

THIS WEEK'S HARVEST

- One 8 lb 12 oz Babe!! Shepard August joined us Saturday night in our living room next to the wood stove. Mom and babe are both healthy and happy, resting a lot. Henry is excited to be a big brother and is fascinated by little ears and toes!



Hear Ye, Hear Ye

- The Survey we have been talking about is ready. We are very much in a growing phase of this life/business and your input is incredibly valuable as we go into the planning season. Thank you so much for your anonymous responses. You can find it here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YKKC8LG>

- The Boerson's are going to school! We were fortunate enough to receive a scholarship for a CSA improvement course at the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute near Milwaukee.

WINTER NOTES

- The CSA will not be expanding next year. If you would like to join us again, please let us know before the New Year so we can reserve your spot. General Sign Up's will begin after January 1st.
- Pastured Pork will be available all winter long. Limited cuts are available now, and a full line will be in the freezer in about a month.
- We will be offering a pre-Thanksgiving box of veggies including salad greens, parsnips, carrots, Brussels Sprouts, etc. More info to come.

LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

A blink and we find ourselves and Boerson Farm at the beginning of a new chapter. The last 6 months have been exciting and downright educational. Before we even slow down, ambitious thoughts about next season already start rolling into our minds, and winter promises to make us restless for a whole new round.

Almost doubling the CSA from last year to this year provided ample opportunity for learning. Scaling up production seems tricky in any business, but especially in one that relies on Mother Nature's good grace for success. Though we had to adjust to a few curve balls that came our way with storm clouds, the boxes were filled.

We can always do better, however, and our list of homework is long. We'd like to increase our overall production but really have to step up our soil improvement to maintain/increase yields. We are hoping to work up another full acre next season, cover cropping half of it, and planting crops on the rest. Improving our pest management and weed control will be paramount for keeping 2 acres of vegetables under control. We will be experimenting with mechanical cultivation with the Cub tractor for the first time on the new ground. Six borrowed cows and three of our own will hopefully produce enough compost material to keep us in good tith! The list goes on, but for now we have two boys to keep up with.