



The Farm at Miller's Crossing
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Week of August 25th 2008 farmatmillerscrossing.com



Lunch by the tractor

FROM THE FARMERS...

Last Friday we had a great visit from our Long Island City CSA and Fresh Food for All members. The bus pulled in just before noon, the doors opened and Hetty, our very fun loving border collie, greeted the group with stick in mouth. Children piled out and went straight up the Farm's most welcoming tree...aka "The Climbing Tree" where they threw the stick for Hetty and climbed its gentle branches.

After a leisurely lunch under the shade of the new wash shed (and on the cool concrete pad) the group took a tour of the most accessible fields. First the group walked to the Hayfields, where Chris was taking the second cutting of hay for the season. Next it was on to the potatoes discussing varieties and issues of crop rotations. Then it was up to see the cows. They were a bit leery of such a large group coming their way...they hedged their bets and kept their distance.

After a quick cool off in the shade of the trees by the stream (or in the stream) it was on to the pole barn where trailers of curing onions sat waiting to be bagged. The job was made easy with many hands and lots of conversation...It was a great afternoon.

Despite the hecticness of this time of year, with hay and tomato harvesting pressing...it was a really great visit. It

is always enjoyable to have a group of people come to the farm who are genuinely interested in what and how we do what we do. Allowing children the simple pleasures of stripping down to their skivvies to wade in the stream, or pick an apple off the tree to feed it to Ice Cream our Farm pony.

Chris and I love farming...it is our passion and we have to consciously try to talk about something else at times. We are realizing more and more that we really enjoy the CSA component of the farm. Farming can take on many different forms--vegetables, animals, grains, and flowers just to name a few. Besides the actual work of growing all of these things, there is the whole economic side--we have to sell it all to make a living and pay our bills. Our experience this past year of expanding our CSA into Long Island City and joining in the Fresh Food for All program has been great. By selling our produce through the CSA during the winter and spring, we can apply our energy to growing the food during the summer.

Having these people come to our farm and see our operation only strengthened the positive aspects of the CSA model. Now these farm members have a real sense of where their food is coming from and how it is grown, and we have have a good sense of where all of the fruits of our labors are going to.



Apples for Ice Cream