



Siena Farms' 2012 Sweet Corn & Orchard Fruit Farm Share Supplied by Brookdale Farm F.A.Q.'s (*Frequently Asked Questions*)

Q: Who is Brookdale Fruit Farm, and what is their connection to Siena Farms? **A:** Brookdale Fruit Farm (brookdalefarms.com) is a 7th generation family farm in Hollis, NH. Farmer Chris of Siena Farms has befriended Brookdale through his daughter Siena's close friendship with 6-year-old Hollis, a member of Brookdale's 7th generation. The Hardy family, who owns and farms this large, beautiful orchard in southern NH, really know their craft, and grow some of the most beautiful local fruit – and sweet corn – we've seen and tasted. We are excited to nurture a relationship between our two farms and provide you, our CSA members, with access to these sweet crops that we don't currently grow at Siena Farms.

Q: What will my weekly Sweet Corn and Fruit CSA box contain? **A:** Your six-week-long weekly Corn & Fruit share will be a half-bushel box (same size box as Siena Farms' vegetable shares) and will be approximately 2/3 full of Brookdale sweet corn (between 1 and 2 dozen ears, depending on ear-size; including a mix of bi-color and white corn), topped with a seasonal selection of Brookdale's orchard fruit, including their peaches, white peaches, nectarines, and a variety of their late summer and early autumn apples. We will be picking up the corn and fruit from Brookdale Farm on Monday and Thursday mornings just as the Brookdale crew rolls in from the fields with that morning's corn harvest, so as with our own Vegetable Shares, your Corn & Fruit Share will be intensely fresh.

Q: Does Brookdale Farm grow its produce organically? **A:** Some, but not all. As you probably know, sweet corn and fruits are much harder to grow organically with consistent quality than the wide variety of diversified vegetables we grow here at Siena Farms. Brookdale practices IPM (Integrated Pest Management) in the farming of their corn and their orchard fruit, and was one of the first orchards in New Hampshire to adopt IPM strategies. The Hardys are very talented, experienced farmers who care a great deal about their farmland, their customers, and the quality of their product.

Q: What happens when I'm out of town or for some reason can't pick up my box on a given week? **A:** As with our Vegetable Shares, we encourage you to send a friend or neighbor to pick up your box for you; they can simply check your name off on the weekly check-off list, pick up your share, and enjoy!

Q: If I forget to pick up my box, will it be available to pick up the following day? **A:** At all of our pickup locations it's very important that produce doesn't sit around between pickup days, so no, Farm Shares can only be picked up during the designated pickup window on the designated day. Leftover boxes will be donated to charities, sent home with staff, put to use in restaurant kitchens, etc., but never wasted!

Q: As a Corn & Fruit Sharemember, will I receive a separate weekly e-newsletter from the Vegetable Share emails? **A:** We are assuming that most or all of our Corn & Fruit Sharemembers will also be Vegetable Sharemembers, so you'll receive one weekly CSA email from Siena Farms designed for all our sharemembers, with updates from the farmers, identification of the items in your share, and helpful cooking tips and recipes from Chef Ana and company.

Q: For Monday pickups that fall on national holidays (Labor Day), do the Corn & Fruit Shares get delivered / picked up on Tuesday instead? **A:** Yes, with the same pickup window as the normal Monday hours at the respective location.

Other questions? Please visit www.sienafarms.com or call (978) 261-5365 and ask for Farmer Chris!