

ROLLING PRAIRIE

notes from rolling prairie farmers alliance

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 6
2009

Coming Up



Fall Harvest

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Red and green
Apples, round
Chestnuts, red

Raspberries, fresh
Greens, veggies
And gourds –

All ripen, waiting
For the harvester's
Touch to bring

Them to final
Rest on palates
Awaiting the

Culinary triumph of
Fall – reaping a
Sensory rebirth.



MICHAEL POLLAN :
IN DEFENSE OF FOOD

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

EAT FOOD * NOT TOO MUCH * MOSTLY
PLANTS

HINTS OF AUTUMN

On the farm, season changes seem subtle, but if you pay attention, the signs are there even before they may be recognizable in town.

For one thing, late Summer-into-early Autumn in this part of the world is characterized by the color yellow. The Sunflower State is aptly nicknamed, and the wild variety comes into it's own this time of year, bursting forth in a blaze of millions of suns, seeming to illuminate the ground below as a paean to their namesake, to whom they bow their heads in humble respect.

Other yellow wildflowers also show their stuff: flirtatious Black Eyed Susan, shy Prairie

Coneflower, loyal Compass Plant.

The birds are also thinking about change. Some of our favorite blue songbirds, like the Eastern Bluebird and Indigo Bunting, seem to have already moved along, a few stragglers still hanging around the garden to help us with last minute bug control. Reds and browns seem to be coming back around; Cardinals, Sparrows--was that a Scarlet Tanager?

Those European invaders, the Grackles, seem less abundant out here, except when gathering on wires to plan their next foray into the city for dog food.