ✓ 2 varieties of cucumbers
- ✓ Globe onions and bunching onions
- ✓ 3 varieties of sweet corn
- ✓ Yukon gold and Dark Red Norland potatoes
- ✓ Halloween pumpkins
- ✓ Butternut, Spaghetti, and Blue Ballet squash
- ✓ Painted mountain ornamental corn
- ✓ Small and large mixed gourds
- ✓ Calypso, Soldier, Swedish Brown, Black Turtle, Jacob's Cattle, and Yellow Eye dry soups beans
- ✓ Basil
- ✓ Chives
- ✓ Some cutting flowers
- ✓ Beef, chicken, and turkey.

## Chicken and Turkey for sale, too

You can also buy meat chickens and Thanksgiving turkey, even if you do not buy a share. As a matter of fact, we are raising as many as 1500 extra chickens to sell! You can contact us to send an order form to you, or you can find the order form at our website (just download the form, follow the instructions, and send it in). (Note: at this time we do not plan to have beef or steakburger for sale independent of the purchase of a share, but this may change if all the shares are not sold. Let us know if you may have interest in this.)

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### We're on the Web!

See us at:

**www.**  
**hawkinsfamilyfarm**  
**.com**

## The season begins...

Seeds and plants have been ordered and the seeds have arrived, with plants to follow in mid-May. The garden plots are being worked up so that planting can begin this coming week. A thousand or so chicks are in the brooder, growing like crazy, ready to be placed in pasture pens at about three weeks of age to make room in the brooder for the thousand more that will arrive May 13. Sixteen "veteran" cattle have been joined by

nine newcomers out in the pasture, with two baby calves still in the barn. Turkey poults arrive in July. Equipment is being readied and used. The growing season has begun! (All this points to an immediate need: If you have interest in assisting with planting, e-mail or call to see if we can get the scheduling to work out. A lot of help will be needed in these next few weeks!)

## HOPE CSA is launched

As indicated in our initial letter, we feel called to make use of the family farm to promote clergy well-being. Our pioneering effort is called HOPE CSA, which is an acronym for Hands-On Pastoral Education using Clergy Supporting Agriculture. A pilot group of about a dozen clergy have gathered twice (on a once-a-month schedule),

using "a day away" on the farm as the basis for experience and discussion designed to encourage health (understood in its broadest sense) in clergy, family, and congregation. Let us know if you'd like to hear more about this promising ministry.

## About J.L. Hawkins Family Farm...

In 1957, John Leo and Velma Hawkins purchased the ninety-nine acre farm where their grandchildren now live and continue the holy work of raising healthy food. Caring for and celebrating God's Creation is a tradition in our family—and we invite you to join us!

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- ✓ Target date to purchase a share or order pastured poultry: anytime, (but the sooner the better) until all 50 are sold.
- ✓ Orientation meetings: during the first week (June 9-11-13) when you come for vegetable and chicken pick-up, every half-hour from 4pm-8pm.
- ✓ Fresh chicken will be available for pick-up on the farm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: June 9, 11, & 13; July 7, 9, & 11; July 28, 30 & August 1; September 15, 17 & 19.
- ✓ Beef pick-up dates include June 25, 27; November 5, 7.
- ✓ Thanksgiving pick-up date is Friday, November 21.
- ✓ Soup bean pick-up and sign-up for 2004 is Saturday, Jan. 17, 2004.