CHICKEN TENDER TIMES

FEB 2022 Iss. 20

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 chilly weather has given way to some very nice (if windy) days. There is still a nip in the air, but we've had good weather to continue the headway on the fence. Our neighbors have also assisted in clearing and mulching the trees, so progress is slow but steady. With the nicer weather, we've turned our attention to the upcoming season. We placed the order for our first batch of meat birds from Duncan Poultry, and they will be ready for us to pick up on April 6th. The next step was to plan out the processing days for this season. The first one will be on June 4th (with a pickup day of June 5th). We were processing on Fridays this past year due to Tiffany's work schedule, but that kept many of the people that usually come help from being able to do so. Our processing days are for more than just processing. Many of our family and friends like to come help both as a way to take part in the process of providing their own food as well the opportunity to talk, catch up, and laugh together. It may seem like an odd place for fellowship, but it's really no different than any other get together. We both enjoy their company and get to maintain the transparency of how we process our birds. Speaking of transparency, we will be trying something different this year in the garden. We're going to be using transparent greenhouse plastic to solarize the garden to sterilize the weed seedbank before putting down ground cover. Hopefully this will help in the ongoing (and dreaded) war with weeds. The seeds have been started and are under the grow lights, so the next step is to get the ground turned and covered. Hopefully the nutrients the girls have been putting in tthe garden all winter will help this year's garden be even more productive than last year! We are excited to see how everything comes together with our upcoming projects and a few potential opportunities in the works. We have to keep those under wraps for right now...don't want to jinx anything! Fingers crossed that we will have some exciting news in the next few months. As always, thank you so much for your support!

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



The warmer weather has allowed me to open up the hives and I found something wonderful...all the hives have baby bees in them already! This is wonderful, because it means that all the queens survived the winter and they have enough food to start rearing brood. There are still some honey and pollen stores in the hives, and I got them started with some 1:1 sugar water. This will ensure they have enough food until the honey flow starts. We also got one small hill seeded with pollinator-friendly seeds, so we are hoping they will be sprouting up soon as well.





SPECIAL THANKS TO JAMES BILLINGSLEY

for providing us with a John Deere tractor and some farm implements and trailers to use while we prepare for the next phase of Paradigm Pastures!



WE HAVE EGGS!

The warm weather has reinvigorated the girls, and we have plenty of eggs on hand. Place your orders on our farm store, and let us know if there's anything you'd like to see us offer in the new season: