

Ripple Farm Organics

LOCAL & ORGANIC

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March 2011 Newsletter

We have been ploughing land that has been rested and fertilised by green manure crops and grazing sheep ready for the new season's crops. A few early broad beans were sown before the ground got too wet again and when conditions allow, we will sow onions and some early potatoes. Meanwhile, we have started raising plants ready for early crops of chard, lettuce, beetroot and more; we grow almost all of our own plants, this gives us the chance to grow a wider selection of varieties, and keeps us busy in the early part of the year when there's less to do outside!

Who are you? We have 2 separate payments made direct to our bank that we can't allocate, one for £42 received on 14 Jan (ref 'W305128009') and one for £45 received on 17 Feb (ref 'Mr Geoffrey Alex'), let us know if either are from you.

NEW BANK DETAILS We have had to open a new bank account as our local branch of Lloyds has closed. We will keep our old account for some time, so your standing order payments will still reach us, but we would appreciate you changing your standing order to pay into the following account when convenient :- Sort Code 60-01-21 Acc No 47871164 (thanks to those that have changed already)

Apples— the apples are not keeping well now, so are no longer available, back again in the Autumn

Organic Eggs - Organic, free-range eggs can be ordered as extras. These are from Andrew Ward, a Soil Association registered organic grower, from Wingham, near Canterbury, who supplies us with vegetables from time-to-time for the box scheme. ½ dozen medium eggs cost £1.50.

Box Contents

Staples – Potatoes, onions and carrots continue weekly. Potatoes in the boxes through January may include: - whites - 'Toluca' and 'Valor'; red/white skinned ones are 'Ambo'; reds are 'Romano' or 'Sarlo Axona', all good all-rounders. Also, 'Charlotte', a salad variety (oval shaped)

Greens – Seasonal greens are green chard, leeks, cabbage, curly kale, 'Cavelo Nero' (black kale), spinach, sprouts, sprout tops, spring greens and purple sprouting broccoli. Also, stir-fry bags containing a selection of greens.

Salad – Mixed leaf salad bags are infrequent at the moment. We may have some rocket soon depending on what the weather does.

Others – You may also have red cabbage, beetroot, parsnips, cauli and swede.

Squash will be in the boxes every 2 weeks still (with parsnips in the other week). Through February you will receive cut pieces of 'Crown Prince', which need to be kept in the fridge and used within 4-5 days.

Wye Farmers Market The next few dates are March 5th and 19th and April 2nd and 16th, 9am-12midday.

Whitstable Farmers Market The next few Market dates are March 12 and 26 and April 9th and 23rd, at 9.30-2pm

Bridge Farmers Market The next few dates are, March 12 and 26 and April 9th and 23rd, 9am to 12 midday

Extras with Boxes The following can be ordered as extras with your standard box	Potatoes (white or reds)	60p / kg	£5 / 10kg sack
	Baking potatoes	80p / kg	£7 / 10kg sack
	'Charlotte' salad potatoes	£1 / kg	
	Beetroot	£1 / kg	
	Onions	£1 / kg	
	Squash (Crown Prince)	£1 / kg	
	Kale (curly)	£1 / 250g bag	
	Carrots	£1 / kg	
	Organic med. eggs (Andrew Ward)	£1.50 for ½ dozen	

Recipes wanted for our new blog www.ripplefarmorganics.blogspot.com

We have set up a blog, mainly to enable customers to share recipes, so please send them in to us. We will also post a bit of farm news and photos to let you know what's happening on the farm.

Quick soup recipe – parsnip and apple, simmer one large parsnip, one cooking apple, 1 small onion or leek in one pint of stock for 20 mins, puree, season and serve.

Thanks for your continued support, from all at Ripple Farm Organics