

# Brix Bounty Farm



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Registration for 2010 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Programs in the Region is Underway



**Scallions Germinating Feb. 25, 2010  
Brix Bounty Farm**

Dartmouth, Massachusetts – March 1, 2010.

On farms throughout the Southcoast, local greenhouses are heating up with activity as the season's first crops are starting to germinate. While local farms are busy preparing for the 2010 season, now is the time for community members to consider investing in a share of the local harvest. The sign-up period for joining a community supported agriculture (CSA) program at local farms has started.

CSA programs offer consumers a unique opportunity to develop deeper relationship with their farmer. In exchange for purchasing a share, members receive a weekly share of the harvest. The CSA system shares the risks and rewards of a growing season. Importantly, it also supports farms with income at a time of year when they are spending money on fertilizer, seeds, and farm supplies.

This summer, Brix Bounty Farm in Dartmouth will be joining a growing group of local farms marketing farm fresh produce and value added products through a CSA model. Nationally there are more than 2500 farm CSA programs, according to LocalHarvest.org.

While this will be the first year operating a CSA at Brix Bounty Farm; farmer Derek Christianson is no stranger to CSA programs.

Before moving to Dartmouth in 2008; he was a co-manager at Hawthorne Valley Farm in Harlemville, New York which grows vegetables for more than 250 share holders in the Hudson River Valley and in New York City. Back in 2002 and 2003, Derek began his farming career at Waltham Fields Community Farm which has had an active CSA program since the late 1990's.

**Brix Bounty Farm – Fresh Vegetables & Community Education**

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Brix Bounty Farm was founded in 2008 when Derek and Katie Christianson began leasing land from the Dominican Sisters of Hope on Tucker Road in Dartmouth. Brix Bounty farm focuses on promoting the production of nutrient dense crops grown using sustainable agricultural practices. According to Derek, "Locally harvested veggies grown on healthy mineralized soils have the potential to provide superior nutrition compared to produce which has traveled to Massachusetts from California or Mexico. We hope to directly address the declining nutritional quality of fresh produce by focusing on growing nutrient dense crops for our local community."

In addition to starting a new CSA, Brix Bounty farm will continue to participate in the Wing's Court Farmers' Market in New Bedford, held every Thursday July through October. In 2010 they will also continue to provide a number of free educational opportunities to the community through their Know Your Vegetables and Roots Down - New Bedford workshops. The farm's new website [www.brixbounty.com](http://www.brixbounty.com) has a compilation of gardening and agricultural tip-sheets, which may assist local vegetables growers interested in producing healthy crops.

**Consumers throughout the region can choose from a great selection of farms offering CSA shares for 2010; these are just a few of the local farms providing CSA programs in Greater New Bedford:**

Kettle Pond Farm ([www.kettlepondfarm.com](http://www.kettlepondfarm.com)) provides certified organic produce for its members who pick up shares at the farm in Berkeley on Mondays and Thursdays through the harvest season.

Lucky Field Organics ([www.luckyfieldorganics.com](http://www.luckyfieldorganics.com)) in Rochester offers CSA share pick up at How on Earth in Mattapoisett and added a new distribution in New Bedford in 2009 through a partnership with Old Bedford Village Development Co.

Silverbrook Farm ([www.silverbrookdartmouth.com](http://www.silverbrookdartmouth.com)) operates Six Farms CSA which distributes shares every Wednesday throughout the Summer from their Farm on Chase Road in Dartmouth. New this year, is an option for CSA members to purchase fresh Lobsters through Silverbrook's partnership with Westport's Revolution Lobster.

If you are seeking a CSA outside of the Greater New Bedford Region, Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership (SEMAP) maintains a comprehensive farm listing available online at [www.farmfresh.org](http://www.farmfresh.org).

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