



LOON ORGANICS

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What's in the box 6/20:

Garlic Scapes: A bunch of the curly stems and flowers of the garlic plant.

Red Radishes: these can have a spicy finish to them. If you don't like the spice, slice them and let them soak in ice cold water for 30 minutes and they will mellow.

Green Curly Kale: Many recipe ideas on page 2!

Purple Kohlrabi: The bulbs are very tender. Peel before eating. Crisp and crunchy raw. Or very good lightly cooked. Leaves can be cooked like kale or chard.

Dry Organic Black Beans: These are organic black beans grown on a farm just north of us. Cooking instructions on page 2.

Head Lettuce: Assorted varieties of leaf lettuces. All have nice, mild flavor and are perfect for salads or sandwiches.

Scallions (Green Onions): Chop the white and green parts to add to salads. They are a great addition to nearly any savory dish.

Japanese White Salad Turnips: Eat raw like radishes or lightly cook in stirfry. Tops are edible and very tender for salads/stirfry

Sugarsnap Peas: The whole pod is edible. Snap top off and eat raw or lightly cooked.

Strawberries: Ripe, eat soon! This is the last week of berries.

Potted Basil Plant: Sweet Genovese Basil Plant. Likes partial to full sun. It can stay in its pot, but will get much bigger if transplanted to a larger container.

CSA: Week Two

The Strawberry U-Pick on Saturday was a great success! Rain showers and T-storms were brewing all around us, but the weather held off and everyone could pick their berries and stay dry. It is always really fun to meet CSA members in person and put a face to the names. After our tours, we always think that we are lucky to have some of the nicest customers around. Thanks to everyone for coming out!!! If you weren't able to make it this time or want to visit again, mark your calendars for the next two events. We'd love to see you here!!

Baby spud digging on Saturday, July 21st

Fall Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 23rd

Hope you all enjoyed your first box last week and welcome to the second group of 1/2 shares that are getting their first box of the season today! I've heard lots of good feedback about the white salad turnips. Many commented at the tour that they just discovered that they liked turnips, and that their kids are enjoying them too! The white salad turnips are a Japanese variety called "Hakurei" and they bear little resemblance to the hard, often bitter turnips that are white and purple and commonly grown in the fall. I like Hakurei turnips better than radishes, and way better than any other turnip we've ever grown or eaten. The tops are awesome too! One member suggested that you sauté the turnips and their greens up with bacon. I couldn't agree more!

The strawberries were/are also appreciated by many and it sounds like they were gobbled up a few minutes or hours upon opening up the box. We got about 3-4 inches of hard rain Sunday night on top of a couple inches last Thursday, plus more in just the last few days. That rain is tough on the berries and some of the berries are dirty and need to be washed off before eating. We are picking the good berries left on the plants this week and then I expect that they will be done and over with. I love eating the fresh strawberries. However, I'm never heart-broken to see them peter out after a few weeks spent picking for hours on end. Other good veggies and fruits to come!

Weather, Crops, Next Week's Box

So much for the drought. Rain, rain, and more rain these past few weeks and month! Sunday night rains came down fast for several hours, along with area tornado warnings. We dodged any serious winds, hail or funnel clouds thank goodness. But just 20 miles west of us, they clocked 77 mph gusts. At any rate, the CSA harvests have been muddy, mucky affairs. The leaves on the head lettuce got a little tattered from all the hard rain and it also was quite muddy. You will want to give that an extra rinse and eat it sooner rather than later—the tattered leaves make it a little more perishable than normal. I think we've had close to 8 inches of rain total in the last week alone. Too much! We're looking forward to some sunny, dry days now.

The first beets are ready to be picked and we will have them in your box next week. Baby carrots in the box either next week or in two weeks. Snap peas are just starting up and should be around for a couple weeks. I estimate that the broccoli is about 7-10 days out. Looking like a real nice crop! I expect this might be the last week of garlic scapes, in addition to the berries. Also last week of black beans. We should still have kohlrabi, turnips, lettuces, and baby bok choy next week. Enjoy your veggies! —Loons

