

BACKYARD BOUNTY TO BUSINESS BOOM

The Muguy family in Yap never planned to become farmers. But when the challenges of the pandemic disrupted access to fresh produce, they found a spark of inspiration in their backyard. "Faced with a dilemma, we embraced an opportunity," says Carmen Muguy, the woman with a green thumb.

CREatively Growing

Carmen elaborates, "The pandemic made finding quality vegetables difficult, so we decided to take matters into our own hands." What began as a necessity-driven foray into home gardening quickly blossomed into something more. "The Yap CRE program offered a wonderful opportunity and proved to be an invaluable partner," she acknowledges. "Without CRE's assistance, we wouldn't have achieved the progress we have made today. Their encouragement and unwavering support have been invaluable motivators."



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Carmen Muguy*



From Humble Beginnings to Growing Success

The Muguy family initially focused on Chinese Cabbage and Bok choy. As they gained experience, they expanded their repertoire to include other in-demand vegetables like head cabbage and tomatoes. They even experiment with crops like bell peppers, radishes, cucumbers, and beans.

Their dedication has not only secured their family's income but also created a positive impact on the community. "Our goal is to become a sustainable business that not only provides fresh produce but also creates jobs and benefits the wider Yap community," says Carmen.



National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION



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Looking Ahead: Nurturing a Greener Future, Together The Muguy family’s vision transcends their thriving farm. Their roadmap includes implementing irrigation systems, expanding the greenhouse, and exploring innovative technologies like hydroponics. Their ultimate aspiration? To become a beacon for sustainable agriculture in Yap, inspiring others and fostering a collaborative environment.

A Shared Vision for a Greener Future Today, the Muguy family is a testament to the power of perseverance and partnership. Through their dedication to sustainable agriculture and collaboration with Yap CRE, they’ve cultivated a thriving business and fostered a greener, more sustainable future for their community. “We are excited to continue working with

the CRE program and share our knowledge with others interested in gardening,” Carmen concludes. “Together, we can cultivate a greener future for Yap.”

Through their unwavering dedication to the land and their community, the Muguy family has cultivated success, sowing the seeds of a brighter tomorrow for Yap.

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.