

# YAP CRE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

DEMONSTRATION  
TO  
DINNER PLATE

## SUCCESS STORY

SINCE  
2003



### FROM DEMONSTRATION TO DINNER PLATE: HOW OUR VEGETABLE GARDEN EMPOWER COMMUNITIES

Established to showcase alternative vegetable production methods suitable for challenging island conditions, our vegetable demonstration garden has blossomed into a success story of community empowerment. It has been a vibrant learning and innovation hub for over twenty years.



## CULTIVATING KNOWLEDGE, GROWING RESULTS

Our vibrant garden isn't just about planting seeds; it sows the seeds of self-sufficiency. Here, visitors explore a kaleidoscope of techniques – from raised beds and repurposed pallets to vertical wonders – all meticulously chosen to conquer the challenges of island soil. Container gardening exemplifies space-saving solutions for herbs and greens, while raised beds showcase improved drainage and control. Vertical structures, meanwhile, demonstrate innovative approaches to maximizing growing space.

### SPROUTING CURIOSITY: HOW THE DEMO GARDEN IGNITES YOUNG MINDS

Our vegetable garden isn't just a place where plants grow; it's a playground for curious young minds! Head Start students who visit us embark on a sensory adventure, exploring the fascinating world of vegetables through sight, touch, taste, and smell. The garden becomes a springboard for their curiosity, inspiring them to ask questions, experiment, and discover the wonders of the plant world.



### APPLYING KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION

The demonstration garden is also a full-fledged learning laboratory for our agriculture program students. Students get their hands dirty as part of their course, applying classroom knowledge to real-world scenarios. They delve into the intricacies of alternative crop production methods, from the magic of seed germination to the art of media preparation using readily available coconut husks. They gain practical experience in transplanting, mastering the delicate balance of water and nutrient management to nurture healthy crops to harvest. Furthermore, students



become adept at compost creation, a valuable skill for sustainable and cost-effective soil enhancement. This immersive experience in our demo garden gives them a comprehensive understanding of low-cost, sustainable techniques perfectly suited for our island environment. They graduate with theoretical knowledge, confidence, and skills to become successful food producers in their communities.

## BEYOND VEGETABLES, BUILDING A COMMUNITY

Our core mission is to create a living classroom where people of all ages can get their hands dirty and learn the secrets of successful vegetable cultivation. We plant various vegetables using a diverse array of techniques, from raised beds and containers to vertical gardens and repurposed pallets. This approach provides a rich tapestry of knowledge for visitors to explore.



The garden isn't just about vegetables but empowering communities to grow their food. We witness firsthand how our methods are adopted in various community settings. People who once faced limitations due to challenging soil conditions could now cultivate fresh, nutritious produce. This shift promotes self-sufficiency and fosters a deeper connection to their food source.



## **MORE THAN JUST VEGETABLES, WE GROW A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

Our dedication goes beyond just yield. We champion sustainable practices. Visitors learn how to nurture healthy soil through composting, taking a holistic approach that benefits their gardens and the environment.

### **A LIVING LEGACY: A SPRINGBOARD FOR INNOVATION**

Our garden isn't static; it's a constant wellspring of innovation. We embrace the opportunity to test new vegetable varieties and growing techniques, ensuring our methods stay tailored to the island's unique climate. This benefits home gardeners and informs the beginning farmers as a whole.

The success story is etched in the rows of thriving plants and the empowered communities that have blossomed around it. We are a testament to the transformative power of knowledge sharing, sustainable practices, and a deep connection to the food we grow.

### **The EVER-GROWING STORY**

Our DEMO demonstration garden is a testament to the power of education and community. It's a story that continues to grow, inspiring and empowering individuals to embrace healthy eating habits, sustainable practices, and the joy of cultivating their own food. We invite you to visit our garden, explore the diverse methods on display, and become part of this ongoing story of success.

## **PUBLIC VALUE STATEMENT**

Our demo garden empowers communities by showcasing successful, low-cost vegetable production methods replicated through extension programs for increased food security.



### **GARDENING MADE EASY: WE CAN HELP YOU TURN YOUR PATCH INTO A FOOD POWERHOUSE!**

Whether it is part-time or full-time, working alone or with family and friends, you can fit food production into your life. Ask us, we will show you how to turn your garden into a food factory!

*The extension programs are available to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, gender, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. For questions, contact: Office of the Vice President, Cooperative Research and Extension, College of Micronesia-FSM at: (691) 350 2325.*



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