

Subject Guide

Urban Agriculture

Urban agriculture, farming, or gardening is the practice of cultivating, processing, and distributing food in or around urban areas. Although not predefined in an urban context, it has citizens, farmers, local communities, associations, and companies as stakeholders. Farming takes the form of backyard, rooftop and balcony gardening, community gardening in vacant lots and parks, and roadside urban fringe agriculture.

Background Resources: These resources will provide a broader context to urban agriculture, its definitions, scales, and types of practices, and also serve as a 'how-to' guide for setting up your own urban garden.

- **Urban Agriculture: Definition, Presence, Potentials and Risks, and Policy Challenges** by Luc J.A. Mougeot (IDRC, 2000).
- **Organic farming: Basic principles and good practices** (FiBL, 2021).
- **Urban agriculture as a keystone contribution towards securing sustainable and healthy development for cities in the future** by S.L.G Skar et al. (2020).
- **Profitability and sustainability of urban and peri-urban agriculture** (FAO, 2007).

- **The place of urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) in National Food Security Programmes** (FAO, 2011).

Data and statistics

- [Food and Agriculture Data](#)
- [National Science Digital Library](#)
- [Krishikosh - Agriculture Repository of ICAR](#)
- [Bengaluru Urban District](#)
- [Agriculture Science and Technology Information \(AGRIS\)](#)

Glossary and encyclopaedias: Keen to understand the vocabulary of urban farming? Here are some encyclopaedias frequently used by urban agriculture researchers and practitioners.

- [Sustainable Agriculture](#)
- [Dictionary of Agroecology](#)
- [NAL Agricultural Thesaurus and Glossary](#)
- [FAO Term Portal \[PDF\]](#)
- [AGROVOC Multilingual Thesaurus](#)

Blogs and photo essays: Students, residents, government officials, and many others are experimenting with innovative ways of urban farming in India. Here are some blogs, photo essays and open access books that will give you a glimpse into their journey and struggles with urban farming.

- [The Nature of Cities](#)
- [Better India - Urban Agriculture](#)

Subjects: Urban agriculture, sustainable development, Urban farming, Urban gardening, Food systems

Tags: Agriculture, ecology, gardening, food production

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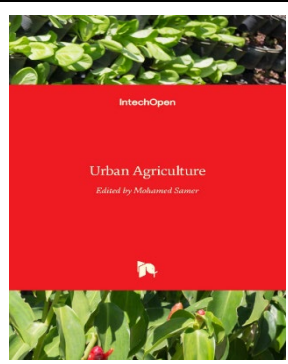
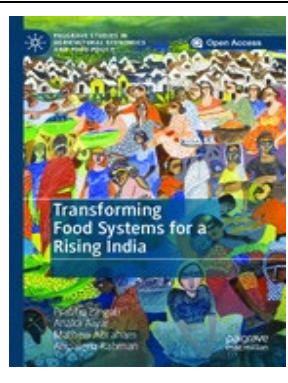
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- [Scroll.in](#)
- [Citizen Matters](#)
- [EPW Engage](#)
- [Eco Ideaz](#)
- [City Farmer News](#)
- [Endlessly Green](#)
- [BeejPatra, PRC](#)

Open access books

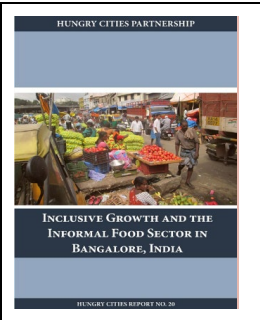
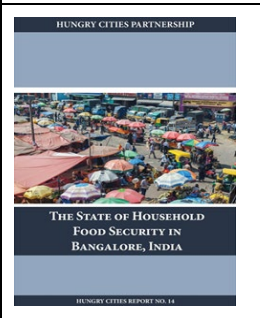
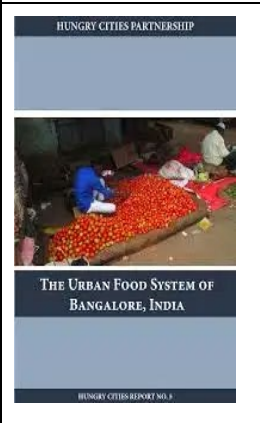
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|--|---|
|  | <p>Urban Agriculture / Edited by Mohamed Samer</p> <p>ISBN: 9789535124047, Publication Date: 2016</p> |
|  | <p>Transforming Food Systems for a Rising India / Prabhu Pingali, Anaka Aiyar, Mathew Abraham, Andaleeb Rahman</p> <p>Call Number: 363.85610954 PIN 018884 ISBN: 9783030144081 Publication Date: 2019</p> |

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|  | <p>Integrating Food into Urban Planning / Edited by Yves Cabannes & Cecilia Marocchino</p> <p>Call Number: 630 ORS 016075 ISBN: 9783319862323 Publication Date: 2017</p> |
|  | <p>From Growing to Biology: Plants 1e / Gokhan Hacisalihoglu</p> <p>ISBN: 9781736577912 Publication Date: 2021</p> |

News & videos

- [This rooftop garden will floor you for sure](#)
- [Singapore's Bold Plan to Build the Farms of the Future](#)
- [Discover the future of Japanese farming by using artificial high-tech LEDs and through Hydroponics, or soilless cultivation](#)

Faculty Publications

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|  | <p>Inclusive Growth and the Informal Food Sector in Bangalore, India / Keerthana Jagadeesh, Shriya Anand</p> <p>Call Number: 363.80954 JAG 019449 ISBN: 9781920597474 Publication Date: 2020</p> |
|  | <p>The State of Household Food Security in Bangalore, India / Jyothi Koduganti, Mohanraju JS, Shriya Anand</p> <p>Call Number: 363.8095487 KOD 016167 ISBN: 9781920597412 Publication Date: 2019</p> |
|  | <p>The Urban Food System of Bangalore, India</p> <p>The following scholarly works of researchers from different countries can help provide insights into the peer-reviewed work in urban agriculture.</p> <p>Call Number: 363.80954 SUR 011177 ISBN: 9781920597269 Publication Date: 2017</p> |

Working papers

- Future Agricultures Working Papers
- National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management Working Papers
- IWMI Working Papers

Journals

- Urban Agriculture & Regional Food Systems
- The Open Agriculture Journal
- The Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences
- Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems
- Sustainability
- Nature Sustainability
- Environment & Urbanization
- Ecology and Society
- World Development
- Food Policy

Books

- **Grow a garden: sowing, growing and harvesting tips** / Manorama Joshi & Sunita Rao
- **My Pumpkin roof: how to grow your own urban food garden** / Malvika Pathak
- **Urban sanctuaries: peaceful havens for the city gardener** / Stephen Anderton

- **Urban forests, trees, and greenspace: a political ecology perspective** / L. Anders Sandberg, Adrina Bardekjian, and Sadia Butt
- **Green infrastructure: incorporating plants and enhancing biodiversity in buildings and urban environments** / John W. Dover
- **A historical dictionary of Indian food** / Achaya, K. T
- **Garden plants: flowers & trees in India** / Premananda Das, Rupinder & Reeta Khullar
- **Flowering trees of Bangalore** / S. Karthikeyan
- **Feasts and fasts: a history of food in India** / Colleen Taylor Sen
- **First food: culture of taste** / Edited by Sunita Narain
- **First food: a taste of India's biodiversity** / Edited by Sunita Narain

Research at IIHS breaks away from disciplinary boundaries and emphasises interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral approaches while furthering synergies between research and practice. Along these lines, IIHS researchers have been engaged in several other projects which investigate food systems in a rapidly urbanising cityscape like Bangalore. A few outputs of their study are listed below:

Reports and guides

- [Tracking progress on food and agriculture-related SDG indicators 2020](#)
- [Urban agriculture — the future of farming](#)

- [10 things South Asian agriculture needs to address in the post-pandemic era](#)
- [Farms in cities: A case for urban agriculture in India](#)
- [Lessons in Sustainability from India's Past- Changing the Nature of Agricultural Practices](#)

Here is a list of international library guides on urban agriculture.

- **Illinois Library**
[LibGuides: Urban Agriculture, Vertical Farms, Green Roof Technology, & Urban Foraging: Home](#)
- **Indiana University Bloomington**
[Library Research Guides: GEOG-G 357: Urban Agriculture: Home](#)
- **National Agricultural Library**
[Urban Agriculture | Alternative Farming Systems Information Center | NAL | USDA](#)
- **University of Arkansas**
[Research Guides: Urban Food/Urban Agriculture: Getting Started: finding information on Urban Food or Local Food](#)

Feel free to suggest books, articles and databases. You can add your recommendations [here](#).