
WEST PASCO URBAN FARM REPORT

NEW PORT RICHEY FARMNET
WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 2024



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Mark Your Calendar

www.FarmNetNPR.com

WEEKLY UPDATE BY DELL DECHANT

Growing conditions still challenging due to extreme heat. Here at the gardens, we were at or above 90 degrees twice last week and upper 80s all other days. Weather forecasts call for a cool spell later this week. Projected temperatures in the cool spell are in the normal range for this time of the year- no cooler than what the normal temperature should be.

Make no mistake, temperatures are running well above normal. Near or at record highs. Here is what the National Weather Service tells us: For November, the average high is 82 (at start of month) and mid-70s at the end of the month. Instead, this November, the coolest high temperature so far has been 86. Normal lows are mid-60s to upper 50s. Thus far in, in November 2024, the coolest low was 69. Here is NOAA's terrific website for data on weather in the area, historical averages, and educational resources.

<https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Clim ate?wfo=tbw>



2024 Okra Occasion

Supporting and expanding on our findings, is a very good article by Jeff Berardelli, Chief Meteorologist at WFLA: "Tampa and Earth shattering all-time heat records." Here is an excerpt: "After the most sweltering summer on record in Tampa, we added another notch to our belt just yesterday. On Wednesday [November 6] Tampa Airport hit a daily record high of 91 and also an all-time November record high heat index of 101." And here is the link for the full article.

<https://www.wfla.com/weather/tampa-and-earth-shattering-all-time-heat-records/>

Besides the heat, it is very dry. This is expected. We have entered the dry season, and we will have little rain (except with accompanying cold fronts) until next June. Unfortunately, what is also now expected is above normal heat. Together the higher temperatures and dry conditions put great stress on the vegetables, especially the seedlings, which we are now plating.

Collards, kale, and arugula are available. All three are doing well, but not really thriving - and only with abundant irrigation.

Sweet potatoes are again light this year, we have some for shares.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Sweet Potato Round-Up
November 23, 2024
11:00 a.m.**

Hosted by First United Methodist Church

5901 Indiana Ave, New Port Richey, FL 34652

Major Sponsor ~ Rotary Club of New Port Richey

Just in time for Thanksgiving, New Port Richey FarmNet joins with the First United Methodist church of New Port Richey to welcome local growers, businesses, and the community to celebrate the ninth annual Sweet Potato Round-Up and Fall Farming Festival

Friendship Farms & Fare - CSA

November 11, 2024

West Pasco pickup Tuesday afternoon to
evening (5:00)

* When you order, please indicate pickup time.

* larger quantity available if desired

Welcome to the start of our 13th year!

Vegetables

Arugula

Collard Greens - first of the season, smallish

Hibiscus, Cranberry - excellent addition to salads, can be used to make tea.
Tangy, semi-sweet

Kale - first of the season, smallish

Sweet Potatoes - small share ~ we are having another light harvest this year -
but we do have some nice ones (smallish).

Herbs

Basil - lavender

Chives*

Cilantro - similar to cilantro but richer, more intense flavor

Oregano - Italian

Purslane - end of season on purslane, enough for a nice share)

<https://www.nutrition-and-you.com/purslane.html>

Rosemary *

Tarragon

Medicinal

Aloe

Other items and Samples

Seedlings: lavender basil, milkweed, bell peppers, arugula, tomatoes, collard greens, dragon tongue beans (\$3-\$5)

Loquat Trees: Various sizes (\$10-\$25)

Worms - Quart sized container of live red worms in vermipost medium (\$10)

Thanks to all who support Friendship Farms & Fare CSA
and its Agrarian Mission.

If you know anyone who would like information on
acquiring a share in Friendship Farms & Fare CSA, send a
message to New Port Richey FarmNet on Facebook.
Cost of annual shares are very modest compared with
other CSAs.

If you would like to acquire local seeds and seedlings,
send a message to New Port Richey FarmNet on Facebook
and ask to be added to our mailing list.

