

# Urban Gardening and its Role in the Cities

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# Presentation Content

- Aims and Methods
- Theoretical framework – potential of urban gardening to be sustainable.
- Results - two perceptions (experts and practitioners) of urban agriculture
- Concluding remarks

# Aim and Methods

- The aim is to determine to what extent sustainability of gardening is published in the Czech Republic, what rules gardeners observe in their activities and whether these two perceptions of experts and practitioners overlap.
- Methods - Data triangulation
  - Content analysis of magazine „Zahradkář“ (Gardener)
  - Secondary data analysis from Public opinion research
  - Semi-structured interviews with community gardeners

# Theoretical Framework

- Gardening's potential to be sustainable
  - Economical benefit
  - Environmentally friendly
  - Socially acceptable



# The Experts' View – Content Analysis of „Gardener“

- Monthly magazine since 1969
- The editorial board consists of experts with PhD. degrees



# The Experts' View – Content Analysis of „Gardener“

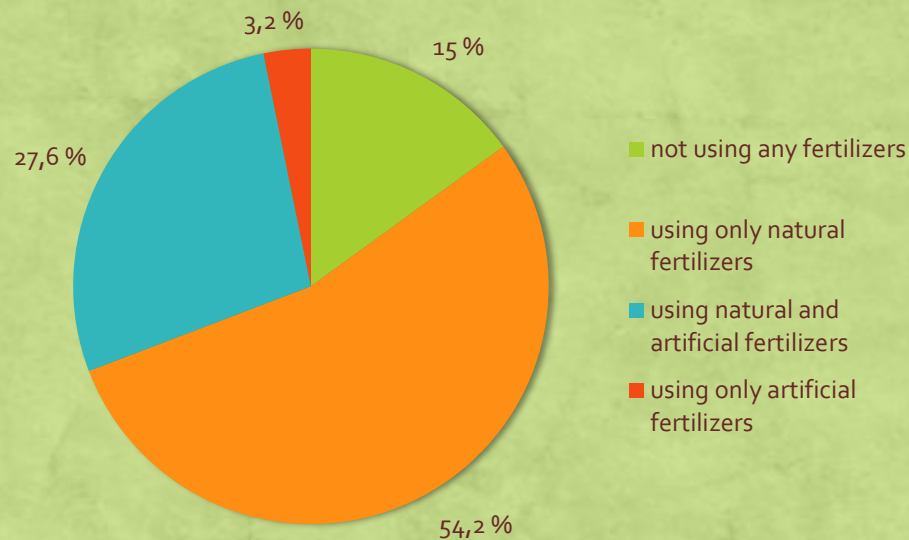
Category	Number of Articles
Eco, Organic and Natural Gardens	18
Fertilization and Soil Care	16
Pests and Fungi	14
Composting	13
Animals Beneficial in the Garden	6

# The Gardeners' Activities – Public Opinion Research

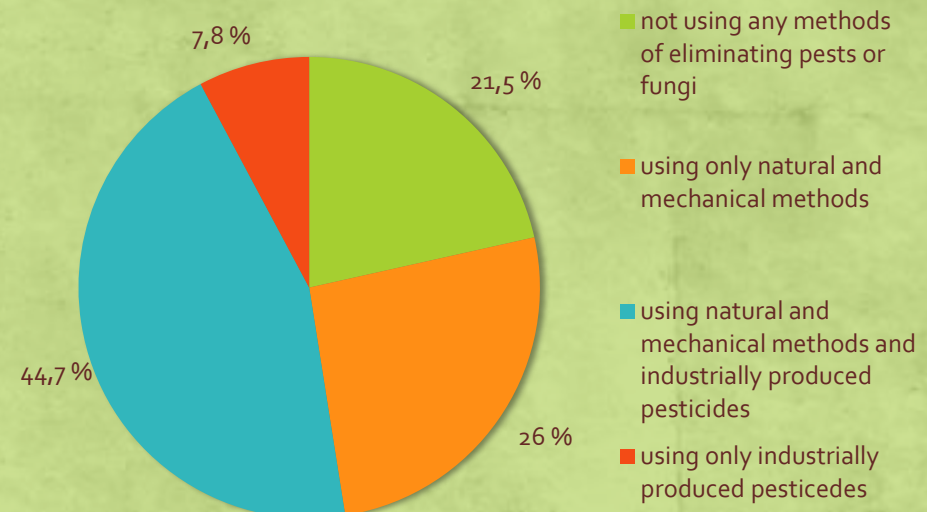
- Population of the Czech Republic 10,5 mil.
- 43 % operate their own garden, field, or orchard
  - 73 % of them are from the urban area
  - They evaluate their living standard as „rather good“ or „not good, not bad“.
- Reasons for gardening:
  - it is a hobby
  - to produce fresh and healthy food

# The Gardeners' Activities – Public Opinion Research

## The use of fertilizers



## The method of eliminating pests or fungi





# The Community Garden Experience

2011 - new phenomenon in the  
Czech Republic

= Urban area where locals grow  
together food and also support  
communities



# The Community Garden Experience

- Gardening as a hobby, importance to children
- Production does not provide all necessary food for consumption
- Building social relations
- Not using industrial fertilizers
- Composting and rain water collecting



# Concluding remarks

- The experts and practitioners differ in their emphasis concerning the role of urban gardening.
  - Experts – environmental issues
  - Practitioners – economic and social issues
- In the case of environmental pillar their images overlap in their content.
  - Composting
  - Use of natural fertilizers

Thank you for your attention.