

## **Bergefurd Farm CSA- FOA's (Frequently Asked CSA Questions)**

**WHAT IS A CSA?** CSA stands for 'Community Supported Agriculture' and is a way for people to directly support local farms. Most farms require patrons to provide upfront payment well before the growing season begins so they can plan for the amount of seed to order and to help cover some of the crop planting costs.

**DO I HAVE TO BUY A BASKET EVERY WEEK?** Yes. Farm families depend on consistent weekly income to pay for labor and harvest expenses and your commitment guarantees you'll receive our families fruit and veggies picked fresh for you and your family all season long.

**WHAT'S IN THE BASKET?** Each basket contains between 6 and 10 varieties of freshly picked home grown produce and amounts of each may vary according to season, weather and what is being harvested on the farm that week.

**WHY NOT JUST BUY MY PRODUCE AT THE FARMERS MARKET INSTEAD OF JOINING A CSA?** We welcome all CSA customers to shop for additional produce at our farm or from other farmers at Farmers Markets. However, by joining our CSA you are 1) guaranteed your season long weekly share of produce (CSA customers will come first when a crop is short); 2) you will not have to wait in line at the Farmers Market; 3) you will not have to worry about not having enough money to buy the produce you want at the market; 4) shopping is quicker at the market, i.e stop in, pick up your share and you are outta there!; 5) no more getting up early on Saturday or Sunday mornings to be the first at the market, you will automatically receive the best selection, for your share will be packed as soon as it is harvested from the field; 6) you will know the farmer that is growing your produce and can visit the fields and farm where it is being grown anytime; 7) if you come late to the market your fresh packed produce share will be waiting for you even if we are sold out; 8) our families CSA is fun for it includes our annual farm visit day, farm tour, pick your own pumpkin from the patch, find your way out of our cornfield maze and hayrides.

**IS A CSA MEMBERSHIP A BARGAIN?** Depending on how much produce your family goes through, the cost of your CSA membership may actually be **CHEAPER** in the long run compared to making a weekly purchase at a Farmers Market. Many of our Farmers Market customers spend \$40 or more each week on produce, our CSA membership is \$12.50 to \$25 week.

**WHAT ABOUT QUALITY?** We believe the quality of fruit and veggies in our bags is excellent and we are very careful about how the bags are packed to ensure you'll be getting the best possible produce available. We do allow small blemishes to be included in the bag on all varieties because not all fruit and veggies are created perfectly (or equal) and we believe it is wasteful to throw out anything that is still in excellent and edible condition.

**WHERE DO I PICK UP MY BASKET?** Shares are to be picked up at the farm or at one of the Farmers Markets we attend in the Columbus and Cincinnati areas. All pickup locations are listed above and on the application form.

**WHAT IF I CAN'T PICK UP MY BASKET?** If you are unable to pick up your share at the designated time for your pick up site, please try to have someone pick it up for you. Shares that are not picked up by the end time will not be left because of the perishable nature of the contents and the **produce will be delivered to a local food bank**. With 24 hour advanced notice you can pick up at any of our other locations and times. If you plan to be away for a couple of weeks, a good idea is to have a friend or relative take over your share pickup for the time you are away.

**DO I NEED TO BRING MY SHARE BAG BACK?** YES! Make sure to bring back your previous week's empty share bag when you make your next pickup. At the end of the season you will be charged an additional \$10 for each bag not returned.

**WHAT IF I WANT A LARGER SHARE?** We suggest you ask for an additional ½ bushel share or else double up on a full share, two of which would be suitable for a larger family of good eaters.

**WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFO?** Call our Wilmington home for questions not answered here. The telephone number is (937) 383-2133 or call Marcia on her cell phone (937)302-7908. As an alternative, you may also email questions to [bergefurdsfarmmarket@yahoo.com](mailto:bergefurdsfarmmarket@yahoo.com).

**WHAT DOES THE FARM GROW AND WHAT CAN I EXPECT IN THE BASKET?** Our families farm is located just south of Wilmington, Ohio about 1 hour or less from Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton. We grow over 100 varieties of just about every vegetable, berry and melon crop. For a more complete list of fruit and veggies and approximate harvest dates see the chart attached.

**WILL I RECEIVE ALL ITEMS THAT YOU HAVE ON YOUR CROP LISTING?** Farming and the crops we harvest are **VERY** dependent upon weather and how well Mother Nature treats us. Some weather events (i.e. freeze, flood, droughts, hail, wind) will result in total crop failures. If there are crop failures or skips in harvest your basket will be filled with crops that were not impacted by the weather event.

## *Bergefurd Farm CSA- FQA's (Frequently Asked CSA Questions) con't*

**ARE YOU A FAMILY RUN FARM?** The day-to-day farm operations are run by our entire family Brad, Marcia and children Ashley (23), Brandon (14), Bryant (12) , Brady (10) and our grandsons Ethan and Weston. As the busy planting and harvest seasons fall upon us we ask for help from our families, friends, anyone that owes us a favor or anyone who will work for produce!!

**WHAT IF MY FAMILY DOES NOT LIKE A PARTICULAR PRODUCE ITEM?** We suggest that you trade or share your wonderful produce with your neighbors and friends just like it were coming out of your own garden. Giving away garden grown produce to friends and family is a long standing tradition.

**ARE ALL ITEMS IN OUR BASKET GROWN ON YOUR FARM?** Yes, our farm grows more than 100 varieties of small fruit, melons and vegetables, including summer and winter squash, several varieties of tomatoes (including heirloom varieties), cucumbers, pickles, bell peppers, broccoli, cabbage, potatoes, radishes, beans, sweet corn, onions, greens, watermelons and melons to name a few. See the list below of crops grown.

### **\*SEASONAL SAMPLING OF ITEMS IN YOUR CSA SHARE BAG.**



**MIXED GREENS:** Several interesting greens and lettuce mixes early in the season.



**TOMATOES:** Heirloom selections: Incredibly rich, delightfully intense tomato flavors.



**SUMMER SQUASH:** Green Zucchini, yellow zucchini, yellow squash.



**WINTER SQUASH:** Many varieties including Acorn, Butternut, Delicata and Spaghetti.



**CUCUMBERS:** Gherkin, hamburger and slicing cucumbers.



**SWEET PEPPERS:** Several varieties including Bianca, Yellow, Red, Chocolate and Purple.



**CANTALOUPE:** Honey Rock, Minerva, Eclipse.



**MELONS:** Green flesh Honeydew, Orange Sherbet.



**WATERMELONS:** Sugar Baby, Crimson Sweet, Sangria



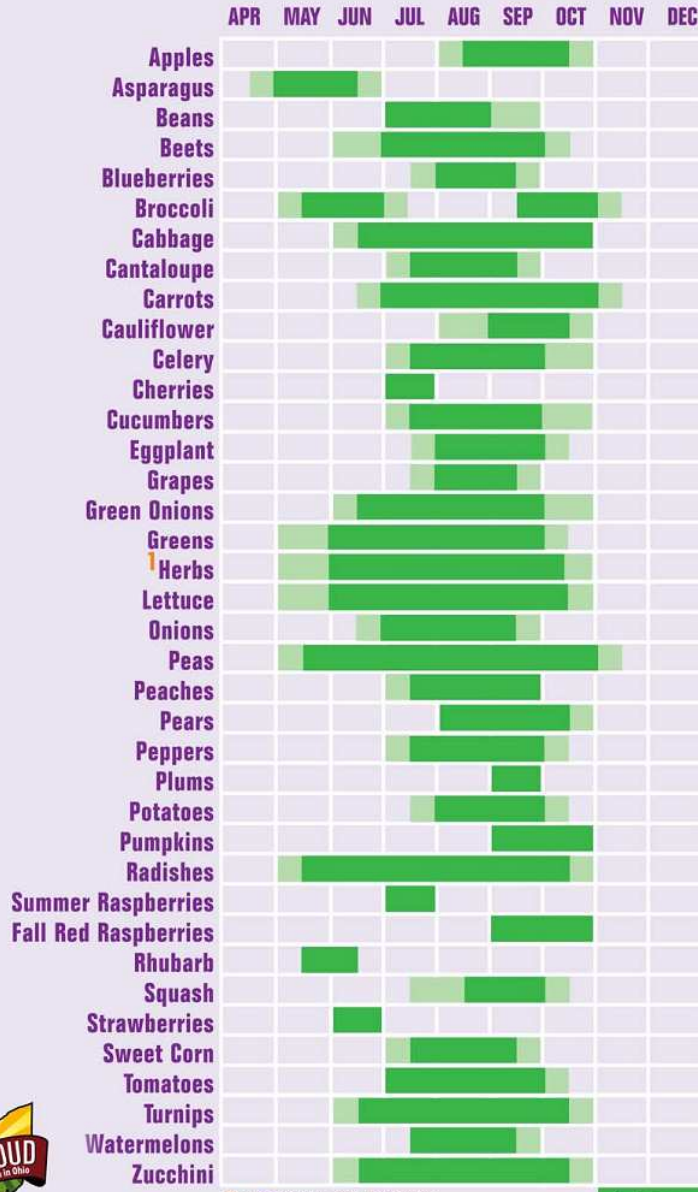
**POTATOES:** Red Pontiac, Yukon Gold, Purple fingerling, Kennebec



**SWEET CORN:** White, Yellow, Bi Color.

\*The above list represents some of the varieties grown on our farm. Due to seasonality not all products will appear in the CSA basket at any one time. The mix of small fruit, melons and vegetables in the CSA basket will vary one way or the other depending on factors such as weather, crop load, labor availability and quality of the variety being harvested, just like your own garden would.

# OHIO Produce Availability



Herbs: Cilantro, Dill and Parsley

Peak Season

**Below is a list of crops we plant and approximate seasonal availability, however, when and if crops are available for harvest during the season is VERY weather dependent.**

**THESE ITEMS HARVEST FROM MID MAY THROUGH THE FIRST OF JULY  
WEATHER DEPENDENT**

Strawberries  
Garlic Scapes  
Leaf Lettuce  
Snap Peas (spring to early summer harvest)  
Sugar Peas  
Snow Peas  
Radish  
Herbs

**THESE ITEMS BELOW HARVEST AROUND JULY THROUGH OCTOBER  
WEATHER DEPENDENT.**

Blackberries (approx. end July through August)  
Garlic  
Herbs  
Collard, Kale, Mizuna , Turnip and Mustard Greens  
Melons/Cantaloupe  
Watermelons  
Honeydew melons  
Zucchini and yellow squash  
Hard winter squash including butternut, acorn, spaghetti, hubbard, cushaw  
Jack o lantern pumpkin (you pick from the patch)  
Cabbage (green savoy, red savoy, red and green)  
Cauliflower (fall only)  
Broccoli (spring and fall)  
Kohlrabi  
Green, Red, Yellow, old fashioned (heirloom) and pink tomatoes  
Tomatillos  
Roma (salad type) tomatoes  
Grape and cherry tomatoes  
Green bell peppers  
Colored bell peppers  
Hot peppers (jalapeno, habanero, hot wax, cherry)  
Sweet Banana peppers  
Sweet Corn  
Okra  
Potatoes (red, yellow and white)  
Sweet Potatoes  
Radish  
Red beet  
Turnip (fall)  
Slicing Cucumber  
Pickling cucumber  
Pie pumpkins  
Stringless Green Beans  
String beans also called half runner beans  
Snap Peas (spring to early summer harvest)  
Sugar Peas (spring to early summer harvest)  
Snow Peas (spring to early summer harvest)  
Green Onions  
Sweet and Mild Onions  
Popcorn