

From: Flip Flop Ranch <flipflopranch@vemail.net>
Subject:
Date: February 9, 2012 8:59:53 PM PST

FLIP FLOP RANCH

Making Farming Fun



February Newsletter 2012

In this issue:

- February
 - Volunteer Saturdays
 - New additions to the ranch
 - Needs/Trades/Donations
- Having trouble viewing this email?
[Click here to see it in your browser](#)



The new babies and Momma

February is an exciting time at Flip Flop Ranch because things are slow enough for us to figure out what we want to do for the next year.

What animals do we want to raise? What vegetables and fruit? What cool things do we want to make for our customers to purchase?

What events do we want to have? And the best part of all is babies start being born!

We just had three gorgeous tiny dairy goats born. See the little ears? These goats are mixed with LaMancha goats that naturally don't have ears. They obviously get their ears from their daddy.

Volunteer Saturdays



Many people have asked about volunteering here and we've had a lot of people help out. We're still open to volunteers any time by appointment, but we've decided to dedicate the very **last** saturday of each month to welcoming volunteers to the ranch. Every saturday, someone (if not all of us) will be at the ranch so you can just stop by and join in whatever we're doing!

Bring a friend or a group (we've had church groups, schools, boy scouts, etc.), the more the merrier (and the more work gets done!).

Requirements are to bring workgloves and wear boots (yes, it's Flip Flop Ranch and we do often wear flip flops, but we take a risk with our own toes that we don't want to take with yours), also a water bottle, a sack lunch, and a happy attitude! You're very welcome to bring tools and supplies for a project. [Ask us](#) what needs to be done or give us your idea!

You're welcome between 10am and 5pm.

(April 15-21 is national volunteer week so keep us in mind for that!)



Our egg hens have finally started laying again after taking quite a vacation over the past couple months. We will have a limited amount of eggs available, but we have ordered lots of little babies to get our egg 'capacity' up so we can provide lots of eggs.

One type of chicken we're going to start raising are Marans. This french chicken is known for its *amazingly* colored chocolate brown egg. These eggs are gourmet eggs and we think they taste better than any other egg (well okay, everyone tells me they do...I'm allergic to eggs and can't eat them-how sad is that?). These chickens aren't endangered, but how could we pass up such cool eggs?



Ancona ducks

are another addition to the ranch family this spring. These cute little quackers are actually endangered, like most of the breeds of livestock we raise. The American Livestock Breed Conservancy lists them as critically endangered and, as of the 2000 census, there were only 128 breeding Anconas left. They are great egg layers, laying 210-280 white, cream, or blue eggs yearly. They also are good meat birds, having very flavorful and less greasy meat than the typical duck like the pekin. [Let us know](#) if you might be interested in duck eggs or meat.



Recent blogposts you might find interesting

[Self-Sufficient: Planning a desert garden](#)

[Planting Asparagus in the desert](#)

[Wait a minute! You eat endangered livestock?](#)

[Our New Year's Resolution: Becoming Self-Sufficient](#)

[Farmageddon](#)

[Ancona Ducks](#)

Come visit us and see what's new!

Serina at Flip Flop Ranch

www.FlipFlopRanch.com

Needs/Trades/Donations

There are many things we are looking for and since we support the barter system, we will consider trades for anything we have available. We also run a nonprofit farming education program in partnership with the High Desert Center for an Agricultural Economy (www.highdesertagriculture.com), so if your donation fits into this category (ask us if it does) then we can offer a tax writeoff.

We can trade cotton patch geese/dorking chickens/guinea hogs/nigerian dwarf goats/incubator use/website design (we designed our own websites) or anything else you can think of if we have it.

We need (or really really want):

Animals

Highland Cattle (open to other breeds) **(really need this)

Turkeys (mainly Midget White or Bourbon Reds)

Farm Equipment

Horse-Quality Hay

Fencing

Nigerian Dwarf Goats
Guinea Hogs or Red Wattle Pigs
Non Tom-Walker lines of Cotton Patch Geese
Chickens (especially Faverolles, Anconas or Australorps)
White and/or Pied Peafowl

Chicken/Pig Feed
Flat-bed trailers
Truck **(really need this)
Wood **(really need this)

Of course, we will consider anything else you may have to offer, including other animals not listed. If you're interested in something, let us know what you have to offer. The worst we can say is, "No, thanks."

You got this because you subscribed. If you want to unsubscribe, reply with unsubscribe in the subject line, then do a pirouette and clap three times

(if you don't know what a pirouette is, you're out of luck).

www.FlipFlopRanch.com

FlipFlopRanch@gmail.com

760-680-6146