



Understanding the True Value of the Local Grain Share

Why purchase a grain share when it is so easy to use store bought flours?

Firstly, our grains are the freshest, healthiest and most flavorful grains available on the market today. Secondly, you are reducing your carbon footprint and other environmental consequences of large scale agriculture. Thirdly when you join, you are simultaneously improving our local economy, keeping our farmers in business and keeping our precious farmland from being developed. Lastly, but of of great importance is your contribution to long term community based food security.

The Value of Freshness, Health and Transparent Food Systems:

It is undeniable that our grains are the freshest that you can get on the market today. On the global market, it is possible that there have been years in between grain harvests and packaging for store shelves. It is impossible for the consumer to tell because there are no laws demanding dating on flour, and unmilled grain can sit in silos for years. Through the past few years of the CSA, we have found that the combination of Heirloom varieties(not manipulated by corporate scientists), freshness of our grain along with fresh grinding has tremendous health benefits in addition to the sweet nutty flavor lost in “shelf stable flours”. Customers with gluten intolerance find that our grains are more tolerable for their systems than any other gluten products for these reasons.

The Value of Environmental and Historical Preservation:

Heritage grains have been essentially lost in our current food market, and our CSA is one of the only ways you can buy these nearly extinct varieties of grain. Buying heritage grain varieties is a way of preserving history and genetic diversity into our current and future generations. Without a demand for diverse grain crops, they will disappear. With each season we multiply and expand historic crops that have deep roots in our cultural landscape and history. These grains are the genetic culmination of ten thousand years of farm based selection and perhaps one of our most valuable and irreplaceable assets.

The Value of Locality:

True value and true cost are concepts that seem to get lost in our current culture. Whereas the true cost of conventional food is hidden by the global economy, government subsidies and the middleman in the food chain, the cost of our food is direct. The locality of our grain allows us to grow it and give it directly to you. No middleman and no hidden costs.

The Value of Food Security:

Hand in hand with the concept of locality is that of resilience in our food systems. As peak oil looms in the near future, local production of food becomes increasingly important. Population growth is currently pushing world wide grain production past it sustainable capacity and has been the primary reason for the substantial increase in food prices over the past several years. More so than the global food system, local food is resistant to price changes in fossil fuels and transportation. Additionally, organic practices and refusal to use GMO's provides genetic diversity that is crucial to stability.