

## **Hoquiam Farmer's Market News - Spring Edition**

### **Local News**

Posted by:

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No Matter what the calendar says, I know that Spring has arrived when the Satsop Bulb Farm opens for the season! This is cause for rejoicing and merrymaking on a massive scale. Kris and Karol opened the doors this week, and we have Daffodils here at the Hoquiam Farmers Market today! Not only that, we sell them for the same low price as in Satsop- \$1.69 per bunch. Not that I blame you for wanting to make a trip to the Bulb Farm, it's a delightful excursion.

Daffodils make their own sunshine on even the darkest and gloomiest of days. We spent last weekend at Lake Quinalt and spotted a few vanguards of Quinalt Daffodils-otherwise known as Skunk Cabbage- in bloom. Watch the swampy waters for more of them to be appearing soon. With Spring arriving in less than two weeks, us gardeners are starting to haul pots and work tools out of the shed. It will be some while before you can sow any seeds in the ground, but now is the prime window of opportunity for planting Rhubarb. Our Market Garden Guru, Judy Hanson, brought in eighteen Rhubarb plants this morning, and they are gorgeous! Healthy and ready to transplant, the largest ones in the three gallon pots can actually be harvested this summer. The smaller plants need another year to establish themselves and gain more strength, so they shouldn't be picked this year, however tempting that may be. Did you know that Rhubarb plants sprout a flower? Yes, usually just one per plant, and it's a good sign of a sturdy and happy plant. But- cut it off. The flower diverts energy away from the stalks and the root system.

One of our main chicken farmers was in today to ask for egg cartons, and I had to regretfully tell him that we had none to give him. You are all so conscientious about bringing the empty cartons in for re-use, but this surge in egg production has caught all us off guard! Those chickens are in a laying frenzy and we want to encourage them- if you have any empty egg cartons, please bring them over to us!

Another happy note for gardeners- this year we will be carrying gorgeous pottery plant containers in all shapes, colors, and sizes. If you have any specific colors or sizes that you want, please let me know and I'll get them ordered for you.

I wangled a promise out of Deidra to make Taco Soup tomorrow ( Friday)- you need some extra nutrition to make it through this final stretch of Winter, so come on in!

Just one last thing- this weekend is our Spring Forward into Daylight Savings Time- remember to set your clocks ahead Saturday night.

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