

SNAKE RIVER FARM, EARLY NOVEMBER UPDATE. NOVEMBER 4, 2011

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Customers

The purpose of this emessage is to give you an update on a number of things.

1. Fall harvest is right on schedule. More details below.
2. An emessage regarding a couple of beef animals best suited for hamburger will come your way under the heading of "Year End Clearance". As soon as I write it. Maybe yet tonight.
3. Most important, Gail is doing great. Thank you for your good wishes and prayers.

FALL HARVEST.

Three fourths of the beef and bison have been harvested.

I am now taking a planned November break. The balance of the beef and bison will be harvested around the first of December. Quite a number of you requested harvest at that time. A few of you who did not express a preference for harvest timing were entered for December to fill out the schedule.

If you did not ask for December harvest of beef or bison and are concerned that your order may have been missed, please email me to verify that you are on the list.

The hogs look just beautiful. They are enjoying this cooler weather and in high spirits.

Hog harvest will start on November 15th and finish November 25th.

The hogs are generally big but I do not believe they will be as large, on average, as last year.

The prolonged hot weather last summer seems to have reduced the weights on all the animals.

Some of you have expressed a preference for a large or small hog. If you do have a preference, let me know.

Most are large but there are a number of perfectly healthy and vigorous pigs that are significantly smaller than average.

One thing I have observed over the years is that when allowed to grow more slowly, without hormones or medications, the animals exhibit a greater range of differences in growth rate and size. That makes sense of course and is apparent in not just the hogs but also in the beef and bison.

YEAR END CLEARANCE.

I will send a separate emessage with the above title. The message will offer a couple of beef animals best suited for hamburger.

GAIL.

In case you do not know, Gail fell and broke her neck on October 5th. She spent 13 days in the hospital, most of that in the ICU and OR.

Her neck was reconstructed with numerous implanted parts. She will wear a brace until the end of November.

She is doing very well and is at this moment preparing the breakfast which she will bring to the deer hunters in the woods tomorrow morning.

She returned to work part-time last Monday and intends to be on a normal schedule next week.

We are incredibly lucky and thankful.

Again, thank you for all your good wishes, offers of help and for your prayers.

Gail is still receiving cards every day. In fact the umpteenth vase of flowers was delivered late this afternoon. A month after her fall.

I told her that most folks have to die before they really learn how much people love them.

She just had to get close.

I hope you and yours are well and enjoying the pleasant fall weather.

We are.

Best regards.

Tom

p.s.

I will send a January newsletter as usual. That newsletter will detail 2012 farming plans and solicit orders from you. It will be as you expect.

p.p.s.

We intend to have a number of bobsledding, lard rendering, soap making and maple syruping Saturdays. I will announce those events via email.