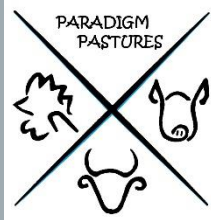


CHICKEN TENDER TIMES

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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!



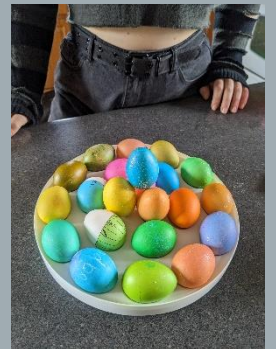
What's been going on:

We officially have broilers on deck! We got our first 50 Cornish cross, and they are happily nestled in the brooder. They will go out on pasture when they are 3-4 weeks old. Usually, we keep the little ones in the brooder for 2 weeks, but we let the first batch have a little extra time under the warming lights because the weather can be a little unpredictable. We will be going a little light on chickens again this year because our focus will be on getting the shop and fence done. Last year we only did 4 batches of 50 birds, and we will likely do the same thing this year. Winter is our time for to catch up on projects inside the house, quality time with family, and all the winter chores that come up due to snow and other inclement weather. The spring and fall are our focused "farm projects" times, and summer is all about our customers and our garden. Spacing out and limiting the number of birds we raise and process lets us get some projects finished during summer as well. We've got the dirt work done, plumbing and electrical planned out, and pouring the concreate is the next big step in getting the shop erected. This is such a huge project and step forward for us that we are making every effort to make it business priority #1. Only slightly behind in priority is getting the fence done. We're still focusing on getting the water lines and fencing done this summer so we can get goats by this fall. In the meantime, the garden planting has started, and our mudroom is all aglow with purple grow lights as our seedlings get bigger and the days get warmer. We had a few cold nights still, so we haven't put out anything that is too cold sensitive. We usually wait until Mother's Day or so to get the majority of the garden going. However, all the markers are here that winter is well on its way out. The purple martins are in the birdhouse, the bees are hovering over the dandelions, and the peonies are over a foot high with buds on them. Spring in the Midwest is knocking on our door. We hope you are enjoying the weather and getting outside for some fresh air and quality time with those you enjoy sharing life with. We thank you for being part of ours!

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



The hive wraps finally came off. The weather has been consistently over 50°, so we removed the hive wraps. We left the entrance reducers on for a little while longer, though, to discourage other pollinators from robbing the hives while their numbers are still low. The queens have begun laying, and most of the honey frames are empty. I took some of the full frames from the hive that was lost and used them to supplement the girls that are now moving around and gathering for the rest of the hive. Brood will soon be filling the frames, so we have to keep them stocked!



HAPPY EASTER!

The eggs were dyed, the ham was baked, and the windows and doors were wide open this year for Easter. Our son moved to California this past year, so we missed having him with us for Easter dinner, but we made sure he had a basket in the mail. Our daughter took on the sole responsibility of making sure the eggs were perfectly dyed, and she did a great job! We hope you had a wonderful Easter with loved ones.



PRE-ORDER NOW!

We have limited chickens this year, so we strongly recommend getting your orders in early. Pickup dates are posted. Grab some eggs while you're there, because those are available now and year round:

[Paradigm Pastures](#)