VERTICULTURE OF DIFFERENT VEGETABLES USING DISCARDED RUBBER TIRES

SPECIAL PROBLEM

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ABSTRACT

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A study was conducted to demonstrate the usefulness of discarded rubber tires as growing beds for different vegetables.Fourteen (14) old rubber tires were used to construct a verticulture model, These tires were trimmed to obtain a pot- like structure. These were stacked into a pyramid structure using welded galvanized iron rod and pipes. The growing medium consisted of 1:1 garden soil and compost. Six (6) species of vegetables were grown namely pechay,heading lettuce, mustard, tomato, bellpepper, and hotpepper.

Results showed that rubber tires can be used as growing beds for different vegetables. Stacking them in the form of pyramid provided a greater space for production. Verticulture using rubber tires proved to be an appropriate technology in urban agriculture system.

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INTRODUCTION

Restricted land space particularly in the urban areas encourages container farming. Plants are grown in a variety of containers such as boxes, rain gutters, pots, plastic bags and used vehicle tires. These containers are placed in different locations including patios, balconies, open stairways and flat roofs. To maximize the use of very limited space, such containers may be stacked together to form a vertical cylinder. This form of plant growing is aptly termed verticulture. Verticulture provides a productive farm space more than twice the actual area.

Verticulture using varied types of containers is popular not only for growing ornamental plants but also for the production of vegetables and fruit trees and forest trees