

special

ROLLING PRAIRIE

notes from rolling prairie farmers alliance

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

* EAT FOOD * NOT TOO MUCH
* MOSTLY PLANTS *

* MICHAEL POLLAN, IN
DEFENSE OF FOOD

TORRENTS AND BEAUTY

Is this the pattern of weather that Global Climate Change will bring us?

We know that the science of Climate Change predicts an average warming of global temperatures (Global Warming), but it also predicts greater volatility in weather patterns as the atmosphere heats up and air masses clash.

We have certainly had our share of volatility this Spring. Except for the first couple of weeks in May, when mercifully we had a chance to dry out a bit, we have seen heavy downpours for a day or two, followed by a brief period of calmer, albeit cooler than normal, beautiful days.

Market farmers, who do a lot of physical labor in plying their craft, will generally be pretty happy with cooler temps (as long as it doesn't frost—although I have actually worried about that the last week or so of chilly mornings!). But the extreme moisture has clearly put a cramp on our style this Spring. Those of us whose fields

are at the bottom of hills (because that's where the best soil is) are getting all that drainage down to where we want to plant our crops.

Of course, we fully expect the rainfall tap to suddenly turn off, and to have extended dry periods. But who knows? Maybe climate change means this part of the country is going to turn subtropical and stay wet most of the time.



We have a new contributor to our mix of veggie this year. In partnership with K-State Horticulture and Extension, JCCC has a student farm. The Sustainable Ag students will be bringing veggies this summer. Details to come in a future newsletter.



WEEK OF
MAY 17, 2009

Coming Up

Early May

In early May, we usually have

Asparagus, baby lettuce, greens, green garlic, green onions, herbs, leeks, lettuce, mushrooms, radishes, rhubarb, salad mix, and spinach.



Share

If you have favorite recipes you'd like to share, please send them along! And don't forget to refer to your Rolling Prairie Cookbook every week for great recipes and ideas for using all the veggies and fruits that we will be bringing you each week.

E-Newsletter

Save the trees!

We encourage you to receive the newsletter by email, in pdf format. We also archive it that way on our website, www.rollingprairie.net. To sign up for the email newsletter, email your request to the editor at sandheron@rollingprairie.net.

Holidays

Don't forget to notify your site coordinator a few days in advance when you will be taking your two vacation days, so we don't charge you.

Monday holidays at the Merc:

Memorial Day (May 25) and Labor Day (Sept 1) push Merc pickups back to the following Tuesdays.