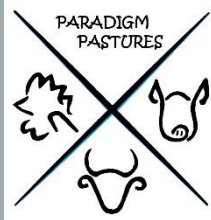


CHICKEN TENDER TIMES

FEB 2024 Iss. 34

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:

It's already that time of year to get the farm ready for chickens! We got quite a bit done with the fence line last year, but we didn't get it completed before the winter weather made the ground too hard to work in. The winter was fairly mild, but when the cold weather hit...it HIT!! We had several days of deep snow as well as negative temperatures. The egg-layers stayed indoors during those days, and they needed a little heat to keep the eggs from freezing in the nestboxes. They were troopers, though, and they kept us and our customers in eggs all winter. We are still getting some snow flurries and days/nights in the teens, but they are the exception now. The days are mostly in the 40s-50s with the nights in the upper 20s-30s. That means it's time to get chicks on order and get the tractors repaired. We get our chicks through Duncan Poultry up in Missouri Valley, and we have our first official pickup date of April 10th. That means we will have chickens processed and available beginning of June! We will update the website with dates for preorder once we pick up the first batch. We will also begin work on the fence again around that time. The ground should be thawed enough to get some more of the posts in and start trenching for the water lines. If you're not sure why we are doing the fence and water, our plan is to bring meat goats to the farm as soon as the infrastructure is in place. Speaking of infrastructure, you may have seen a social media post or two about our current project (one of them). We are putting in a shop/barn that will function as a workshop, farm store, and corral for the animals. Our little farm has gotten too big for the basement, so we will be moving the equipment and supplies to the shop. It's a huge endeavor as we've gone with a Quonset hut that will take some serious elbow grease to get erected. We've already got the dirt work done, and the concrete will be poured in a few weeks. There is already so much going on, and we haven't even started putting birds on pasture yet! We will keep you up-to-date with the happenings, and as always we are so grateful for you joining us on this adventure!

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



We have good news and bad news with the hives. The bad news is that we lost a hive this winter. It wasn't completely unexpected as it was one of the newer hives that just queened before winterization happened. With very low numbers, it is hard for them to maintain the proper temperature within the hive when the temperatures drop into the negatives. The good news is that the other hives have been buzzing and have been seen collecting pollen already. I haven't opened them yet, though, because the temps are still a bit too low. We will see them soon!



Concealed Carry Training

Anyone that has ever met him knows that Q loves firearms! He loves learning about them, firing them, and teaching others about them. It only seems right, then, that he's gone and gotten himself certified as a US Concealed Carry Association instructor! If you or someone you know needs training to apply for your CCW, click this link or go to our Field Fire page to register. Even if you don't want to get a permit, he offers fundamentals training for those that are new to guns and those that need to knock the rust off their skills

FIELD FIRE

WE HAVE EGGS!

The ladies of the egg-mobile are still hard at work! They have continued laying all winter, so stock up if you've been missing them. Place your orders on our on-line farm store at the link below:

[Paradigm Pastures](#)