

SELECTED COMMENTS FROM  
PAST SEASON MEMBERS:

*We value [this experience] for what it teaches our kids about the natural connections between food, the land and the people who grow it.*

*Hope's Edge CSA is now an ingrained part of our lives.*

*It amazes me that I can travel less than two miles and pick up local beautiful nutritious produce at a reasonable price.*

*It's Joyful!*

*We love the variety and getting to try new foods.*

*I like coming to pick up each week, wondering what we'll get...It's like Christmas!*

*Good Food, Good People, Good Fun!*



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# Community Supported Agriculture

HOPE'S EDGE FARM  
HOPE, MAINE

*To approach agriculture without a sense of mystery is to reduce it to an industrial, mechanical process. To farm well you have to merge with the biological world which has inherent spiritual value.*

MICHAEL ABLEMAN

## What is Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)?

In Japan, where the concept of CSA began the words used to describe it translate as "Food with a Face". This translation becomes clear when one begins to understand that this is a system of marketing which offers the consumer the opportunity to reconnect to the source of their food, to develop a relationship with the person growing it and to walk the land where it is being grown. It offers, the farmer an opportunity to develop a personal relationship with those who consume the products of his/her labors and it insures a ready market for the produce coming out of the fields and gardens.

## How does it work?

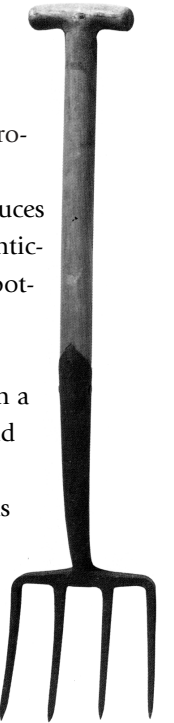
Membership in a CSA is based on "shares of the harvest". The shareholders underwrite the harvest for the entire season by paying for their shares in advance. The shareholder is then invited to visit the farm once a week to pick up a bag of fresh, seasonal, organic produce.

Since payment is made in advance, shareholders are agreeing not only to share in the harvest but also to share in the risk. The farmer's task is to work with nature to produce a beautiful and bountiful harvest. However, since nature offers no guarantees, neither can the farmer. But even in troublesome years total crop failures are rare and there is always more than enough food to pick up.

## What will it cost?

The share price is a function of production costs and the number of shares sold. The farmer first produces a budget, itemizing each of the anticipated costs of production. This bottom line expense number is then divided by the number of shares being offered. Using this equation a full share price comes to \$520 and the half-share price is \$285.

Recognizing that not everyone has the same ability to pay, a sliding scale range is available. (see registration form) You may pay what you can within the ranges offered. Terms can be arranged. A copy of the proposed budget is available on request and all shareholders will be given a copy.



**As a shareholder, what will I receive?**

The accompanying table illustrates the variety of produce a shareholder can expect to receive, as well as the quantity of produce and the relative time throughout the season that each product will become available. This table is based on what a full share holder might expect to receive. Half share holders may expect to receive half this amount. It should be noted, however, that the table is approximate. Exact quantities and availability may vary.

**About the farmer.**

I have been farming and gardening using biodynamic/organic practices since 1991. I began farming in Hope in 2002 so this season will be the seventh for Hopes Edge CSA.

**About the farm.**

Comprised of 100 acres of open fields and mixed woodlands, Hope's Edge Farm is located just off the Ludwig road in North Hope (at Hope's edge). Prior to 1984, the farm (known then, as the Morse Farm) was one of the notable dairies in Hope and had been worked for three generations by the Morse family. Since 1997 the farm has been owned by Holly Miller and her daughter Nora. At that time, Holly introduced horses to the land and we have since added a flock of laying hens. We are considering other livestock for this next season. Holly will readily admit that she is not a farmer. Nevertheless, she is concerned that the land be cared for and that it be used well. A CSA farm offers the best possibility to address both of these concerns. Although not certified, we at Hope's Edge

Farm are committed to organic/biodynamic practices and pledge that no agricultural chemicals have been used on the land since 1997.

**Signing up.**

To secure a share in the garden, fill out the attached form and mail it, with payment, to:

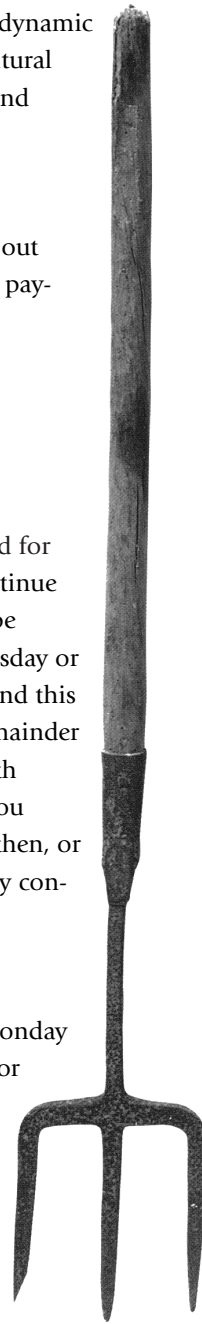
**Tom Griffin**  
 73 Morse Rd.  
 Hope, ME 04847

**On Farm Pick Up**

The first pick-up dates are scheduled for the third week in June and will continue until the end of October. You will be assigned a pick-up day, either a Tuesday or a Friday, before the season begins and this will be your pick-up day for the remainder of the season. I will send a map with directions prior to the first day. If you would like to visit the farm before then, or if you have other questions you may contact me at 542-4097.

**New! Rockland Pick Up**

This season we are introducing a Monday pick up for those folks who live in or near Rockland. The number of Monday shares is limited so if interested please respond soon.



Product	Qty	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
basil	1 lb					
beans,snap	10 lb					
beans, dried	2 lb					
beans, edamame	1/2 lb					
beets	6 lb					
broccoli	6 lb					
cabbage, green	3 hd					
cabbage, red	1 hd					
cabbage,chinese	1-2 hd					
carrots	20 lb					
cauliflower	1-3 lb					
celeriac root	2 cnt					
celery	2 bunch					
chard	3-5 lb					
cucumbers	20 cnt					
eggplant	3 lb					
fennel bulb	2 cnt					
flowers	pyo					
garlic	2-3 lb					
gourds	6 cnt					
herbs, assorted	10 bnch					
kale	2-4 lb					
leeks	2-4 lb					
lettuce	36 hd					
melons	6 cnt					
mesclun	3 lb					
onions	15 lb					
pac choy	1-2 hd					
peas, shell	pyo					
peas,snap	2-4 lb					
peas,snow	1-3 lb					
peppers	2-4 lb					
potatoes	35 lb					
pumpkin	1-2 cnt					
radish	4 bnch					
rutabaga	2 lb					
scallions	6 bnch					
spinach	5 lb					
squash,summer	8-10 lb					
squash,winter	35-45 lb					
strawberries	4 qt					
sweet corn	4 doz					
tatsoi	1-2 hd					
tomatoes	30 lb					
tomatoes, cherry	6 lb					
watermelons	2-3 cnt					

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Share: \$520

Payment Range \$495 to \$545

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Half Share: \$285

Payment Range \$260 to \$310

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Pick-Up Day**

Tuesday -on farm pick up  Friday - on farm pick up

Monday - Rockland Only

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please remember to include your payment.**

**Thank You!**

Tom Griffin  
 73 Morse Rd.  
 Hope, ME 04847