

CHIPOTLE CHICKS

Well, the dog days of August are upon us. The Chipotle Chicks (aka Sheila DeSimio and Kathy Yelton) are trying to keep cool even though the forces of Mother Nature are working against us. Not only has it been hot, but the lack of water is stressing both the plants and the Chicks! We hope you have found a way to cope with this hot summer.

Product, product, product

We told you in our July newsletter that we achieved certification on June 29, 2005 to produce our products. We did not believe that we were going to have enough of our produce ready to have much in the way of product in July. We were pleasantly surprised to see enough mature tomatillos that we could use to begin producing *Roasted Tomatillo Salsa*. We experimented with frozen peppers (along with fresh) see how these would impact Hot Pepper Jelly. We were satisfied with the result, so we also began offering *Hot Pepper Jelly*. Our one disappointment has been the yield of green beans from our gardens. We are getting some which allow us to offer a few jars of *Hill Dilly Beans*, but we really wanted to see bushels of beans. Between the heat, the lack of water and the bugs, we just haven't enough beans yet. But, we have new rows of beans (and the needed dill) out and growing. We are nursing these beans along so we can get enough of a crop to begin building inventory.

Our sweet peppers are looking good, so we should be able to start making *Roasted Red Pepper Spread* soon.

The one product we have not been able to offer yet is our mainstay: *Kentucky Chipotle Sauce*. Our Jalapeño plants are loaded with peppers; we just need these to get ripe (that is, red). Once we have a few ripe jalapeños, then the smoking will begin! We have a pile of hickory just waiting to be used.

We have been elated with the feedback that we have been getting from you, our customer, on our products. We have also taken some of your suggestions for additional products; as a result, we have submitted some additional recipes to UK for review. With any luck, we can expand our offerings before the summer ends.

August Offerings

We will be doing rain dances throughout the month, but if it doesn't rain, we will continue to water. Kathy has put out additional Armenian cukes (the squash borer destroyed that last crop), so hopefully you will see more of these wonderful cucumbers by month's end. Sheila's tomatoes are coming in and are they good! She has many heirloom varieties, so try one of these with your next supper for a great taste treat. Can you say BLT?

We will continue to offer fresh basil. Should you want to make some pesto, please let us know in advance so we can have an ample supply. Mint will also be available.

Squash, beets, flowers, and other bounty from the garden will be available, all grown without synthetic chemicals or fertilizers.