
WEST PASCO URBAN FARM REPORT

NEW PORT RICHEY FARMNET
WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 2024



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www.FarmNetNPR.com

WEEKLY UPDATE BY DELL DECHANT

Growing conditions are improving, with recent cool fronts returning temperatures to the normal range for this time of the year. We finally got into the mid-80s.

This week's forecast calls for rain at mid-week, likely on Wednesday, followed by a cold front - the first significant one of the season. Projected temperatures will be in

the normal range for this time of the year early in the week, and then below normal when the cold front arrived.

The rain will be welcome and very helpful. We are in the dry season, which will continue until next June. Every bit of rain helps.

Gardeners are encouraged to collect rain using barrels, buckets, heavy duty trashcans - anything that will hold water. Watch for an article with instructions on collecting rainwater at the New Port Richey FarmNet web site. Go to Add a little bit of body text In the meantime, get ready for rain on Wednesday and collect as much as you can.



Photo from 2024 Okra Occasion

This week's best bets for the CSA shareholders are collards, kale, and arugula. This is the second full week of harvesting, and shares are a bit light – but there is enough for all in the program.

If you are planning on planting for this week, we recommend all winter vegetables: collards, kale, arugula, broccoli, cabbages, even brussels sprouts. All are members of the Brassica family, and will thrive throughout the winter and into the spring. Additional good news, these greens can survive a freeze. Collards, are the champions in this regard, and can survive a hard freeze (to about 10 degrees). The other Brassicas are a bit less hardy, with mid- to upper-20s the safe zone for them.

We'll have articles coming up on winter growing and freezes.

Right now, three excellent transitional vegetables are cucumbers, tomatoes, and peppers. We also like Dragon Tongue Beans. All of these transitional crops will produce through the rest of the fall, through winter and into spring. Be advised, however, unlike the winter greens noted above, they do not thrive in very cold temperatures and a freeze will kill them. So, growers beware.

If you desire seedlings, FarmNet has collards, tomatoes, peppers, and beans – and some broccoli. \$3.00 per plant (in small cells).

Finally, major harvests of the black-eyed pea season are now concluded, and gardens in FarmNetnetwork did every well this year. Watch for our upcoming article on black-eyed peas at the FarmNet website. <https://farmnetnpr.com/>

Thanks to all who support New Port Richey FarmNet and its Agrarian Mission.

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 17, 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 14th 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 vermicompost 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.