

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** OASIS Waiting List  
**FROM:** Connie Falk  
**DATE:** July 11, 2002  
**SUBJECT:** CSA memberships

Hello. Many more people responded to our membership drive to join the OASIS CSA than we imagined or that we could accommodate. Therefore, we have sought and located a local farmer, IG Prieto, who has agreed to begin an organic CSA farming business, beginning this Fall 2002. IG has been farming for eight years. He has experience growing vegetables and has land available that can be certified organic. He will follow New Mexico Organic Commodity Commission (NMOCC) guidelines for organic production. His CSA will be named "Mesilla Valley CSA (MV CSA)." Assuming the Fall 2002 season goes well, IG will offer shares for the 2003 season. Fall 2002 members will be offered shares first to the 2003 season.

Here are the details regarding the Fall 2002 season.

**Length of season:** Approximately 9 weeks, from mid-September to mid- November  
**Planned Crops:** Beets, bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, Chinese cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, kohlrabi, lettuces, greens (arrugula, cress, endive, mustard), peas (snap and snow), radishes, spinach, and turnips.  
**Cost:** \$125 for a full share  
\$ 70 for a half share  
Full shares should feed a family of four, and half shares receive exactly half the amount of produce as a full share.  
**Distribution:** Thursday **or** Friday from 4 - 6 pm. (Each member picks one day.)  
at IG Prieto's farm, located west of the Four Points Gin on Union Ave.  
(You will get a map when you send in the membership application).  
**Shares available:** 80 full shares  
**Payment deadline:** Sept. 15, 2002. All shares must be paid in full by this deadline.

Because of the proposed size of the MV CSA, roughly four times the size of OASIS, the MV CSA will need to organize what is known as a "Core Group." Core Groups are widely used in CSAs in the US to help with distribution, communication with members, membership management, publicity, even accounting, newsletters, recipes, festivals, and other activities. We are looking for volunteers to take Core Group positions during the fall.

The MV CSA may require its members to contribute some volunteer hours (maybe 10) to help with distribution and other activities in the 2003 season (No field labor will be requested). The Core Group members will organize these volunteer efforts with the assistance of the OASIS Advisory Committee. The objective is for the MV CSA to be self-sufficient by Spring 2003, in terms of Core Group management of distribution and membership.

In the form below, please indicate your interest in participating in Core Group positions.

**Mesilla Valley CSA**  
Membership Application Form  
Fall 2002 Season

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Full shares: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$125

Number of Half shares: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$ 70

Total Payment Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment due: Sept 15, 2002. No Refunds.

Make your check payable to: IG Prieto and mail it to :

IG Prieto  
PO Box 286  
Mesilla, NM 88046

Distribution date preference (check one only):

Thursday, 4 - 6 pm \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, 4 - 6 pm \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to become a Core Group member, and help organize distributions, communication, and other CSA activities?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Please read the following statement and sign below:

As a member of the MV CSA, I understand there is some risk associated with joining a CSA, that despite a farmer's best efforts, some crop loss can occur. I understand that my share payment does not guarantee me an exact amount of produce. I am making a commitment to support a local farmer, and I take part in the rewards and the risks of the growing season. I also understand that I am responsible to show up at the scheduled distribution time and place to obtain my share. If I fail to show up, I understand I will forfeit my share.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions regarding the MV CSA, please contact Connie Falk, preferably by email, at cfalk@nmsu.edu, or if necessary, by phone at 646-4731.