

**U**rban agriculture is the process of growing plants of all types and varieties in an urban environment. It is also known as urban horticulture or urban agriculture.

Urban agriculture exist in many forms including: community and backyard gardens; rooftop and balcony gardening; growing in vacant lots, right-of-ways, and parks; container gardening; aquaculture; hydroponics; fruit trees and orchards; market farms; raising livestock and beekeeping.

It is simply the techniques and approaches of growing various plant types (vegetables, herbs, spices, rootcrops, fruits) in the city, densely or highly populated towns, apartments, homes, and other areas with little or limited land space.



## Urban Agriculture Production Strategies

**Edible Landscaping.** Is simply the art (aesthetic way) and science of crop production. It utilizes plant which has an economic value such as Vegetables, Herbs, Spices and selected Fruit Crops to substitute ornamental plants commonly used in Conventional Landscaping.



**Container gardening.** This is common for people with small patios, yards, or balconies. Container gardening makes use of a variety of containers – buckets, old tires, raised beds, window boxes, kiddie pools, barrels, shoes, and watering cans – for growing all manner of plants for food or beauty. Creatively, you can arrange containers to form **vertical** or **hanging gardens**. Placing them at your balcony or windows is also **indoor gardening**.



**Greenroofs/Rooftop Garden.** Roofs designed with a growing medium for the purpose of cultivating plants are also a form of urban gardening and can be used to grow food.



**Square foot gardening.** A method of intensive gardening in raised beds using natural methods.

Square foot gardening uses beds that are 4 feet x 4 feet or 16 square feet. Within that area, plants are grown close together to produce the largest possible harvest from small backyard gardens.



## Aeroponics

The plants, roots hang in the air and a sprinkler system sprays them with nutrient based water rather than it being submerged.



## Hydroponics

A method of growing food using mineral nutrient solutions in water without soil (soilless based).

## Aquaponics

An integration of aquaculture (fish farming) with hydroponics. Creates symbiotic relationships between the plants and the fish; it uses the nutrient-rich waste from fish tanks to “fertigate” hydroponics production beds; and hydroponic bed cleans water for fish habitat.



In turn, the hydroponic beds also function as bio-filters that remove gases, acids, and chemicals, such as ammonia, nitrates, and phosphates, from the water.

### Source:

- <https://originhydroponics.com/hydroponics-vs-aquaponics-vs-aeroponics/>
- <http://www.ecolife.com/define/urban-gardening.html>
- <https://davesgarden.com/guides/terms/go/866/#b>
- ATI-CAR Urban Agriculture Module by Dr. Cristine Esnara



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# URBAN AGRICULTURE

