



Chayote abundance, bright radishes for NYE, afro red tinged lettuce, big palmito , cabbages, tender ayotes.



Harvests (1): Dec 2022



And a volunteer dill plant growing amongst the broccolis in JK, giving us a signal that it's time to seed dill again!





Harvests (2):
Arracache, purple and white camote, big healthy lettuces, a giant 1kg chayote, turmeric harvests begin, Bonanza zucchini variety with round fruits, and more delicious tomatoes from Agni! **Dec 2022**





Growth: We've started utilizing the bed space around young tomato plants to grow lettuces. It has been working well so far. The lettuces are ready to harvest by the time the tomato plants are starting to crowd. We pulled up a large patch of aloe vera to make a new ground bed and were able to gift many healthy plants to households and make several new plantations. We've also been planting broccoli between the papaya trees to utilize this space. The chayotera has continued to be very productive (133 units/about 67kg in Dec.)! And the Florida weave trellis method has been working well so far!





Seed Saving + The arugula has started to bolt. We only got 14 viable seeds from all 5 Sumter cucs. We will mark more next time. The cilantro is off to a good start. Our eggshell drying/crushing process to make calcium powder as a soil additive. These interestingly colored summer squash seeds caught our attention, but none germinated! Our program visitors have been busy shaving fresh cinnamon straight from the tree! And our black bean bed produced almost 10kg of dried beans!

Dec 2022





The Team (1): Gabi on vainica harvest. Sergio, Lucas, Gabi, Nirmala, and Jasmine in joy after a productive morning. Farewell Jasmine, thank you for all your excellent work these past months! Yogiraj tends to the chayotera. Hanuman displays the colorful morning harvest. And Nirmala and David give bed and plant care to this young kale patch.

Dec 2022





Team (2): Wilson and Osvaldo plant scallions in Svarga, Gabi and Jasmine continue the planting. Kalyan charming a snake. Carlos and Mikol repairing the irrigation system. Jake and Lucas filling pots. Bryan and Domingo on the morning harvest. Swati and David team up on microGreens and scallion rootstock transplanting.



Dec
2022





Team (3): Petra and Swati on bed/plant care. Gabi and Jagdish on pot mounding. Hanuman records the weekly planting. Debra and Swati on microGreens. Osvaldo and Wilson put the finishing touches on the new trail while Roy prunes the gardens. Nirmla caring for the bean patch. Domingo and Jasmine harvest green beans. And Jake weeding the lettuce pots.





**Worker
Christmas
Party 2022!**
We were finally
able to
celebrate all
together again!
We had an
amazing meal,
music, treats,
and games
where all
participated
with joy,
dancing, smiles,
and laughter!



Dec 2022



Field Trip! We visited several farms in the area and shared agricultural insights!



Dec 2022

Before



Projects: We moved one of the tables out of Al-Kauthar and placed it in a much more useful spot in the Palmerium. A very important new planting space was opened up in Maharishi Meadows!



After



Dec 2022





Maintenance: As we approach the dry season, we have several irrigation equipment maintenance tasks that have emerged. Faucets are very important and eventually begin to leak and need to be replaced. Hoses sometimes have weak spots that

spring a leak. And even the filter casings wear out and need to be replaced. And our trusty palmito axe snapped at the weak point in the handle.





Challenges (Fungal/Climatic): Some arugula leaves continue to get 'crispy' fungus. Limited Alternaria. Interesting fungal growth. A whole round of cucumber seedlings were lost. Very interesting leaf spot on some beets. Looks like damping off but on an adult cabbage. Powdery mildew on cucumber and zucchini leaves. Continued rusting on the vainica leaves and fruits. Beet seedlings damping off. And we lost the first round of pea seedlings, so we seeded again.





Challenges (Insect/Animal): Flea beetles have been scarce since we found an effective spray. Caterpillars are almost always around. Something larger cut the stem of this broccoli. Slugs in the cabbage. This is a very interesting looking cocoon.



Tuta absoluta damage on tomato leaf, still at a minimum. And the birds have begun looking for other sources of food since the end of the water apple and guava seasons. Unfortunately, they like the sweet chilies!



Dec 2022





Dec 2022



**Creature
Feature!**





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**Infinite
Beauty!**



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!



Dec 2022