



# WASEM FRUIT FARM

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## Fall 2023 Newsletter

Greetings from Wasem Fruit Farm:

OPENING DAY is Thursday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>! We will **NOT have cider Thursday Sept 14th** until late morning or afternoon, providing everything goes smoothly. Open Wednesday - Sunday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m., **closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, but OPEN (October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> for Halloween)** We will be open most Fridays starting November until we run out of apples.

We have only about half the quantity of apples as last year. Hopefully our pumpkin, squash & gourd crop will be good. We have U-pick red raspberries and blackberries now and until the first hard frost. \$7.50 per quart.

The last two years have been the most difficult I have ever lived through. My husband, Bruce, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in February of 2022. He died on our daughter's birthday, January 26. I started having problems with my hip last year after apple season. After physical therapy and cortisone shots the doctor finally decided I needed my hip replaced and I had surgery on August 16<sup>th</sup>. I am doing OK but will not be able to do as much as I did last year. I desperately need someone beginning this winter to do pruning, spraying and run the outside operations. I have someone this fall to drive the market truck and go to the Ann Arbor Farmers Market on Saturdays but beginning in March I will also need someone for that.

**Please Note!! Not all of our apple varieties are u-pick! Minimum quantity of apples is ½ bushel for U-Pick. One change for this season is NO driving in the orchard the first part of the season. Bringing a wagon or stroller is suggested.**

You may want to bring your own step ladder and mosquito spray also. We cannot kill all the poison ivy, so do not climb the trees & watch where you are walking around the tree.

### The following varieties are U-PICK:

VARIETY	BEGIN PICKING	SIZE OF CROP
Gala	September 14	Good but few trees
McIntosh	September 14	Good (but smaller than normal)
Prime Gold	September 14	Poor
Cortland	September 22	Good
Empire	September 22	Good (limited number of trees)
Jonathan	September 29	Good
Jonagold	September 29	Good (limited number of trees)
Red Delicious	October 6	Poor
Golden Delicious	October 6	Poor to Good
Ida Red	October 6	Good
Mutsu	October 13	Limited number of trees
Granny Smith	October 13	Very Good

Plums are **NOT** pick your own. We will have them shortly after we open. We make delicious donuts in our kitchen every day we are open during most of the season. If you expect to come late in the day **on a weekday**, you may want to place an order for your donuts the day before so you won't be disappointed. We do not take orders Friday through Sunday during the busy part of the season. **On the very busy weekends you must be in the donut line by 5:00 to get donuts.** Check out our caramel apples, no sugar apple butter, jam, popcorn, non-pasteurized cider, straw & corn stalks. If you are interested in picking tart cherries, red & black currants, and gooseberries, which normally ripen around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, sign up on our mailing list by going to our web site. The best way to always stay up to date on what's happening at the farm is by "liking" us on Facebook. Be aware that there is a bogus Facebook page which we do not control and has incorrect information. We have been unable to find out who controls the page or how to eliminate it.

We appreciate all our customers who have supported us over the years and look forward to seeing you this fall.

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