

Johnson's Backyard Garden
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We are planning on having an open house Sunday July 29 from about 10:00-11:00. We would like for you to come out and take a quick tour of our new farm. Next week we will provide additional details and directions.....if you would like to lookup the location on the computer, the address is 9515 Hergotz Lane, Austin, TX.

While reading the last newsletter I noticed that I commented how I was "excited about us having cows"... and that "the owner of the property insisted that the cows convey as part of the sale".....Well the day before closing I went out to the property to meet with my insurance agent. When we pulled up the seller was also at the property cleaning out a shed full of stuff she wanted to keep. Also a rancher with a BIG cowboy hat and a brand new F-350 pick-up was loading the hay out of the barn. I was a little perturbed seeing the hay being removed, but decided that it was not worth saying anything about. When the insurance agent finished making his inspections we were standing around with the seller talking and I made a comment about the cows being Charolais. Charolais are a white cattle breed that originated in France. The seller quickly informed me that the cattle were no longer on the property and that she had sold them. In shock I mumbled something like "I understood according to the contract that they were included in the sale." It was immediately made clear to me that the seller had changed her mind.

Later that day I called my lawyer and he told me that since I found out about the cows being sold prior to the sale that I could either forget about it or discuss the matter prior to closing. So the next morning (Tuesday) my lawyer and I met up at the

title company to talk to her before the papers were signed. To make a long story short....my lawyer and I were cussed out and the seller walked out of the closing and refused to sign the papers. Thanks goes to Beth, who spent 45 minutes on the phone with her the next day calming her down, and working with her to figure out what needed to be done to close the sale. We wound up having to write a letter stating that we would not pursue any legal action over the sale of the cattle. Finally on Friday at 4:00 she signed the papers and it officially became ours on Monday the 19th, when the sale was funded.

With this ordeal behind us, Beth and I along with the kids were at the farm today staking out the location for our mobile home. The photo on the next page shows the front porch view. On the other side of the pecan orchard is the field where we will start vegetable production, it is about 3.5 acres. I am excited about having more space and the ability to plan an effective crop rotation plan. We are researching how to sustainably balance production with conservation of the lands natural resources. Production practices on the farm will be conducted according to USDA organic standards. The rear of the property will probably be used to rotate additional crops, raise pastured poultry, free range eggs and possibly a few cows!

**Next week we plan to have watermelon!

Saturday Harvest 6-24-06 :

Sweet 1015 onion	Sweet and Hot Peppers
Basil	Large/Cherry Tomatoes
Squash/Zucchini	Green Beans
Okra	Butternut Squash
Eggplant	New Potatoes



A few of the cows which are no longer on the farm.

