2010 Agua Acres CSA internships
Intern title: Farm Market Manager
Deadline: Postmarked by Feb. 5, 2010
Duration: entire summer; 12 weeks, 6 weeks:
Work schedule: hours vary, but expect six hours minimum
No previous agricultural experience necessary
Where: Converse, IN

Applications are being taken for summer internships from students interested in general agriculture, horticulture or environmental studies. The unpaid internship includes room and board. A small stipend will be paid from the percentage of sales at farmer's markets.

Agua Acres is a small vegetable growing CSA that uses French Intensive organic methods on about three acres to provide weekly food baskets for 20 shareholders – with the balance of produce being sold at local farmer’s markets. Most of the tillage and operation is with minimal mechanical inputs, requiring mostly hand labor for transplanting, light tillage and cultivation. Approximately 40 varieties of vegetables and herbs are grown from direct seeding and farm raised transplants. Both heirloom and hybrids are used. The CSA is located on a 100-acre family farm in the heart of Indiana’s flat-till plain. The intern will live and eat with the family utilizing the rooms of their grown children and will have full use of high-speed wireless Internet service. Free international calling, long-distance and local land line service is also provided. The nearest community is Converse, a town of about 1,200. The farm is located 15-20 miles from any town of 20,000 or more; 1½ hours north of the state capitol, and 1 hour south of the second largest city, Fort Wayne.

Primary duties of the intern include managing the transplant hoop house, helping develop and design marketing materials, direct marketing of produce at farm markets, recruiting new shareholders to the farm, harvesting, and general care for crops. Interns will also help develop successive crop planting schedules as well as experiment with naturally-based pest and weed controls. Other activities may include but not be limited to general farm maintenance, and helping the farmer build experimental projects. These could include renewable energy, which aims to advance the farm’s goal of reducing the carbon footprint of food produced.

For applications and inquiries, contact Doris and Avon Waters: avonwaters@yahoo.com. Deadline for applications and letters of reference is: postmarked by Feb. 5, 2010. Preference is given to full summer and 12-week duration applications.