

JANUARY GREETINGS FROM CROSS ISLAND FARMS



HOW DO WE PLAY IN THE SNOW



When the snow is at least 2 inches deep and the ground underneath is frozen, we love to cross country ski around our property with our dogs. Here Slurpy has donned a harness and Dave has attached himself to it with a bungied line. They're all set to go skjorring - cross country skiing pulled by one or more dogs. It's great fun and great exercise for both man and beast!

WHO'S BEEN NIBBLING ON THE RASPBERRIES



Bunnies are adorable, but not so much when they chomp on raspberry canes as shown above. When we started the farm, there were no bunnies on our island so we didn't plan our fencing to keep them out. Then they gradually returned. Now we use a two-tiered hardware cloth trunk guard to protect tree seedlings (see below), but haven't solved the raspberry predation problem.



WHERE ARE THESE BABY CHICKS



This month we have incubated 42 fertilized chicken eggs IN THE LIVING ROOM! They emerged from their shells this week after incubating for 21 days at 100 degrees. We will be keeping them cozy and warm in the house until they grow feathers and can be placed outdoors this spring. Layers take six months from birth to begin laying eggs, hopefully just in time for our summer customers to enjoy.

WHAT'S THIS



These squiggly lines in this ash log are called "serpentine galleries". They are the marks left by the emerald ash borer, an invasive beetle that is devastating ash trees throughout the region.

WHERE IS DANI SCHEDULED TO SPEAK OR TABLE



In Person: Talk at NOFA/VT Winter Conference
 , Saint Michael's College, Saturday, February 14
"Perennial Vegetables that Sustain Themselves"
Colchester, Vermont



APPRECIATE THE WINTER SCENERY

Dani Baker
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