

Urban Agriculture Magazine

We invite your contributions to the next issue of the UA-Magazine:

**NO. 19: SUPPORTING INNOVATIVENESS IN URBAN FARMING SYSTEMS
NOVEMBER 2007**

DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: 1 SEPTEMBER 2007

Urban farming systems are in constant development. Innovation is continuously taking place. Urban farming systems need to be improved for several reasons:

- Specific urban conditions such as confined space, closeness to urban consumers, special health considerations due to closeness to people, and use of urban organic wastes and wastewater, among others, require specific adaptations.
- The agricultural knowledge of urban farmers who recently migrated to the city may not always apply in the specific urban setting in which they now find themselves.
- The urban poor or entrepreneurs with no background in farming who have taken up farming lack relevant knowledge.

This issue of the UA-Magazine will be a first effort to take stock of a broad range of experiences involving:

- participatory methodologies for promoting innovation in urban farming systems, such as joint experimentation, farmer field schools, identifying farmer innovators, exchange visits, using ICT (participatory radio, etc.)
- new technologies in urban farming that were developed by farmers or together with farmers in response to the specific urban conditions mentioned above.

We are particularly interested in experiences showing the process of adapting methodologies and technologies to the urban setting and indicating how innovation of urban farming systems can be stimulated and supported most effectively.

This issue is a collaborative effort of RUAF (www.ruaf.org); PROLINNOVA, an international learning and advocacy network on promoting local innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resource management (www.prolinnova.net); and **Urban Harvest**, a CGIAR system-wide initiative to direct and coordinate the collective knowledge and technologies of the Future Harvest Centers towards strengthening urban and periurban agriculture (<http://www.cipotato.org/urbanharvest/home.htm>).

Please share the following aspects of your experience (as applicable) in your article:

- a short narrative on your experience (main goal, location, actors, target group, activities)
- the methods applied (What methods were applied and, why were they chosen? Why do they work well?)
- With whom does the project maintain links – NGOs, farmers' organisations, municipalities, etc.?)
- the impacts achieved (areas, extent, unexpected impacts)
- problems/challenges faced and solutions found
- major lessons learned
- the way forward (future plans, new partners, support required from whom, etc.).

Articles on urban agriculture submitted to the UA-Magazine should consist of approximately 2,300 words (for three-page articles), 1,600 words (for two-page articles), or 700 words (for one-page articles), preferably accompanied by an abstract, references (maximum of 5), figures and good-quality digital images or photographs. The articles should be written in a manner that can be readily understood by a wide variety of stakeholders all over the world. We also invite you to submit information on recent publications, journals, videos, photographs (more than 300 kB each), cartoons, letters, technology descriptions and assessments, workshops, training courses, conferences, networks, web-links, etc.

ISSUES OF THE UA-MAGAZINE PLANNED FOR 2008

The following issues will be produced in 2008 and your ideas and contribution of articles are already most welcome:

No. 20: Productive Use of Urban Water –April 2008

No. 21: Role of Urban Agriculture in Crisis Situations (Emergency and Rehabilitation) –
October 2008.

Of course, all other suggestions and comments on the UA-Magazine are also welcome. Please take a moment to voice your opinion by sending an e-mail to the editor at ruaf@etcnl.nl, or write us a letter.

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your feedback by filling
in the questionnaire in
this UA-Magazine.



Urban Agriculture Magazine

BUILDING COMMUNITIES THROUGH URBAN
AGRICULTURE

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The RUAF Partners are

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Editors, No. 18

This issue was compiled by René van Veenhuizen (Responsible Editor), together with Joanna Wilbers of ETC-UA and Martin Bailkey of University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Web Editing, Events, and Books

Femke Hoekstra and René van Veenhuizen

Administration

Ellen Radstake

Language Editor

Catharina de Kat-Reynen

Design, Layout and Printing

Koninklijke BDU

Subscriptions

The editor: ruaf@etcnl.nl

Address

Urban Agriculture Magazine
P.O. Box 64
3830 AB Leusden
The Netherlands
Visitors' address: Kastanjelaan 5, Leusden.
Tel: +31.33.4326000
Fax: +31.33.4940791
e-mail: ruaf@etcnl.nl
website: www.ruaf.org