



Shareholder Newsletter June 17, 2015 Vol. 16, No. 2

Rachel Bynum & Eric Plaksin,

53 Waterpenny Lane, Sperryville, VA 22740

(540) 987-8567 e-mail: waterpennycsa@gmail.com

Website: www.waterpennyfarm.com

We had positive feedback on the Lemon Basil last week, and we hope you'll enjoy the Thai basil, too. We decided to grow more specialty types of Basil this year because the small amounts we grow to put in our bouquets of flowers displayed resistance to the newly introduced disease "Basil Powdery Mildew" which devastated our Italian basil last season. It's great to have new flavors and fragrances in the shares! Enjoy this new recipe.

Thai Basil Chicken with Broccoli
From Sparkpeople.com

- : 2 Tbsp cooking oil
- : 2 tsp garlic, minced
- : 2-3 Thai peppers, sliced
- : 1 cup onion cut in fine wedges
- : 1/2 lb chicken breast
- : 2 cups broccoli
- : 1 tsp sugar
- : 1 1/2 Tbsp fish sauce
- : 1/2 Tbsp oyster sauce
- : 1/2 to 1 tsp chili powder
- : 1 cup fresh basil

- : Cut chicken into 1/8 slices.
- : Cut broccoli into bite-size pieces.
- : Heat wok with oil, fry garlic until fragrant and add onions, pepper and chicken.
- : Stir-fry chicken until it just turns white.
- : Add broccoli and fry for about 1-2 minutes and add sugar, fish sauce, oyster sauce and chili powder.
- : Stir in basil and cook until basil begins to wilt. Dish and serve warm with rice.

Meet an Intern... We're happy to have Reuben back with us for a second year. He's good at moving through the big work we do on the farm, with a great attitude! He's driving the tractor in this picture (one of his new skills), while Sarah helps to unroll the bale of hay mulch. Here's what he has to say:

Hello again! My name is Reuben and this is my second season at Waterpenny Farm. After a few months of greenhouse work, planting, mulching, and weeding... it's great to finally harvest! Seeing it all come together in your CSA shares is very gratifying for me. Watching little seeds become nutritious fields of food is fun. The interesting thing about returning for another season is that my mind is not quite as consumed with learning the vocabulary and the systems of the farm. I can see a bit more of the big picture coming together and understand more of the reasons for doing things in certain ways. People like Eric and Rachel, who have been doing this for quite some time, can look at the contents of our cooler and see much more than a bunch of vegetables. They can tell how long they've been in there, whether we picked too small or big, what pests are in the fields, and how much that bin could sell for at market (just for starters). I'm excited to soak up as much of their knowledge as I can this year. I wrote in my CSA intro last year that I was interested in eventually starting my own smaller operation and that is still the case! Luckily, my girlfriend, Sarah (returning for her third season), shares this dream with me. 2015 is going to be a big brainstorming year for us!



We're hoping for rain, and have been irrigating from the river bordering our farm for the past 2 weeks. The river is still flowing well, and our drip irrigation system is efficient. Our microclimate just is dry this spring! See the hole in the clouds...

