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2025 Open Field Farm CSA Share Offerings

Vegetables, Flowers, & Herbs

- ❖ A diverse array of vegetables
- ❖ Strawberries, melons, and watermelons
- ❖ Pick your own raspberries
- ❖ Fresh and dried tea herbs all year
- ❖ Flowers for as many months as possible (the main season is mid-June to mid-October, but there may be perennials available through the winter and spring)

Pasture Raised Eggs and Chickens

- ❖ Year-round eggs minimum one dozen, average two dozen
- ❖ About 3-4 laying hens for soup/stock
- ❖ Fertilizer for the crops!

Corriente Beef

- ❖ About 2 lbs. of beef per week per share
- ❖ Amazing water and mineral cycle services through grazing; fertilization of the whole farm and sensitizing of the land for greater health and vitality!

Dry Corn:

- Cornmeal through the winter months

Tunis Sheep

- ❖ Lamb for sale at cost of processing in the spring
- ❖ Wool for sale at cost
- ❖ Efficient, entertaining, and effective managers of the fields around the houses, barns, and through the fallow vegetable fields

Events, Office, and Communication

- ❖ Monthly potlucks
- ❖ July BBQ, Fall Festival, February Hike & Pancakes
- ❖ Volunteer opportunity: harvesting flowers and pick-your-own crops on CSA days for members who cannot
- ❖ Weekly blog posts from the crew
- ❖ Come hike, swim, picnic, and use the farm any time!
- ❖ Use of the farm for small events

2025 Operating Budget

We publish our budget each year to be transparent and accountable to the community, to foster connection and curiosity, and to clearly state our needs.

We invite you to listen, to reflect, to ask questions, and to give feedback.

We also want to frame this budget in a broader context, as it does not reflect all that is contributed to the farm. We were able to purchase this land and start this farm with inherited wealth. We continue to use this wealth to improve and support the farm. We want to acknowledge the privilege that we have and to highlight how difficult it is to create a farm in our current food system that is ecological, strives to support its employees, and remains affordable.

Each farm has its own set of parameters that it is working within. We each make our own compromises as we work towards the goal of a viable food culture. We hope that involving our members in the conversation allows us to find a path toward change together. Towards a future in which quality food is accessible to all, without sacrificing the health of the earth or humans.

This model of CSA, where we give what we can and take what we need, is built on trust and honesty.

Projected Operating Costs for May 1st, 2025- April 30, 2026

Payroll	\$430,000	(Up \$40,000)
Rent	\$60,000	
Feed	\$90,000	
Tools	\$40,000	
Professional Fees	\$55,000	
Insurance	\$78,000	(Up 18,000)
Repairs	\$40,000	
Seeds	\$20,000	(Up \$2,000)
Utilities	\$55,000	
Fuel	\$16,000	
Taxes	\$6,000	
Administration	\$15,000	(Up \$5,000)
Health Insurance	\$22,000	(Up \$2,000)
Depreciation	\$20,000	
Risk	\$10,000	
Total	\$957,000	

Average fee:

\$9,048/year/full member, \$174/week

\$4,654/year/split member, \$179/week

We calculate two average weekly fees each year, with the full membership at a discount to acknowledge the work of being a full member and the extra labor and supplies of a split membership. Yet, these are only guidelines. We still ask that you pay what you can.



Membership Agreement

With awareness of the balance that exists in nature, Open Field Farm strives to operate a productive farm that meets the food needs of the community; fosters a positive relationship between the farmers, the community members, and the land; and continues to improve the farm ecosystem.

Becoming a Part of Our Farm

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a relationship between the farm and you as a member. It is a commitment that the farmer and the members make to each other: for the farmer to produce healthy, fresh, and hopefully abundant food and for the member to support the farm through the seasons. We share equally in the rewards and risks of farming. The farm is open to members at any time to come cut flowers, take a hike, have a picnic, and more.

Member's Role

We hope to create an environment where all who are part of the farm are equally valued, for without each other, the farm could not exist. In this context, we describe those of us working on the farm as farmers and the broader community as members. The main role of the members is to provide the farmers with the support they need to carry out the daily operations of the farm.

While this support could come in many forms, the most important is that the community makes an effort to **understand the needs of the farm** and is informed about our growing practices. The other crucial means of support is an **economic contribution from each of us** that will meet the needs of the farm for a year. It is important to emphasize this is a year long commitment. For more information about this year-long commitment, [click here](#).

The Seasons

Our CSA is open for 50 weeks, from May to May. We will be closed the week of 12/22-26 and the week of 4/27-5/1. We will also be closed on Friday, 7/4 and 11/28, but open on Tuesday, 7/1 and 11/25, so that members can still come that week. Members come to the farm either every week or every other week, depending on their share size, to pick up their share of freshly harvested farm produce, pick-your-own flowers, herbs, eggs, beef, and grain. All of the food we offer through our CSA is grown on our farm unless otherwise specified.

Our Growing Practices

All of our produce is grown in accordance with organic and biodynamic principles. We focus on improving the soil and maintaining the health of our crops using our own compost, crop rotations, and cover crops. Our cows and sheep are all grass-fed only and move to fresh pasture daily. Our chickens are fed organic grain and farm produce, and are moved to fresh pasture weekly during the summer. All of the animals graze in the vegetable fields once we are done harvesting them for the year, providing rich nutrients to the soil while helping us clean out the fields. In the winter, the chicken coop needs to be parked since it is too heavy to move on wet ground. We create a straw pack yard for them, which in spring becomes a compost pile.

Our Produce

We carefully create our crop plans in the winter, hoping to provide you with all your vegetables throughout the year. We grow a wide variety of crops and we offer free choice each week. The season starts leaner in the spring, with the largest abundance in the summer and fall. In the winter the variety will shrink again. We will have storage crops to offer, such as onions and root vegetables, and as much fresh produce as possible. We take food safety seriously. We carefully harvest and process your food so that it is as fresh and clean as possible. Most produce is lightly washed with filtered water and repacked in a clean container. For your added protection, wash all produce before eating and put frozen products in the freezer as soon as possible.

Our Chickens and Meat

We believe that animals have a higher purpose within the whole farm organism, and we choose to keep animals for more than their production value. We take the work we do with animals on the farm seriously and have spent years developing what we believe are best practices for their care. We continually try to improve our understanding of their needs. As long as the hens are laying, eggs will be available to members each week. Laying hens will be offered as soup hens at the end of their laying cycle. Grass-fed beef is also included in the share. Lamb is available for purchase at cost, as described.

Share the Risk of Crop Failure

We promise to do our best to provide you with a bountiful share each week. However, the quantity of goods may vary weekly due to extreme weather, insects, or other production factors despite our best efforts. By joining our CSA, you agree to share the risk of crop failure with us and other members for an entire year through lean and abundant seasons. While we try to offer as much as we can free choice, sometimes we do need to limit our offering of certain crops to ensure all members receive some.

Share the Reward of Crop Surplus

Our farm is exclusively a CSA farm, and all our production is planned for the CSA. When crops are especially abundant, we will let you know so you can process or preserve them as you wish. After each pick-up day, we often have excess produce. We feed the extra produce to our animals, providing them with extra nourishment.

Give what you can, take what you need

We ask that the community meet the farm's annual operating budget. Members will pay what they can. Some members will pay more than the average, and some less. In the barn, we ask that you take what you need for the week. **What you take is separate from the amount you pay.** We realize that this kind of openness can be challenging. Please ask us questions, we are happy to offer advice. We will also inform you if we feel an unfair harvest share is being taken.

Membership Fee + Commitment

Commitment to Each Other

- **The CSA share is a year-long commitment and is non-refundable. When you fill out your Membership Agreement form, you agree to this year-long contract.**
- We rely on your year-long investment in the farm to provide what we do. It is a beautiful reciprocal relationship:
 - Our commitment to you is that we will provide a share of food and flowers, connection to the land, and belonging in our community..
 - Your commitment to us is a year-long investment in our model, understanding & adhering to the guidelines in this document, and **clear communication** about any changes that arise for you.
 - While we are deeply committed to this model, we also understand that things happen (moves, financial hardships, etc.), and we want to work with you if anything arises. For this to be possible, you must communicate with us.

Weekly Share Price

- In order to meet our budget for the year, the average share price per member is \$174/share/week for a full membership and \$179/share/week for a split membership.
- Please note that we calculate a year based on 52 weeks (or 26 for a split share). Therefore, a monthly invoice **is not 4x** the weekly amount you choose (or 2x for a split share).
 - For example, in a full share at a weekly share price of \$174, the monthly invoice would be \$734 ($\$174/\text{week} \times 52 = \9048 annual total divided by 12 invoices = \$754/invoice).
 - In a split share at a weekly share price of \$165, the monthly price would be \$379 ($\$179/\text{week} \times 26 = \4654 annual total divided by 12 invoices = \$388/invoice).
- To help you decide your weekly fee, [please read this guideline for a sliding scale](#).

Payment Responsibility

- We encourage monthly or yearly payments.
 - Yearly payments are due at the start of our CSA season.
 - Monthly payments are due on the 1st of the month.
- **Invoicing Process & Timeline:**
 - Invoices will be sent on the due date, then we will send two reminders in the weeks following. A final reminder will be sent at the end of the month (see table below).
 - Invoices are sent via email from QuickBooks, and we encourage you to pay via their online portal.
 - We recommend that you set up your invoices with AUTOPAY. To do this, create an account in QuickBooks when you receive an invoice, link your bank account information to your account, and then set up AUTOPAY for recurring invoices.
 - Below, you will find a sample invoice timeline for July:

Date	Open Field Communication	Invoice Status
July 1st, 2024	Quickbooks sends you an invoice to be paid	1st reminder
July 14th, 2024	Quickbooks sends you a reminder of the unpaid invoice	2nd reminder
July 22nd, 2024	Open Field Farms sends an email reminding you that payment is due and if not received by the end of the month, your membership will be canceled unless you would like to work with us for special circumstances. * You are still responsible for payment until a replacement is found.	3rd reminder
July 31st, 2024	Final quickbooks invoice reminder is sent	4th reminder: LAST CHANCE
August 1st, 2024	Your membership is canceled. You are still responsible for payment until a replacement is found.	

Replacements & Waitlist

- As stated above, the CSA share is a year commitment and is non-refundable. However, we understand that things happen. If a change needs to be made, please contact us.
- You are responsible for your membership until a replacement starts.
- We reach out to the waitlist on the 15th of each month.
- We will be welcoming new members on the 1st of the month.
- You are welcome to find a replacement on your own. We will bring them in on the 1st of the month.
- Please note that finding a replacement between January - April is difficult for us.

Picking Up Your Share

Our regular pick-up times are Tuesday and Friday from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. From November 7th to March 8th, we close at 6 p.m.

Remember to bring your own clippers, bags, containers, and jars when you come.

You can come either day. If you are unable to come during pick-up hours, please email us, and we can pack you a box (see the Packed Boxes section for details). You can also arrange for someone to pick up your share if you cannot. Also, see Selling a Week of Your [Share](#) for details on how to do that.

- Bring your black farm tote every time you come to pick up your share. Place it on a cart at the door, and use this as your “shopping cart.”
- Sign in for your pick-up at the front, and please pay attention to the limits which will be written on the chalkboard and above each limited item.
- The CSA barn is laid out like a grocery store where you take what you need for a week. This varies for everyone, and that is expected! Generally, it should be about one tote, not including large items such as winter squash, melons, or cabbage.
- The freezer in the back houses meat, which will either be marked in the meat binder or on the purchase log. Please see the details for [Beef & Hens](#) and [Lamb](#) below.
- We do our best to let you know when we have items in abundance and encourage members to preserve them, as well as when we have limited amounts.
- If there is a small amount of produce left in a gray tote, know that we almost always have more in storage, but it is also good to check with us. If you are about to finish a tote, please ask us if we have more first.
- If we completely run out of an item before everyone has had some, please know we are as upset as you are. We do our best to avoid this. We ask for your understanding and flexibility! Please ask us if there is something we have in abundance as a substitute.

Beef

The current offering of beef is what we have left over from last season. We have ground beef, osso buco/shank, English short ribs, and cross rib roast, plus bones and organs.

We will offer **each member 2 lbs/week until we run out**. You do not need to record this beef.

The first cow harvest will be around the 1st of June. We should get the beef returned to us, cut and packaged, around July 1st. When we have the new beef, we will send an update on member's allotment for the year and you will start recording what you take.

We take our cows and sheep to [JMF Slaughter](#), which is located 5 minutes away on Chileno Valley Road. We use [Sonoma County Meat Company](#) for our processing.

Hens

We will harvest the old laying hens in November and offer them as stewing hens through the winter. It is usually about 3-4 hens/share.

Lamb

We are excited to have lamb for sale in the CSA barn! We are grateful for this meat and for all that the sheep have brought to this land.

Here are the quick details (please read below for a detailed explanation of the role of the sheep on the farm):

Lamb prices:

\$9/lb for any cut

\$3/lb for bones and organs

Why is it the same price for any cut?

Two reasons:

First, we believe that all parts of the animal are equally valuable. Of course, there are some cuts that we have very few and some that there are many. Please do your best to vary the cuts you purchase. If you have questions, please ask!

Second, one price is much easier for us.

Why is the price so low?

The cost of the sheep's care is already included in the CSA share. The price/pound is a reflection of the cost of the slaughter and butcher fees divided by the amount of meat.

Packed Boxes

- You can request a box to be packed on any CSA day (Tuesday or Friday)
- Please either send us a list with requested items and amounts or ask for an "everything" box.
- Plan to grab your meat, winter squash, flour, and tea from inside the barn when you get your box. The barn is always open! (We will pack the eggs into the box.)
- While we prefer to receive box requests before 2 pm on the CSA day, we do check the email regularly and we are usually able to accommodate last minute requests until ~5pm.
- When you ask for a box request, let us know if you plan to pick it up during CSA hours so we can have it ready in time!
- You can pick up your box any time after CSA has closed or the next few days after. If you have not picked up your box by the next CSA day, we will unpack it so as not to waste the food (for a Tuesday box pack, you can pick it up Wednesday or Thursday; for a Friday pack, you can pick up Saturday, Sunday, or Monday).
- The box will be in the walk-in cooler located behind the CSA barn, in a gray tote with your name on it, on the left side of the cooler next to the eggs. There is a light switch on the outside of the walk-in.

Selling a week of your share

You are welcome to do this if you cannot come for a week. However, we do ask that you explain how the CSA works so that they arrive at the farm ready.

Please communicate that the weekly fee is an average value and does not relate directly to what they choose to take of the offerings. Please communicate with them about the beef and hens and what they can take (it's up to you and your share!) Please be aware that if we have one-time offerings in the barn, we will save them for you instead of giving them out. Please forward any current protocols and the welcome documents.

It is helpful to have them bring bags, containers, and clippers!

Split Shares

Please sign in each week with your name so we can track your schedule. If you come by accident and it is not your week, you may take half of a share. Please come the next week when it is your week and take another half-share.

Farm Hosted Events

We chose these dates in advance so that we could all plan ahead. However, they are subject to change in case of an unforeseen event.

- **All Member Meeting:** Wednesday, April 30th, 2025
- **BBQ and Baseball:** Sunday July 27th, 2025
- **Harvest Fair:** Saturday, November 15th, 2025
- **February Pancake Breakfast:** Saturday, February 7th, 2026
- **Monthly Potlucks:** Usually the 2nd Friday of each month, May to October, except July (See blog for the exact dates)

Items Available for Purchase

We have the following items available for purchase in the barn:

- Open Field Farm Lamb
- Open Field Farm Wool
- Open Field Farm Bone Broth (made by [Olla products](#))
- [Revolution Bread](#) (baked on the farm)
- Saltonstall Olive Oil (our neighbors)
- [Filigreen Farm](#) Fruit (when available)

You can pay for these purchases with cash, check, or through Square. Please record your cash and check payments, but not those made with Square, as the system records them for us!

Private (Member) Event Guidelines

To schedule an event, please email Sarah at openfieldfarm@gmail.com.

In general we are happy to have the farm used for small events, 30 people or less. We love to have people on the farm but are not trying to host large events. We are open to hearing requests but may say no.

What we offer and require for all events

- ❖ Pre-event walkthrough with Sarah
- ❖ Trash / Recycling: Please separate your waste into provided containers and empty them at the end of the event. Please do a sweep of the area to pick up any trash before you leave!
- ❖ Bathroom: Please plan to clean the bathroom before and after your event.
- ❖ Outdoor Table setup: You are welcome to use the picnic tables. You may arrange them as you see fit. If you have moved them from the fire circle area, please return them.
- ❖ Parking: The parking lot fits 25 cars. If you need more space, please talk to us about overflow parking and ask your guests to carpool! Please **DO NOT PARK NEAR THE BIG BARN OR BY THE HOUSES**. Your guests must park in the parking lot and walk to the barn unless they are physically unable. Rain does not qualify as a reason to park closer to the barn.
- ❖ Fires: Fires may be permitted depending on the season and weather. Please check

- with Sarah if you are interested. You must provide your own firewood.
- ❖ Candles: You may set up a moderate number of candles in votives. All candles must be in glass.
 - ❖ Decorations: You are welcome to decorate the barns and/or around the barns. Please do not nail, staple, or screw into any of the wood, including the tables. Please also do not use invasive grasses, such as pampas grass.
 - ❖ Heat: We do not allow temporary heaters in either barn.
 - ❖ Music: Live or recorded music is allowed. The music must end at 10 pm.
 - ❖ Electrical: There is a basic 20 amp, 110V at both the CSA barn and the big barn, which will run basic household electronics. If you need more, please let us know. We will set up the barn with electrical boxes to help diffuse the electrical load and not trip the breaker. There will be a \$20 set-up fee.

Big Barn for Events

We offer the big barn space with the center space empty, but there may be equipment and bikes parked in the side bays. If you would like the side bays to be empty as well, it will be a \$40 fee. The old feeding troughs have straw bales along the edge of the center space. Please do not move the bales, as they are there to prevent anyone from walking in the troughs, which are very slippery.

Please keep the back doors of the barn shut; the space behind the barn is not safe to explore! The front doors of the barn should be left open unless it is necessary to close them due to weather. Please wipe the tables and sweep up any food from the barn floor.

CSA Barn for Events

We offer the CSA barn for you to use as it is. We can have the counters cleared at no cost if you request it. However, the displays will still be in place. We ask that you clean the counters and sweep the barn afterward.

If you would like to use the barn without the displays, we will charge \$40 to help you remove them and set them back up after you are done.

Herb and Flower Gardens During Events

We invite you and your guests to enjoy the herb and flower gardens. Please explain to them to stay on the pathways and be respectful of the plants. If you would like to pick flowers, please bring your own clippers and limit the picking to a small bouquet per person.

Safety Protocol for Events

Please be sure to read the farm Safety Protocol below and to let your guests know of the rules.

Open Field Farm Safety Guidelines

We welcome you to the farm, and we are excited to share this space with all of you.

Driveway

Please drive cautiously! There are many people around, including small children and dogs. **The speed limit is 15 mph down the driveway and 5 mph in the barnyard!**

Please be aware of other cars on the driveway, as two cars cannot pass on the paved section. The cars that are coming into the farm must be the ones to pull off to the side. There is a large lip and drainage on the other side. You can also wait in the pull-out for a car to pass.

CSA Barn, Herb & Flower Gardens

- We consider the fields around the CSA barn, including the herb garden and the flower fields, the zone where the kids can roam freely while respecting the growing plants. If you are confused about the boundaries, please ask us, and we will be happy to show you.
- Please be aware that there are many edible plants in the flower and herb garden, but there are **also weeds and plants that are not edible**, such as sweet pea seeds (which look like peas but should not be eaten). There is also a nightshade weed that has green unripe berries and black ripe berries that should not be eaten. **Please check in with your children to be sure they know what is edible and what is not, and remind them to ask you before they eat in the field.** If you need help identifying, please ask us.
- Please do not allow children to play in the wash station. We strive to keep the wash station clean and sanitary, there are knives and other farm equipment, and the concrete can be slippery.
- Please do not allow children to play on the green carts or with the strawberry carts.
- Feel free to play with the toys and bikes around the CSA barn; that is why they are there. You are welcome to bring them into the flowers or other areas, but please return them to the front of the barn.
- During the rainy season, water is often in the ditch behind the CSA barn. The kids love to play in it; having the water around is such a treat! **Please supervise them when they do so.**
- Lastly, we do allow dogs on the farm but we ask that they stay on a leash and that you pick up after them! In particular, we ask that they do not enter the CSA barn or the crop fields. Please note that the farm dogs are the exception to the rule and they do roam without leashes.

Elsewhere on the farm

If your children want to venture elsewhere, they may, but please be aware of their whereabouts. There are lots of great adventure spots around the farm, but naturally there are also some hazards. We trust you as the parent to know your children's limits. Feel free to ask us for suggestions of places to explore!

Please be aware that the houses around the barns belong to the crew. Please respect their spaces. The kids are welcome to play on the swings and stumps behind the houses on CSA days and during the week. If you are visiting on the weekends or using the farm for an event, please do not use the swings or play behind the houses.

There is no playing on the farm equipment. The only barn you may play in is the big barn.

Please be aware that the irrigation ponds are close by. The ponds are fenced and the gate is locked. There is no playing in the irrigation ponds.

Farm Animals

The sheep graze around the barnyard which often puts them very near the CSA barn. We enjoy having them close as the other animals are often far away in the fields. It is nice to have the animal presence near our house and the barn, and for us to be able to observe them. Still, there are guidelines for interacting with them and the other animals.

1. Their fence is electrified, as are all of the non-permanent fences on the farm. No one should touch the fence.
2. Please accompany your children if they would like to approach the sheep. Although they are used to people and tend to ignore us, we prefer that an adult be with them for the animals' and your children's well-being.
3. Please be calm and respectful when interacting with the animals. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask us.
4. If you would like to visit the cows or chickens, please ask us first. There may be times when we ask you not to go. When you do go, please remember that those fences will always be electrified.

We do not want to deter anyone from interacting with the animals, but keeping both you and them safe is our first priority.

Pond

Swimming in the pond is wonderful in the summer heat. You are welcome to venture up to the large pond to swim. Please check in with us before you do so.

Please be aware that a pond is not a swimming pool. There are additional factors to consider to be safe while swimming in the pond.

Swimming in the pond is entirely at your own risk, and no lifeguard will be present. We recommend that parents and all folks swimming are extra diligent about keeping an eye on the water and their children. Like the ocean or other natural water bodies, the water in the pond is not clear. Thus if something were to happen to someone while swimming, it would be far more difficult to see and rescue them. We recommend that **children wear personal floatation devices (life jackets). Ours do when we swim.**

The dock is deceptively far from the beach and kids should be with an adult if making that journey.

Please let us know if you have any thoughts, comments, or questions. Thank you for your help in keeping the farm enjoyable and safe!

Communicating with Us

The best way to communicate with us is via [email](#). We will do our best to respond quickly, but please understand that we spend most of our time in the field and not in our office. Please contact us with any changes to your postal or email address.

We will communicate with you by email. When you sign up, you will be added to our distribution list. Please read your email from us.

We depend on being able to communicate important information such as our farm events. Every week, we will email a newsletter giving you information about the crops available that week, recipe ideas, or other farm related news.