August 2009 Issue



The Shoving Leopard Leaf

Shoving Leopard Farm: 845-758-9961

Website: www.shovingleopardfarm.org (for organic!)

Garden Manager: Marina Michahelles

Assistants: Emily Hilliard, Louis Munroe and the chicken nuggets

News from the garden

Rokeby appears to have been transported to the Pacific Northwest. The consistent and heavy rains are taking a toll on the heat-loving crops, particularly the tomatoes, some of which are affected by late blight. Some crops are resisting better than others; the chard and beets are bigger than I've ever seen them, the kale that is not in an inch of water is looking lush, and the broccoli are making side-shoot florettes as big as the main heads. The cabbages are finally coming to a head, and the Brussels sprouts are looking healthy for a fall harvest.

We harvested the garlic and braided it all – softand hard-neck varieties alike. These are now curing and drying in the wood shed. The onions will soon have to be harvested and cured in the greenhouse and the rest of the potatoes will have to be dug up early if the rain continues.

At least one of the chicken nuggets has started to lay little brown eggs, and her friends look ready to do the same. Joe has donated a lovely Hamburg rooster to join the girls, and he – the rooster – seems to have acclimated nicely. The older hens are cleaning up the garlic beds, preparing them for fall and winter crops. Although there have been three recent attacks, the older girls continue to lay beautiful eggs of all different colors. One even laid a soccer-ball patterned egg!



Garlic braiding, photo courtesy of Emily Thanks for the jokes, EEH!

The flowers in the Pick-Your-Own labyrinth are undeterred by the rain and are getting bigger by the day. The stand on the Poet's Walk has been well supplied with bouquets on the few fair-weather weekends.



Tee shirts with Shoving Leopard Farm logo available for \$10!

Tell us your shirt size and favorite color to have your very own!



PYO flower labyrinth

Opens July 11th

Shoving Leopard Farm

845 River Road Barrytown, NY

845-758-9961

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Seasonal recipes, by Abra

Blanched Green Beans and Corn Salad

1lb green beans blanched in salted water and cooled 4 ears of corn cut from the cob, blanched and cooled 1 handful of parsley, Arugula and mint 2 egg yolks 12 oz olive oil 2 T white wine vinegar 1 clove garlic Salt and pepper

Blanch and cool the vegetables. In a food processor place the yolks and vinegar, salt and pepper. Blend and slowly add the oil in a thin, steady stream until it emulsifies and makes a mayonnaise. Add the greens to the mayo and blend until a pretty green Taste and adjust seasoning Toss the vegetables and mayo for a

www.bareknucklefarm.com

cool salad.

The nutrition corner, by Rosalind

If you can't be in Tuscany in August eating your tomatoes, then you want to be in the Hudson Valley eating Marina's! That is, unless you have osteo-arthritis, in which case you might not want to eat them at all – or their cousins, the potatoes, the peppers, and the eggplants, all in the nightshade family, and reputed to worsen arthritic symptoms. This may be because they upset calcium

metabolism. On the other hand, if it's high blood pressure you want to curb, tomatoes, because of their gamma-amino butyric acid (GABA) are recommended. They originated in South America and the word tomato derives from the word in an Aztec language.

www.nutrition-matters.info

Upcoming events

- August 5th, canning workshop at PFP. www.farmproject.org/events/index.html
- August 7th-9th, NOFA Summer Conference. Amherst, MA. Rosalind Michahelles presents on Friday. www.nofasummerconference.org
- August 8th, Chicken Coop building day at Shoving Leopard.
- August 25th-30th, Dutchess County Fair. Red Hook. Yippeee!
- September 11th, Grapes and gourmets gone wild. www.dutchesscountybounty.com/events

Miscellaneous notice

We have pasture hay for sale. If you or any of your sheepish and goatish friends would like some, I can be reached at 845 758 9961. We are making 35-40 lb square bales, and selling them for \$3.50 each. We do not have an economical way of delivering them, but we're willing and able to help load them up!