



LOON ORGANICS

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What's in the box 7/6:

Broccoli: Would be great sautéed up and served with pasta and basil garlic scape pesto.

Green Curly Kale: This can be cooked just like the Dino Kale in last week's box. For ideas, look on page 2.

Purple and Green Kohlrabi: Must peel before eating. Flesh tastes like a very sweet and tender broccoli stem. Check out the pickle recipe and info on pg 2.

Scallions: Also known as green onions. Chop up white and green parts to add to salads or anywhere you want some fresh flavor.

Baby Bok Choi: Some of the leaves got a little damaged in the storm. A stir-fry recipe on page 2

Garlic Scapes: Chop up and put in the blender with your basil, olive oil, lemon juice and choice of nuts to make a delicious pesto. Last week of scapes 'til next year!

Leaf Lettuce: Assorted varieties. Leaves are great on burgers or sandwiches.

Baby Beets: Both beets and greens are edible. The greens are like spinach or chard and can be used in the turnover recipe on page 2. We like to steam or boil the small beets whole and eat with a salad or with butter.

Japanese White Salad

Turnips: Last week of these until the fall. Grate these with your kohlrabi and scallions for a slaw.

Basil: The first long anticipated basil harvest. We've been adding to pizzas and making garlic scape basil pesto with it.

Week 3: Happy Independence Day!

A hot week ended in a bang of storms Friday night with straight-line winds of 60-80 mph. I was just sitting down to write this week's newsletter on Friday evening when the storms started up, and Adam and I ran to the windows watching the winds and rain whip through the farm. We literally saw one of our hoop houses being lifted up and slammed down numerous times during the worst winds of the storm. We thought the whole 100 foot long house was going to be strewn across the farm! When the storm finally passed, we were able to go out and see that the north side of the hoop house was indeed ripped 3 feet out of the ground and half of the hoop house plastic was also ripped off. We'll have to talk to our insurance agent to see if we will be reimbursed for the structural damage. In the meantime, we have to figure out if we can anchor the structure down somehow just for the rest of the season. There are peppers and eggplant growing inside that house, and the crops themselves weren't damaged other than being blown over a bit, but it kind of defeats the purpose of planting them in there if we don't have the plastic to protect them from the rain and wind. In the long run, we'll probably take the whole house down at the end of the season and replace it with a better one. Merely 75 feet to the north of the damaged hoop house, our newest hoop house is standing tall, strong and sturdy with no damage. The new hoop house is a different brand and is more structurally sound than its ruined counterpart. We now know which hoop house we would buy again! You can see photos of the storm damage on our facebook page.

Severe storms and hoop house damage was not how we wanted to end the week here, but we do feel lucky that our other two hoop houses were not damaged and we avoided hail and tornados. There was extensive hail damage to farms just a few miles west of us, including at the Lamb Shoppe (the meat & egg CSA farm). Another neighbor here lost their barn's roof and there were many, many large trees blown down onto people's porches, houses, driveways and yards. So we are thankful that we didn't have any more damage than we did! The good news is that our crops are ok—just a little windblown. With a week of nice, sunny weather forecasted, the plants should have ideal growing conditions and should be as good as new soon. We've been through some bad storms before in our farming career and have witnessed plants that have been pummeled by rain and hail grow back lush and bigger than ever. Plants are resilient, miraculous little creatures and to see them bounce back and grow after severe weather is inspiration to us farmers to strive for such resiliency in our own lives and encounters with adversity.

Next week's box we will hope to add the first crop of summer squash and zucchini. They are loving this heat! More broccoli or cauliflower, fennel, and the first sugar snap peas? Would be nice to have peas! This is the last time for baby bok choy and salad turnips until this fall. The strawberries are kaput for the year until next Spring. Too short of a season on those, don't ya think?

Hope you had a great, long 4th of July weekend! It finally feels like summer!!

