

2023 Early February Update

**Dear Friends and Customers**

It is still winter.

I hope you are keeping comfortable.

We are.

So are the animals.

I have pasted a photo of the bison below. Bill, the herd bull, is central in the photo, a calf from last spring is on the right.

In the photo they are just west of the log home that Shannon, Samantha and Juan built over the past two summers.

The bison have a lot of space this winter. They can roam several paddocks where we feed them hay, down to a big wooded pasture that the river winds through.

For the first time in some years **we were able to contract for the pigs we will raise in 2023.**

You may recall that for the past several years we have had to travel great distances for the kind of pigs we need.

Your 2023 pigs will be delivered in three loads in early May.

They will be outdoor pigs, of heritage breeds, mixed colors, medication free and of three different age groups.

Although the majority will be small when we get them, some will be older so we can again space out the harvest. We need to begin harvesting in late July and finish in late November to give Quality Meats enough time to process them all.

**Over 60% of you have placed your 2023 orders already.** That is ahead of the normal rate.

Lambs are all sold, with a long waiting list.

Although we have purchased over 150 pigs, you have already requested more than 100 of those.

Bison orders are a little ahead, as are beef orders.

It would seem prudent to order soon, if you have not.

Remember, we are not raising poultry this year at our farm.

For chickens and turkeys contact [joppfamilyfarms@outlook.com](mailto:joppfamilyfarms@outlook.com)

**Bethany took a final inventory of her freezers at Quality Meats.**

Somewhat to our surprise there are leftovers.

1. There are two 1/10ths of ground beef from the December harvest. Email me if you are interested in this ground beef.
2. Beef bones (broth bones) 30-50 lbs. Contact QM directly for these.
3. Pork liver 25-30 lbs. Contact QM directly for these.
4. Beef kidneys 25-30 lbs. Contact QM directly for these.

The bones, liver, and kidneys are wrapped in smaller packages. No charge except QM will charge for processing.

We do not have any delivery trips planned, pick-up at Foley only.

The days are getting longer.

Get some sun and vitamin D on these beautiful winter days.

Spring will come soon.

Tom

p.s. Email me if you have questions.

Quality Meats website link [Quality meats](#)

Quality Meats eaddress, [qualitymeatsmn@gmail.com](mailto:qualitymeatsmn@gmail.com)

Quality Meats phone # 320 968 7218

Snake River Farm Facebook page [here](#).



The bigger bison in the center is Bill, the herd bull.

Bison enforce a very strict hierarchy. The smaller animals in the left of the photo are cows. Only cows that have produced calves can be this close to Bill.

The calf on the right in the photo is the offspring of the cow immediately to Bill's side. That calf can only be close to Bill if the cow is also close. If he were to approach without his high-status Mom, he would get a horn.