



Weekly Farmer's Market News

Jasper Farmers Market Vendor Spotlight

August 30, 2008

By Darla Huffman

A feature of the Master Gardener web site that will be of interest to Jasper Farmers Market buyers and sellers alike is the Spotlight on Vendors section. Here you can find pictures and information on some of the individuals whose work makes our farmers market such a success. This feature has been underused in the past so we are encouraging all of the vendors to become a part of this effort and help it to become a useful source for anyone wanting to know more about the people and products of the Jasper Farmers Market. To find this site go to www.pickensmg.com and click on 'Farmers Market' in the left hand column. Vendors can send their information directly to Harry Reed at harry@pickensmg.com or contact any of the Master Gardeners at the farmers market.

Among the vendors who are, or soon will be represented on the Master Gardeners web site are Zach White, the Poole family, Angle Walk Farms and Floyd Reed.

Zach White is a familiar face at the market in the spring and fall and shoppers have come to depend on him for quality, locally grown bedding plants. He is sure to have a large and colorful selection of pansies as well as perennials and herbs for planting in the fall garden.

Ruth Poole and two of her sons, Jerry and Danny are avid gardeners and are at the market almost every Saturday and some Wednesdays during the vegetable season starting with lettuce and asparagus in the spring and on through the summer beans and okra. In addition to the many quality vegetables, they also sell strawberries and blueberries.

Angels Walk Farm, near Fairmount is home to Emily Morgan and her garden where she produces flowers, herbs and vegetables. Her colorful booth at the farmers market is a regular feature of the Jasper Farmers market most Saturdays and many Wednesdays.

The cedar birdhouses Floyd Reed creates are market favorites. There are many styles to choose from and he still manages to come up with new ideas not only for birdhouses but for other products. He usually has several cedar mantles on display or can custom make one to suit your home and specifications.

Is vegetable gardening something you think you might like to try, but haven't known where to start? Or have you tried to grow vegetables in the past but had such poor results you thought it was not worth the trouble? Have the deer eaten up what you tried to grow for your table? Help is on the way; the Master Gardeners are offering a course on vegetable gardening

that promises to reveal “The Number One Mistake in Vegetable Gardening”. It will be held three consecutive Thursday evenings in October, the 2nd, 10th and 16th at the Senior Center at Lee Newton Park from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Not only will this course be FREE to the public, attendees will be able to get a FREE soil test (an \$8 value)! Register soon as space is limited. You can sign up at the Farmers Market or by calling the County Extension Office at 706 253 8840.

Maybe some one taking this course will win the Biggest Big Ole Tomato contest next summer. The big tomato and summer squash contest ends August 30, but due to holiday deadlines the results will not be in the paper until next week; they will be on the Master Gardener web site when available. The longest winter squash contest will continue through the end of September.

The Jasper Farmers market is held on Saturday mornings from 7:30 to 12:30 and will continue until October 28 with the exception of Oct 4. The location is the Park & Ride Lot, beside Lee Newton Park, off of Highway 53, near downtown Jasper, Georgia. Only handmade or homegrown products can be sold at the Jasper Farmers Market. Watch this newspaper for any exceptions to time or location and other up to date information regarding the farmers market. Go to the Master Gardener web site at www.pickensmg.com for market rules and the latest news and pictures. For questions on growing or preserving vegetables or other farm related subjects call the Pickens County Agents office at 706 253 8840.



Emily Morgan's fresh garden produce is regularly available at the Farmers Market.



Zach White will soon be back selling pansies for fall gardens



A lot to choose from at Floyd Reed's birdhouse booth



Fresh, local vegetables and berries from the Poole's bountiful garden