





flower + fiddle *farm*

By Anna Brumfield



WHEN THE SUN RISES IN THE MORNINGS, it brings peace to start our day and I don't want to miss those moments. I don't want to miss the birds singing, the flowers blooming and the amazing details in the change of the seasons. This is where my flower farming journey began. God uses nature to speak to us and once my husband Jonathan and I moved to the country I could hear Him speak louder, clearer and my awe of His creation grew. I have always enjoyed flowers and designing, but when I started flowers from seed and was able to enjoy the whole process from seed to bloom, I was hooked!

We are in our second year of flower farming and we have learned so much as each flower needs personal care and something different to reach its full potential. Our flower farm is definitely a team effort and I am so thankful to have my husband's help! We start seeds, water, plant by hand, protect from the elements, deadhead, check for bugs, feed them, tend to them, corral, net, shade when they need it, harvest, pull them out of the ground and start again. Our land is on a ridge and, due to rocky ground and wildlife, we microfarm, which means we pack a lot of plants in a small area. One bed could hold anywhere between 200 to 350

plants depending on the variety. We start mostly everything from seed and started over 8,000 seeds this season to share flowers with others!

The weather is in control of what we offer, and one week we may have a particular flower blooming and the next week it is done and something else is in bloom. We grow flowers such as Anemone, Dahlias, Sunflowers, Celosia, Larkspur, Snapdragons, Zinnias, Scabiosa, and several more varieties plus herbs and greenery. Our

flowers are usually available on weekends at Wild Sweet Williams. Selling at Wild Sweet Williams has been a blessing as I am inspired by the Ford's as people and how Lisa shares her craft with others. I feel honored to be a part of the special environment they have created.

We also pre-sold CSA subscriptions for the 2022 season and take personal orders when we can, as we both work full time jobs in Searcy. We love our local Farmers' Market and hope to pop up there a time or two when it works out, as

Saturdays are a big morning for us working in the flower field.

To be surrounded by flowers is absolutely breathtaking, but extremely hard work, which is true for any type of farming. We have been emotionally and physically exhausted at times and yes, I

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have even cried out in the middle of the flower field! I often think how easily God plants and how hard we have to work to grow our flowers. This has created a deeper appreciation for what God has created and how special it is to be a part of cultivating and growing on such a tiny scale. It's truly special and it makes the flowers mean more to me, and I hope other people see that sparkle. Like with anything, we can lose the meaning of why we started in the first place. There is so much I want to do with our flowers, but we try to choose balance. I don't want this flower journey to just become a job. We want to grow, create, spread joy and take in the moments.

Flowers are a joy to me and I feel like my purpose in life is to share joy whether that is by making people laugh, smile, feel cared for or by sharing something simply beautiful with a neighbor or a friend! Our name, Flower + Fiddle is simply us, a fun-loving farmer florist and her hardworking, fiddle-playing husband enjoying nature and creative outlets that bring us happiness, hoping you find what brings you joy too. We encourage everyone to slow down in life and find joy in the bloom, whatever that may be for you. ●

Jonathan & Anna





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