



What's Growing On... Rhode Island Farm to School



September 2011

What's Sprouting in Rhode Island?

"Planting" Ahead So Many Reasons to Celebrate!

Not only is October National Farm to School Month but we also have Food Day on the 24th! Kids First would love to support your celebrations of RI Grown foods by offering to coordinate farmer visits, chef demonstrations and even RI costumed character appearances. Call the office to discuss scheduling. In the meantime, check out the fact sheets, sample menus, and all the ideas for celebrating in your school on the Nat'l Farm to School website. www.farmentoschool.org

Happy Harvest Season!

Broccoli

From Pezza Farm

Peaches (limited supplies)

From Pippin Orchard

Cucumbers

From Capt. Elisha Steere Farm

Beef steak Tomatoes

From Jaswell Farm

Corn

Green Peppers

From Confreda Farm



Pezza Family Farm

Growing cauliflower, broccoli and lettuces for school lunches!

Fruit Growers survive the 1-2 punch of Irene & Lee

The timing couldn't have been better for the RI Fruit Growers Assn tour that kicked off apple season. On September 9, just after Irene blew through and just as Lee began to rain buckets, Governor Chaffee proclaimed September Apple Harvest Month. A soggy, but merry crew, including DEM Chief Ken Ayars, visited Pippin, Barden Family, Narrow Lane and Sweet Berry Orchards. Although a few of the orchards in the state were hit harder than others, it should still be a good season for PYO and Farm to School. The way to ensure our growers have the best season possible at this point is to support them by purchasing apples for your family and school meal programs.

New Signs Celebrate Farm to School Farms



Look for the latest farm accessory on a participating RI Farm to School farm near you! These roadside signs help let the community know which farms are proudly growing for our school meals programs. If you know a farmer who is involved & wants to brag about it, contact us to request a 48" x 18" weatherproof sign.

For Farm to School programs and technical assistance, contact Farm to School Specialist Kimberly Clark at Kids First 401-475-9696

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