

2016 Late September Update

On Sep 29, 2016, at 9:56 PM, SNAKE RIVER FARM <Tom@snakeriverfarmmn.com> wrote:

Dear Friends, Neighbors, and Customers

It is Fall.

We have not had any frost yet but the mornings are delightfully cool.

The animals enjoy this cool, less buggy weather terrifically.

Still plenty of moisture but seldom too much.

The forecast for Farm Day was wet and the turnout was modest as expected.

People sometimes ask how many of you attend the Spring and Fall Farm Days. I tell them from less than 100 to more than 300, depending on the weather forecast.

The day was pretty nice, really.

Cloudy but no rain from 9 a.m. until night.

We enjoy both the high and low turnout days.

On low days, we have more time to chat with everyone who does show up.

Harvest Update

We are right on schedule.

A majority of the beef have been harvested. About half the bison orders have been filled.

Monday the hog harvest begins.

There are several extra hogs to fill any new orders for ½ hog or ground pork.

Lots of chickens and rabbits in the freezer at QM.

I have mentioned several times that bison supplies are tight but that situation is now changed.

Last week, Gail and I drove to Blue Mounds State Park for the annual bison sale.

The Park sells excess or cull bison each September.

We were able to buy an older cow and two bulls.

I converted those animals into ground bison. That freed up three of our younger animals for cuts.

If you wish to order bison, for either cuts or ground, we now have a more than adequate supply.

All WAITLIST orders for pork, beef, or bison will be filled.

We raised 18 beautiful White Embden geese. Two are still available for your Christmas Goose or any other special occasion.

The geese will be harvested in mid-November. The same time as the majority of the turkeys.

I think we have enough turkeys to fill orders but it will be tight.

The coyotes have become quite brazen.

Last week the pack hit the turkey flock in their day pasture. They killed ten big turkeys.

We lock the turkeys in a secure enclosure at night but during the day they like to roam and forage.

From now on, we will have to keep them more tightly protected.

School house roof and bell.

The schoolhouse bell was removed by a vandal almost 50 years ago.

This week I mounted a fine bell back in the tower. Cousin Albert and the Albertville Fire Department donated the bell.

It sounds delightful.

The bell rope hangs on the side of the school.

I asked Gail what I should do with the rope, meaning, "How should I fasten or hang it."

She said put a sign there that says, "Ring the School Bell all you want."

I will do so.

Today Ben and Isaac helped me put a new green roof on the school.

There is a lot more trim and finish work to do but it looks beautiful.

If I get a chance, I will write and post an article on the Farm's facebook page.

I pasted one photo to this letter. Ben is on the roof, I am on the top of the ladder, Isaac is near the ground.

Gail has already posted photos on her personal facebook page.

These are tasks I have been intending to do for years.

I am motivated now because Casey and Jeremiah are having their wedding reception at the school next week.

Also, next year the school house will be 120 years old.

We plan to have a celebration.

I am making weekly drop off trips. Those drop offs will continue until Christmas.

If you have questions about your order, email me.

Best regards.

Tom

Link to our Facebook page.

[Snake River Farm Minnesota on Facebook](#)