



ELWOOD ORCHARD 2010

58 Snake Hill Rd.
N.Scituate, RI 1/2 mile on
left after the junction of 116
and Snake Hill Road
Open Fridays 9-6 and
Saturdays, Sundays and
Mondays 9-5 beginning
Saturday August 21st through
October.
401-949-0390
Email:
info@ElwoodOrchard.com
Web Site: ElwoodOrchard.com

This years weather has benefited many of our crops. Like so many other folks we had flooding in March, so much so that about seven acres of our swamp turned into a pond for about a week. Other than that it has been a fairly dry summer. We have upgraded our irrigation system and ran our irrigation on and off in June and almost constantly in July and August. We started irrigating our asian pears very early this year and for once are pleased with the size of the green/yellow (20th Century) variety.

Because of irrigation our nectarines also have some nice size this season.

---We are in the third year of the organic certification process for our back orchard. The certification process is a three year process and we hope to be certified organic for our apples this season. Right now we are working through the paperwork with our certification agency and expect to be able to label our apples as certified organic this season. Apples are still the most challenging to grow following organic rules. We made some adjustments in the cultivation of our apples and this years crop is much better than last years. When we were growing apples conventionally almost every apple on every tree was perfect...we still have not met that goal, but we are getting closer.



Pollination is such an important part of

growing quality fruits and vegetables and is one of the reasons that we keep bees. This year one of our hive swarmed and we were fortunate enough to catch the swarm and begin a new hive. The story is in our Blog that is linked to our web site. When we caught the swarm we left them close to were we caught them, right near the path to the back orchard. We became busy and just left them there through the summer often walking within three or four feet of the hive. Getting that close became so second nature to Jean and I that when friends visited they also surprisingly found themselves that close to the hive. The gentleness of a happy hive was learning experience for all involved...don't worry the hive has been moved. The image is actually that of a blue mason bee. The blue mason bee is wild pollinator and this year our orchard is participating in a apple pollination research project being conducted by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment

Station.

---We opened a new field this year and are transitioning our asian pears to the new field along with additional Honeycrisp apples. This long term plan will allow us to add more peaches were the asian pears were located and also grow organic asian pears.

--- We pulled our honey from the frames on August 14th. The crop is a little light this year but as happened last year the bees are still making honey and we expect to pull more honey in a few weeks.

--- This year the nectarine crop has some nice size and color and will be ready to pick on Saturday August 21st . .



-- This season we have a really nice garlic crop of China Rose, German Porcelain, our stand-by Music and Bogatyr. We also have limited amounts of Georgian Fire, Chesnok Red and Elephant garlic.

Music Garlic

White skinned with a blush of pink. Large easy to peel cloves. The taste is most often

characterized as a medium hot true garlic flavor that lasts.

German Porcelain

The flavor is distinctive with a moderately spicy flavor.

Bogatyr

One of the spiciest garlics available, our hottest variety. The flavor will make some customers very happy.

China Rose

This garlic is an Asiatic variety that has a hot but smooth flavor. Very limited supply.



--Raspberries will be ready to pick when we open on August 21st . The crop looks very good this year.



--- Apples look early this year and we may be ready for pick your own the first week in September. Our website home page will be changing every week to reflect what is ready to be picked or just give us a call.

Jonafree

a Jonathan Type
A Jonathan type apple that has a creamy golden flesh and crisp juicy flavor.

Liberty

from the McIntosh Family

McIntosh-like flavor.

This apple is very flavorful with an intense sprightly flavor and has a nearly white, crispy and crunchy flesh. If you like McIntosh you'll love Liberty.

NY7414

from the McIntosh Family (Still being considered for naming)

It is an extremely attractive apple with its deep burgundy color and skin characteristics. An excellent combination of sweet and tart flavors. This apple has placed extremely high in independent apple tasting tests and makes a great apple pie.

Libdel

A very large apple that is a cross between a Liberty and a Delicious. A great eating and cooking apple.

Honeycrisp

This apple has an exceptionally crisp and juicy texture with a cream colored and coarse flesh. Another taste test winner.

Thank you, Jean and Al Fuoroli