

March 2010

Hello Friends!

Many of you ask how we are coming on the farm so we wanted to send out periodic updates to let you know about our progress.

Advances on the drive and house plans have been slow. The house plans are 85% complete and construction on the drive will start at the end of April if the weather breaks so that things can dry out. This summer you should be able to visit without the need for something large with 4 wheel drive.

We purchased 4 laying hens on New Year's Eve. The Ladies stay in a portable coop (aka a chicken tractor) that is moved daily around the field next to our house. They are safe from predators in their little home and are able to scratch for bugs. It has been wonderful to have our own eggs and very entertaining to watch them from the kitchen window.

Unfortunately, our one remaining beehive did not make it through the winter. Nothing is wasted, however, so we will be able to use the comb and wax from the hive for the new bees that arrived last weekend. We installed 3 packages of bees into their new homes last Saturday and if the weather cooperates, hope to have honey later this summer.

We are going to raise some meat chickens at the end of April. They will be raised naturally with no hormones or antibiotics in a protective cage with grass, sunshine, and fresh air. To that end we are recruiting focus group participants to try them and give us some feedback. The cost will be based on our cost only – the bird the feed and processing. There will not be any of our labor or time included since this is our first endeavor. If you are interested in participating please let us know.

Lastly, if you prefer not to receive anything further from us please let us know that too so we can remove you from the list.

Take Care,  
Jonathan and Judith