



# The Farm at Miller's Crossing

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Heirloom Tomatoes in 2006 in the greenhouse

## Ode to an Heirloom Tomato...

Oh Dearest Heirloom tomato, this year you leave too soon,  
When I think of my sandwiches without you my heart begins to swoon.

The rains of 2008 shortened our summer affair,  
Now until the sun shines strong in 2009 I will not taste your wares.

To this day there are still many who do not think you are to be so savored,  
With your ugly little cracks and your funny shapes,  
But those who have eaten you know there is only one with so much flavor.

Striped German, Brandywine Green Zebra and Nygous too,  
I chop you up with oil and vinegar and make a lovely tomato brew.

Damn be the rains Damn be the rains that have shortened our time this summer,  
Cold nights and wet days have shortened your life, oh it such a bummer.

Next year we have plans to make you stronger,  
We will protect you with plastic and steel  
I look forward to a tomato season that is longer.

Good bye for now my sweet summer treat,  
I promise until next season that no other will compete.

Yes, this appears to be the end of our heirloom tomatoes. And yes, I would say the heavy rains of July and August are to blame. All we can do now is think about how next year will be better. To insure this, we plan to renovate our partially destroyed field tomato house. Between now and next April, we will fix the wind damage that ripped our plastic and bent our steel. Tomatoes prefer to be warm and dry, with the water being applied to the roots. By repairing this greenhouse pictured, we can plant about 180 tomato plants that will thrive regardless of what the weather has in store.

There will still be hybrid tomatoes, they handle this rain and cold much better... and lots of tasty tomato sandwiches this season. The eclectic mix of flavors and colors that come with the heirlooms will come again. Here is to next year's success.

Enjoy, Chris

## Coming Soon

## Winter Squash Carrots