## Newsletter

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May 2013





NEWS - HUNGRY GAP >>> is nearly over>>> Prices for Organic seasonal food are at their height right now with the stored produce having finished and weather conditions in Europe meaning even imported produce is hard to come by. Hence the lack of bulky greens in the last months boxes. We simply couldn't find it to get to you.

However things are picking up, calabrese are coming from Spain and some of our outdoor crops are just starting to look like they are growing. It's a very late start to the spring/early summer cropping due to the very cold nights we were having and the fluctuating temperatures which have caused some crops to run to seed before they mature.

Busy, Busy, Busy The weeds are not waiting and neither is the planting. Cucumbers, Tomatoes, and other hot crops are going into the tunnels. Spuds are up in the fields of trerieve and many crops have been planted out at Keveral

Corporate takeover of Organic food? we continue to examine the changes in the Organic food industry since we launched our box scheme.

Part2 'back to the land' to Corporate Organic 'Organic' is much more than the present mainstream conception of a set of standards governing farming inputs. Direct marketing methods, such as box schemes, farmers markets and farm shops, have succeeded in fostering direct relationships of trust between organic producers and consumers - and challenge agribusiness-controlled food systems through a commitment to 'local food for local markets'.

However, schemes like your's make up only a small proportion of the organic industry, which has grown rapidly in the last 15 years. While the environmental benefits of mass conversion of land cannot be denied - millions of hectares of land that were once sprayed with pesticides and chemical fertilisers are now being farmed in a more ecological way profound changes have accompanied this rapid expansion. The most important of these changes is the incorporation of organic food production into the conventional industrialised food system and the involvement big food corporations throughout supermarkets the production.

processing and distribution of organic food. Even "Local" box schemes have had to scale up to survive expanding to cover all areas of the Country.

As organic becomes incorporated into the conventional food system, it becomes more processed, packaged and transported - and therefore much less sustainable. The organic sector is looking more and more like the conventional food sector not only in inputs (use of off-farm compost and fertilisers) and production methods (feedlots and monocultures).... More next time

This Month's Grower's Profile - Lambrini Mentis.

If you live in Liskeard or East Looe or anywhere in between I usually deliver your box. I've been involved with the box scheme and have been living

on the farm for 12yrs.



I am dedicated to organic farming seeing it as the only way to care for creation. The results of organic farming are seen in the increase in

biodiversity of plants and animals on the land as well as being able to taste the difference and feel the health benefits of eating food not grown with artificial pesticides and fertilizers. I also believe there are great benefits in trading locally and directly to the community.

As well as delivering I also grow some fruit and vegetables to go in the boxes, make jam, raise my son, work in a job off the farm and am involved in a local church; during the height of the growing season when the weeds are growing very fast my plot sometimes tends to look like I'm growing chickweed rather than lettuces.

Enjoy the lovely veggies and thank you for supporting Keveral community of organic growers, Lambrini

And Finally Don't forget the Musical Event .. MAD at Trerieve farm this SAT  $15^{\rm th}$  June.. 7pm onwards. Jim and Marion welcome you all.