Urban Farm of the Vegetal Arch

by Pierre Frédéric Bouvet

Address 1 - street: 3/6 rue Albert Marquet 75020 PARIS, France
Diameter: 1000

CO2 Impact: The project avoids 12 tonnes of CO2 emissions each year.

Builder
Urban Picking, Urban Leaf

Manager / Dealer
Urban picking

GENERAL INFORMATION

This project received a mention for the Sustainable Infrastructure Grand Prize of the Green Solutions Awards 2020-21 at both the national and international levels.

This multi-technical urban vegetable farm (Aquaponics, vertical aeroponics, permaculture) with a surface area of 1000m² is located on the roof of the cooking schools of starred chef Thierry Marx and it allows them to provide them with healthy and local fruits and vegetables without any associated pollution. the transport, storage or packaging of foodstuffs.

This place also brings positive externalities to the neighborhood since we organize weekly visits and trainings on urban agriculture. It is a source of biodiversity and an island of freshness in one of the densest districts of the Parisian agglomeration.
Progress Status
Delivered

Data Reliability
Assessor

Funding Type
Public/Private Partnership

Website Enterprise / Infrastructure
https://www.paris.fr/pages/l-arche-vegetale-de-la-ferme-urbaine-aux-assiettes-de-thierry-marx-11846
https://www.parishabitat.fr/Pages/arche-vegetale-inauguration-200925.aspx
https://www.agri-city.info/fr/grand-angle/territoires/l-arche-vegetale-du-toit-aux-cuisines-de-thierry-marx

Sustainable Development

Attractiveness:
The cookery school "Cuisine manual" places food orders every week. The place is operated by the Cueillette Urbaine company on behalf of the cooking school.

Well Being:
We organize agroecology training for all the school's trainees which are renewed every 2 months. For the district, it is the creation of a "green" island for all the inhabitants who have a direct view of the site and there are many of them!

Social Cohesion:
Tours of the farm are organized throughout the summer season. These visits are aimed at schoolchildren, students, communities and individuals (paying visits in collaboration with "Alma Grow In Town").

We also organize workshops for companies mainly. The list is long (climate fresco to raise awareness of climate change, seasonal cuisine in partnership with the cooking school, seeded paper, gardening, herbal tea workshop, etc.).

Preservation / Environmental Improvement:
Our urban farm allows the improvement of biodiversity within the district. It allows the green creation and accommodation of auxiliary fauna. The revegetation allows an immediate return of birds and pollinating and auxiliary insects. We cultivate in an ecological way with different cultivation techniques:

- aeroponic towers: these towers allow the cultivation of up to 44 plants on only 1m² for a weight not exceeding 70kg, which makes it a technology very suitable for roofs in urban areas. We only use organic fertilizers, some of which come from the circular economy (compost juice, anaerobic digestion ...).

- aquaponics: a virtuous circle between raising fish and growing plants. This technique allows the production of food of animal and plant origin while completely freeing itself from fertilizers.

- the Forest Bed: permaculture tank made up of a water reserve and a substrate almost entirely made up of urban bio-waste (compost, brewer's spent grains, mycelium from local mushroom cultivation, pruning waste, etc.). This bin can recycle 500g of bio-waste for each kg of fruit and vegetables produced.

We use agroecological techniques whatever the cultivation technique. We always combine flowers to attract pollinators and fragrant aromatics to repel pests.

Resilience:
The infrastructure is not equipped with a greenhouse or protection which would make it possible to overcome the vagaries of the weather (frost, hail, storm, wind, etc.). We have found good wind resistance and no material degradation has been noted yet.

Responsible use of resources:
Our soil-less cultivation techniques allow savings of up to 90% compared to a conventional market gardening site of the same area and irrigated with a drip system. The water reserve in our bins also makes it possible to limit the use of this resource.

We only use green energy to power the little electrical equipment that we have installed (irrigation pumps, filters, etc.).

With the establishment of urban agriculture sites, we are helping to reduce the artificialization of soils.

Testimony / Feedback

The cooking school manual, Paris Habitat and the mayor of the 20th arrondissement of Paris are delighted with the establishment of this infrastructure which marks their commitments in terms of sustainable development, ecology driven by a desire to eat better.

https://www.agri-city.info/fr/actualites/inauguration-de-l

Governance

Urban Picking, Cooking Instructions, Urban Leaf
The company Cueillette Urbaine takes care of the operation of the infrastructure throughout the year and has an occupancy lease for a period of 9 years with Paris Habitat which owns the building.

Business Model:
The infrastructure was financed by a grant from the Ile-de-France region as well as by the cooking school.

The cooking school benefits from preferential rates on harvests throughout the year. Some products are processed (herbal teas, sauces, spreads, juices, etc.) to be sold in short circuits. The site also supplies an organic grocery store located around the corner which constitutes a large part of the farm's income.

Then, the visits and the workshops make it possible to generate additional income.

The site's turnover is around 35k € / year.

Sustainable Solutions

Urban Plant Arch Farm

Description:
Multitechnical urban farm (Aeroponics, Aquaponics, Permaculture) of 1000m² on the roof of a building belonging to Paris Habitat and supplying Thierry Marx's schools with fresh and local foodstuffs.

CO2 Impact: 12 000,00

Company (es) Website:

Photo credit
Urban picking

Reasons for participating in the competition(s)
Agriculture urbaine en circuit court, basée sur un vrai modèle économique.

Building candidate in the category

Grand Prix Infrastructure Durable