

CHICKEN TENDER TIMES

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Greetings from Paradigm Pastures, and welcome to our monthly newsletter. We have been rocking and rolling in our efforts to practice humane animal husbandry in raising pastured poultry!



What's been going on:

The mild weather continues, and it has allowed us to check a number of items off the TO DO list. We have begun preparations for the garden this coming spring. One of the new methods we are testing out is mulching the garden area to try to stop weeds before they start. We are using one of the small round bales from our pasture, and got it spread all over the area. We knew we needed the chickens to clear the seeds out of the hay to keep that from adding to our problem, but we didn't anticipate how much they were going to enjoy it! With the nice weather, they've been outside a lot and have been scritch-scratching all over their new playground. We saw more than one run by with hay hanging out of her mouth! Of course, the long hours outdoors garnered some (unwanted) attention from a pair of coyotes. We caught them outdoors in broad daylight a couple of times, but we were ready for them. When one of them made a move for the hen yard, our dog Moose gave us the heads up and Quentin got him just as he was jumping out of the fence. It was a perfectly placed shot, and none of the hens were hurt in the process. We are still keeping our eyes open for the other coyote, though, and we reinforced the hen yard with an additional electric fence and stronger charging station. We are loving the warm weather but know that it won't hold out forever. We've been wanting to get a wood-burning stove for quite some time, but it is quite an expense. We had the opportunity to get one for free, but it needed a LOT of work to get it back up to firing condition. Well, we've never been afraid of a little hard work, so Quentin took it to the garage and started the process of rust-busting and painting with hi-temp paint. He lit a fire inside to cure the paint and identify any leaks that were then patched up with new gasketing. Now we just have to get the piping to safely vent it to the roof, and we will be ready for an official installation! Things are looking good here, and we hope 2022 is treating you just as well. Happy New Year to you all!!



WE HAVE EGGS!

As always, our girls are hard at work, and we have plenty of eggs on hand. Place your orders on our farm store:

[Paradigm Pastures](#)

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



The weather has been unusually nice, and I've actually seen bees out scouting around a few times. Of course, I know that colder weather is just around the corner, but this good news means that the food they have stored for the winter will last a bit longer than expected. Other than that, we are leaving the hives closed and cleaning up the area around them. I am planning on putting in a more stable (and level) platform for the hives to sit on as the apiary grows. This will require some fence posts, concrete, and elbow grease. Pictures to come soon!



A SPECIAL EDITION

Our daughter put her art skills to use yet again and had a special edition shirt made for Quentin. She drew our farm logo in her personal art style, and it came out SO GOOD! We may be offering a line of Kelsey's Kritters shirts and childrens items soon:

