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:

As expected, the warm weather gave way to some freezing rain, slow, and the icy roads that follow. We weren't caught off guard, though, as Quentin keeps the plow blades close-at-hand during the winter. He gets up before everyone and ensures the driveway is plowed before heading over to plow driveways and roads for a couple of our neighbors as well. This was the perfect time to go over our plan for the upcoming year and revise our Project To Do lists. At the top of the list is fence-work since it is essential to have a proper perimeter fence before adding any larger livestock than chickens. As you may know, we are hoping to add several cows to our farm, and the fence has been an ongoing project. After knocking several large items off the To Do list, we are refocusing on the fence again. We have a plan in place and are hoping to have a strong perimeter fence around the pasture this year. Fingers crossed we hear the little pitter patter of hooves this summer! In more feathery news, the chickens have maintained a pretty impressive laying regimen. They are laying nearly I - 11/2 dozen a day, and even Boom Boom Betty is getting in on the action. That's right, our one turkey hen is now a layer! The eggs are very similar to chicken eggs in appearance and taste. However, they have a shell that shatters rather than cracking and a membrane inside is much stronger. It takes some work to get the egg out of the shell! We will continue to process and sell our turkeys for Thanksgiving, but over the next couple of years, we may explore hatching some of our own. Speaking of processing, we are going to be coming up with our processing calendar in the next few weeks. Once we have another cold snap, we will have to takes some time off the fence-line work. That's when we will sit down and outline the calendar for this year, and we will publish the dates of our processing and that time. We typically process our first batch in late May or early June, so keep that in mind. Enjoy the warmth, and thank you for your continued support!



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 recent very cold, icy weather was followed up with some much warmer weather, and it's given us some good signs that the bees are doing well. They were out flying all over, and we actually saw a small cloud of them around the hives. During winter days around 50° or so, they will get out of the hive on a cleansing flight. This allows them to have a quick bathroom break and remove debris from the hive. The colder air limits how far they can fly before getting too stiff so they stay pretty close to home.









25 YEARS

A quick shout out for our 25th wedding anniversary. We started out as a couple of young Marines building a family and traveling all around the world to support our nation's freedom. We've progressed to not-so-young farmers building a farm and traveling nowhere because we have to support our chickens' egg-laying habit. It's been an amazing quarter of a century, but it's just the beginning



