

# ***The Bonnie Blue Farm Report***

***Our self-sustaining source of all organic produce, fruit, berries, sheep, piggys, chickens and of course the ever present (and into everything) turkeys.***

## **Meet Hank & Hambone**



Meet the noisiest additions to the farm this year. We finally got around to trying pigs, when a client that we helped to buy her own farm last year, had a couple extras. They are KuneKune pigs (pronounced 'koony koony'), a breed from New Zealand that were kept as house pets by the native Māori people. KuneKune means 'fat and round,' how appropriate for a pig. They have tassels hanging from their chins called 'piri piri.' This breed was a good fit for us because they only reach about 165 lbs, eat grass, and don't root much. They had two of our pastures to themselves this fall and you would most likely find them bounding through the fields with big mouthfuls of grass hanging from their jowls. This winter they have been staying warm in the straw bale house we built for them. And oh yes, that part about them being our noisiest additions... As soon as they hear you coming, they start squealing for their supper!

## **Around the Farm**

Well, we got that cold weather we were hoping would never show. We spent an afternoon wrapping up all the fruit trees that had started to open their tender buds. Then when the cold brought snow with it, we ended up running around the orchards with brooms brushing the snow off the wrapped trees to keep from snapping limbs. But now we see our reward as the weather gets warm again and all those wonderful buds look no worse for weather.

We now finally have starts and seeds in the ground! Two rows each of Yukon Gold potatoes and Walla Walla Sweet onions, in. Broccoli and cauliflower starts, in. Pea, kale, carrot, lettuce, spinach, beet, and celery seeds, in. And we do still have several different varieties that overwintered either in the garden under row cover or in our hoop house and are picking up some energy again, such as celery, celeriac, kale, cabbage, chard, spinach, beets, turnips, rutabagas, daikon radishes, parsnips, parsley, and lettuce.

The poultry poll is in, the result: spring is here, so here come the eggs! The massive spring flush of eggs is here and is running us over. Luckily, we have lots of wonderful friends and family eagerly raising their hands to take in the bounty.

Until next month,

*Jay D Willis*



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