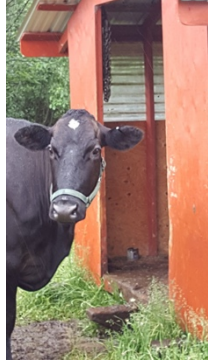




Farm News from May

Zorka is the perfect milk cow. We are so lucky to share her life on our farm. Not only does she supply all of the dairy needs of our household, she does the same for several others too. Each day she produces at least 20 liters of milk. And what's even more amazing is that all this milk is in



exchange for us allowing her to eat grass. In our case, the front lawn. We have no lawn mower, never have. Recently we had a WWOOFer who wanted to volunteer on our farm. She said she was lactose intolerant. I sent her a picture of the fridge. Yogurt, ice

cream, lots of cheeses, cold milk. At 20+ liters a day it doesn't take too long to fill up a fridge. The leftover whey from making cheeses? It could be a muscle building supplement like they sell in the health food stores. Instead we feed it to our pigs. Zorka - it's amazing how one animal can benefit so many lives.

History was never in short supply on this farm. This corral post has seen a lot over the past 70+ years. Now the tamarack rails have been sawed off, the posts pulled out and the empty holes filled with



gravel. The many years of corralling cows has resulted in a thick, rich layer of topsoil. Time moves on and so do the way we do things. No longer are the cows confined but range on the open grasslands. What once was the corral will transition to a new life - a garden. Garlic anyone?

Action on the pig pasture! It must have looked like a wildlife documentary. A cougar inside the fence with a pasture of pigs. All I saw were the scratch marks on the backs of a couple animals. Ouch! We wish to live where predators and prey can co-exist but we don't want our pigs to become the prey. Solution? Shooting? Poisoning? That's what could have happened but not on our farm. We added a third wire to the electric fence. Problem solved.

The thought of a windmill to aerate the fish pond seemed like a good idea. Pay the money, have it shipped and voilà - happy fish swimming in oxygen rich water. One thing I didn't count on was the process in between - assembly. The 20 foot, 360 pound windmill came on a pallet 2 feet high with 32 pages of instructions. Spare time is a rare thing on the farm. I'm on my 2nd week of assembly.



Next step I'll have to pour cement for the foundation. Add it to the list. Life on the farm is never listless.