

From: Dani <danibaker@crossislandfarms.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 4:59 AM
To: danibaker crossislandfarms.com
Subject: October News from Cross Island Farms and The Enchanted Edible Forest

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OCTOBER GREETINGS FROM CROSS ISLAND FARMS



WHO'S GOING AWAY



After raising them for 18 years, Dave has sadly decided to get out of the meat goat business, at least temporarily. Here the goat herd has a last meal of Brussels sprout plants before heading for the auction.

WHAT IS A COVER CROP



A cover crop is a non-food-producing planting that keeps roots in the ground in a fallow area. Here common oats, planted the first week in September, form a lush groundcover to feed the soil life and intercept pest cycles. The oats will be winter-killed before they set seed, leaving a hay-like mulch which can be planted into with no-till food crops in the spring.

WHERE DOES THE HAY COME FROM



Our beef is certified 100 percent grass-fed which means we graze the animals continuously during the growing season on our organic pastures and feed organic hay which we buy from an organic producer during the late fall, winter and early spring. You can buy our grass--fed beef at our farmstand inside the front porch of our farmhouse.

WHAT'S READY TO PICK





Autumn Olive berries, Firecracker crab apples. and American persimmons are ripe, ready to pick, and can be eaten fresh or processed into delectable treats. Call for your U-Pick appointment.

WHO'S CATCHING SOME RAYS



A garter snake suns itself in the Enchanted Edible Forest. We love seeing snakes in our gardens and pastures as they eat slugs and mice and signify a safe, chemical-free habitat.

WHERE IS DANI SCHEDULED TO SPEAK OR TABLE



In Person: Table at the Thousand Island Arts Center's Elves' Fair

December 6, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

314 John St, Clayton, NY

In Person: Talk at NOFA/NY Winter Conference

SUNY Purchase, January 9-10

Topic TBA

735 Anderson Hill Road **Purchase**, NY 10577

In Person: Talk at NOFA/VT Winter Conference

University of Vermont, February 14-15

Topic TBA

Burlington, Vermont



SPEND TIME OUTDOORS WITH THE FALLING LEAVES

Dani Baker

Owner [Cross Island Farms](#) | Creator [The Enchanted Edible Forest](#) | Author [The Home-Scale Forest Garden: How to Plan, Plant and Tend a Resilient Edible Landscape](#)

44301 Cross Island Road
Wellesley Island, NY 13640
danibaker@crossislandfarms.com
315-482-3663



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Our mailing address is:

The Enchanted Edible Forest at Cross Island Farms

44301 Cross Island Rd

Wellesley Island, NY 13640-4157

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