Island Autism Farm concept:

The island autism agricultural activities will not be large scale agricultural work. We are a micro farm, the concept being that it will be a starting point and training for young people with autism who might be interested in farming. The point is not to do large scale agriculture but to build their farming skills so that they can go out into the larger community and work on farms and other farm related activities. If we need a tractor or large machine work we would reach out to one of our partners in the farming community rather than having our own. We will maintain fenced in vegetable, cut flower gardens and an orchard. We will rotate four fenced in gardens with vegetables, flowers, cover crops and one will be a chicken run. This will lessen the need for fertilizer and enrich the soil and rest the gardens every four years.

We will have chickens, goats sheep and maybe donkeys. But not large numbers of any of those animals except the chickens. All of the activities whether they are farm related, baking and canning in our kitchen or gathering the mail at the West Tisbury Post Office are designed to be job training activities from which our students and adults can ripple out into the community. Therefore the idea is not to have a large amount of anything going on at the hub and farm center but in fact to have small groups training so that they can move out into the wider community where larger scope activities occur.