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Happy September! This season is zooming by it seems, but there is lots to come yet. We have 8 more weeks of CSA, with **the last pickup week October 23-26.**

How do you use your newsletter? Do you take it home and then wish you had known some of the info while you were here? **You can scan the first items** as soon as you get here. Notice that I put the things you need to know (with bold type to let you know what is being addressed) and try to keep the editorializing at the bottom.

Thank you members who helped spread the word about the R.C. We have had several new members come in and they are delighted to find out about us, thanks to you!

Fall U-pick items: Will be open soon. (not this week) Look for newsletter announcement. Fall/Winter u-pick greens are now about nearly ready, and we will be doing a final weeding and then giving them lots of water. They will grow rapidly over the next couple of weeks. As usual, the announcement and directions will be in the newsletter.

Winter Squash: Although the vines are dying down, the squash is not ripe yet. It stays in the field attached to the remnant of the vines for a while. This allows all the energy from the vines to continue to go into the squash. Then we pick it and cure it in the greenhouses for a couple of weeks. This develops a better texture and sweeter flavor.

Onions: we have had an abundance of onions (perfect growing weather). So look for lots in your shares from now on. They are Walla Walla, which does not store for long periods, so need to be used as fresh onions.

Pumpkins: Not quite ready yet, but we will let you know. They are a little early, so expect news to pick up your pumpkins sooner than normal. Which means you'll probably be using them for cooking rather than decoration.

Pre-Season for 2014 Signup forms will be ready next week. Look for discounts on next year's CSA if you purchase a share this fall. **Winter share signups will be ready soon too.**

Genetically Engineered crops: Also known as "GE" or "GMO", we first started hearing about this maybe about 10 years ago? I think most of us think of this as a danger, or at least a concern, now that more information is out about the effects on livestock and human health, herbicide resistant weeds, pesticide resistant insects, increased disease levels, lower than promised yields, less drought tolerance, etc, etc, associated with these crops. Also now more apparent is the damage of invasive pollination from these plants which spread these problems everywhere (I know, they thought they could "control pollination drift"- actually, they know they couldn't but lied about that along with everything else). Come on- these are smart people – they know elementary biology and laws of genetics better than High School freshmen (which is when we learned it, remember?) – don't they? It is amazing how the lure of power, money and control can erase common sense and concern for the rest of the human race. But that has been human history, right?

So just how fast have things moved along to **control the world's food supply?** – Whoa, that sounds like a "radical, reactionary" statement! Is it? There is a ton of legitimate information out there, and here are some quotes from an excellent summary in the latest issue of the PCC Sound Consumer:

"The introduction of genetically engineered (GE) crops has corresponded with increasing monopolization of seed by biotechnology companies and higher seed costs. This has led to tragedies in some countries, while pushing out conventional, non-GE seeds and reducing farmer seed choices. These impacts are being seen in the United States, Brazil, India, the Philippines, South Africa and Europe."

*"According to AgWeb, the "big four" biotech seed companies — Monsanto, DuPont/Pioneer, Syngenta and Dow AgroSciences — own 80 percent of the U.S. corn market and 70 percent of the soybean business. **They also control more than half the world's seed supply.**" (For the complete article, go to pccnaturalmarkets.com)*

Please take the time to read this. And then think about why the US and Canada are virtually the only large developed countries that do not require GE-ingredient labeling. (hint- where did this all start?)

Then please vote to pass I-522. Even if you aren't concerned about GE crops, we all have the right to choose!

