



Farm News from May

The world is changing and with it comes our awareness of what we eat. We all know the egg comes from the chicken but does the chicken come from the egg? It seems that I have shocked several people when I've had to explain why I have a shortage of eggs.

Every time I go to the Farmers Market I bring eggs. They're quite popular since the hens that lay them are as free range as any hen could get. No fences for them. They could walk to Saskatchewan if they wanted to.

This month I decided to expand my chicken flock with a bunch of new chicks. Why buy them when I can hatch them at home? Instead of collecting the eggs from the hen and refrigerating them, I put them in an incubator and warmed them up. In 21 days those same eggs that our customers would have eaten will have turned into chickens, just by a change of temperature!

There was a lawyer from Germany, a veterinarian from Mexico, the son of the VP of Ford France, an anthropologist and a chemist along with their 2 children.

Sounds like the start of a joke but these folks have all been helping out on the farm this past month. Great bunch!



Dam problems! Beaver dam that is. Over the years the beavers have kept building up the dam that holds back the pond, upstream on my neighbour's property. The dam finally got so high that the creek rerouted and started flowing around our house. To control it we would pull a few sticks out to lower the water level but this one time we pulled the stick that broke the dam. Rather than a bit of run off, the whole pond started draining. To make matters worse, the beavers must have taken a few days off because they didn't try repairing the dam. Trying to use human technology to replace what a beaver does naturally involved a track Bobcat with bucket to move tonnes of rocks and sandbags to repair the hole.

Randy the Belted Galloway bull has some new competition, "Merle", a 2 year old Belted Galloway bull. Introducing Merle to Randy could have been a nightmare. Bulls tend to fight and rip down fences. I put them together in my most secure fence. Fight? No! They

were instantly best buds. Now they are inseparable. I hope their newly sparked bromance isn't going to interfere with their desire to court the cows.

Jerry

