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 THE BUZZ?

I can't believe how nice the weather has been! It's allowed the girls to harvest more honey for their winter stores, and that preparation can be the difference between a successful winter and a very difficult one. I keep some of the harvested honey aside so I can feed it back to them during this time. It's possible to use sugar water, but they prefer honey. As long as they are emptying jars, I will refill them!

What's been going on:

How is it getting so close to the holidays? It feels like it was just last week that we were getting the first batch of chickens in, and now we are preparing for turkey processing. The weather has been very accommodating, and it's allowed us to get a lot done. Q has been out mowing pastures after all the rain we received, so the Ventrac has gotten quite a bit of time on it. The garden has produced far longer that it typically does because of the rain and warm weather, so we've been able to participate in local Farmer's Markets and have canned a lot of food for the winter. Even with the nice weather, the days have gotten shorter, so the egg-layers have cut back on their laying quite a bit. Daylight is a big component of egg production, so the birds tend to reduce their laying during winter months as well as using their energy for molting and staying warm. We've moved them to their winter spot, and that's where they will stay until the spring. They are close enough to oversee the erection of the new hoop house when it goes up. We are currently building the hoop ribs while we are waiting for the dirt work to be done so we can get the base poles in the ground. Once that's done, we can start erecting the building and getting the cover on it. We would like to have it up and going by the time we do turkey processing or shortly after that. Speaking of turkey processing, we have just a couple of birds left for pre-order. We will be processing the Saturday before Thanksgiving (21 Nov), and pickup will be Sunday (22 Nov). The birds will be fresh and unfrozen, and pickup will be first come, first served. If you've been to a turkey pickup before, you know that you'll want to get here early if you have a certain size that you want. The birds usually average around 16lbs, but we can't guarantee sizes. We will send out updates to the turkey pre-order group in the couple of weeks prior to processing. We can't wait to see you there!

We are developing our skills!

Quentin attended a USCCA instructor conference in Wisconsin over Labor Day, and he is preparing for another in Arkansas. He's building up his expertise and foundation for weapons training and expanding the offerings at Field Fire. We have Basic Handgun, Concealed Carry (Iowa), Women's-only, and many other classes to offer for beginners and advanced shooters. Check them out at:

FIELD FIRE

THERE ARE A FEW TURKEYS LEFT!

Visit the shop to place an order for your Thanksgiving turkey, limited-time honey, eggs, chicken, and merch:

Paradigm Pastures