

PLANT A ROW, WATCH COPE GROW FOOD DONATION GARDEN



Our Story

In our third year of growing at the garden, we continued to grow produce to combat food insecurity in Metropolis. With funding support from a Growing Together Illinois fund, we implemented garden improvements at the Plant a Row, Watch COPE Grow Food Donation Garden. Growing Together Illinois is funded by University of Illinois Extension's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education. We continued our partnership with COPE Food Pantry to deliver all produce grown at the garden for distribution at the pantry.

Massac agriculture students built and installed new raised beds to replace the former rotted beds. Max Russell brought his tractor to fill the new beds with compost. Volunteers helped tend the garden on workdays. Seven sponsors donated time, supplies, and funding to support the project.

We grew a total of 352.3 pounds of produce this year. We grew potatoes and bok choy for the first time and included storage and cooking instructions, as well as recipes, for vegetables that may be less familiar to the pantry's clientele.

39 volunteer hours
were recorded - a
\$1,113 value



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Our Partners

The success of this garden project would not be possible without the dedication of our partners.

Max Russell

Max Russell provided the garden site and has been constantly supportive of



our garden efforts. He is always willing to lend a helping hand, bringing his tractor numerous times to help move soil.

COPE Food Pantry

Extension has worked with COPE Food Pantry for years prior to the garden project. We have provided fresh produce to the pantry since 2018 when the garden was installed. All produce grown at the garden is delivered to COPE for distribution.

Our Sponsors

The support of our sponsors has been crucial in the continuation of the garden.

Illinois Master Gardeners



Illinois Master Gardeners provided support and volunteer time to help sustain the garden.

Farrow Lumber

Farrow Lumber donated half the cost of the lumber to build the new raised beds.



City of Metropolis



The City of Metropolis continues to provide water to the garden.

Kiwanis Club of Metropolis

The Kiwanis donated \$250 to support the installation of a permanent fence.



Shawnee Community College

The agriculture department donated tomato, pepper, cucumber, squash, and herb plants.



Shawnee Professional Services

Shawnee Professional Services loaned trucks and supplies for garden workdays.



Farm Credit Illinois

A \$500 Community Improvement Grant from Farm



Credit Illinois will support the installation of a permanent fence.

Our Volunteers

We are grateful to those who gave of their time to tend the garden!

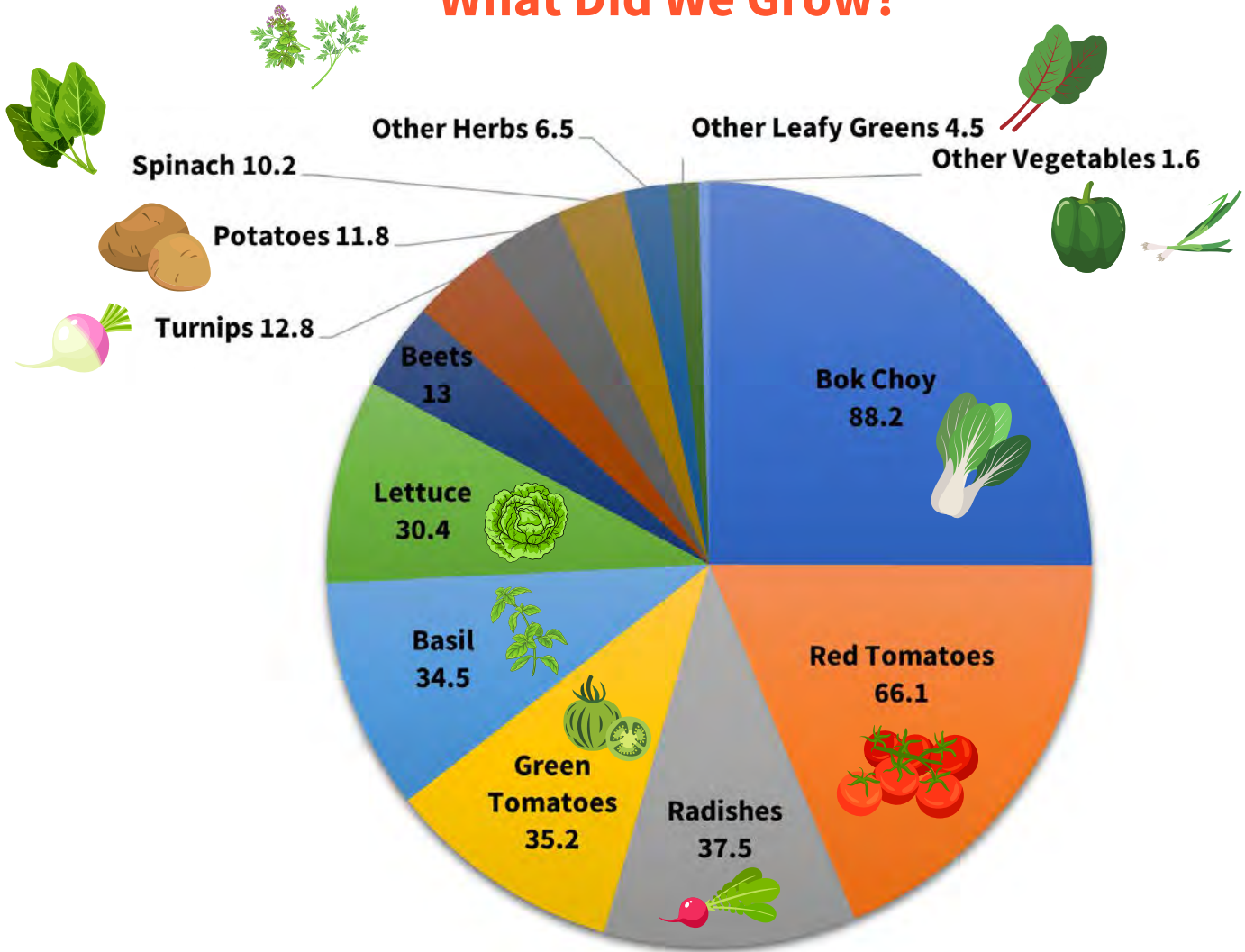
Vickie Blake
Marie Emery
Zach Garrett
Rebecca Hannum

Shelia Harper
Megan Henderson
Patti Powell
Beckie Wisdom

Massac Ag Students



What Did We Grow?



352.3 pounds of produce were grown in 2021

A look back . . .

In 2018 we grew 70 lbs. In 2019 we grew 260 lbs. This year we grew 352.3, more than the previous two years combined!



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