Day 15 Greener

My garden of choice

I am considering planting a garden on my rooftop. In Bangladesh, space is limited, and with the government's tax reduction incentives for rooftop gardens, it's an ideal choice. This way, I can maximize my available space and contribute to a greener environment. A rooftop garden not only makes the best use of limited space but also aligns with our lifestyle in urban areas. It's a perfect opportunity for us to grow herbs, shrubs, and even some vegetables, ensuring fresh and organic produce right at home. With proper planning and the right containers, I can create a thriving rooftop garden that benefits both me and the environment. So, for me, a rooftop garden is the best choice in Bangladesh.

I have a rooftop garden here on my house. It is rather common on every house here in my locality. This is the present appearance of my garden,



I also have a kitchen garden which contains lemon grass, aloe vera, curry leaves, coriander leavesetc. and my mom use these regularly in preparation for our meal.

My plan for the garden

As I embark on the journey to create a beautiful and eco-friendly rooftop garden in Bangladesh, I am filled with excitement and determination. With limited space and a strong desire to contribute to healthier soils, climate, and people, I've carefully planned what to plant and the practices I'll implement.

What Will I Plant?

I've chosen a variety of plants that not only thrive in the rooftop garden environment but also offer numerous benefits to the ecosystem and our well-being. Here are six plant varieties I'll cultivate:

A Mix for Food, Soil, and Bees

For a balanced garden, the focus is on a combination of nutritious vegetables, soil-enriching plants, and flowers to support pollinators,

- 1. **Vegetables** (**Tomatoes**, **Spinach**, & **Beans**): These are the heart of the food-producing area. Tomatoes and spinach provide regular, nutritious harvests. The beans are a key choice because they work hard for the garden, pulling nitrogen from the air and fixing it into the soil, which acts as a natural fertilizer for the other plants.
- 2. **Aromatic Herbs (Mint & Basil):** Planted near the sitting area, these herbs release a calming scent and are always on hand for cooking. More importantly, their flowers are a powerful magnet for bees and butterflies, ensuring good pollination for the entire garden.
- 3. **Shrubs (Ornamental & Flowering):** These are placed strategically to create a sense of privacy and greenery around the shed and sitting area. They add structure to the garden and, when chosen to be native, offer vital shelter and food for local birds and insects.
- 4. **Aloe Vera:** This versatile plant finds a sunny spot for its medicinal leaves. It's a resilient, low-maintenance plant that serves as a natural first-aid kit, perfectly suited for a practical home garden.

Regenerative Practices for a Healthy Garden

To make this garden truly regenerative, several key methods will be implemented:

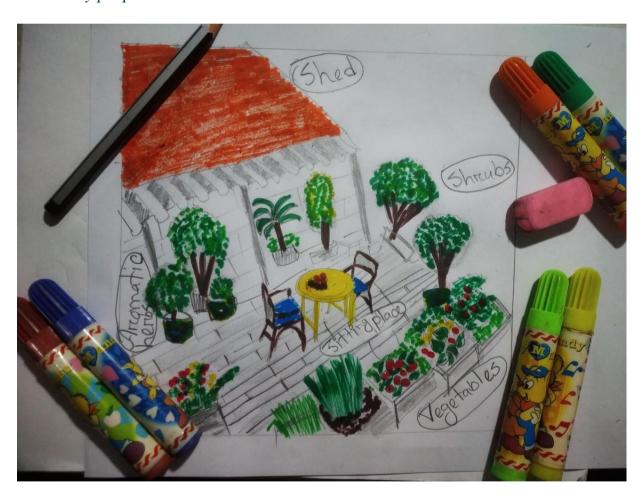
- 1. **No-Till Gardening:** Instead of digging and turning the soil, which disturbs its structure and microbiome, layers of compost and mulch will be added on top. This protects the soil, retains moisture, and encourages earthworms and beneficial microbes to thrive.
- Composting & Mulching: A small compost bin will turn kitchen scraps into rich, organic
 fertilizer, closing the waste loop right at home. Using dried leaves or straw as mulch will
 suppress weeds, keep plant roots cool, and slowly add organic matter back into the soil as it
 breaks down.
- 3. **Rainwater Harvesting:** A simple barrel system will be set up to collect rainwater from the rooftop. This provides a natural, chlorine-free water source for the plants and conserves tap water, making the garden more self-sufficient and resilient.

What is most exciting about this plan is the potential to create a living, breathing system. It's about more than just gardening; it's a small step towards a more sustainable lifestyle, creating a patch of nature that actively heals itself and the urban environment.

I'll prioritize native plant species in my garden. These plants are well-suited to the local climate, requiring less maintenance and reducing the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

By carefully selecting these plants and implementing sustainable practices, I am confident that my rooftop garden will flourish, benefiting not only me but also the environment and the local community. This endeavor is a step towards a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future for Bangladesh. I invite you to join me in this journey of rooftop gardening for a brighter tomorrow.

Here is my proposal:



Find my Instagram post here:

https://www.instagram.com/p/DP3tPRJE2r-/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRlODBiNWFlZA==

Screenshot here:



Name: Sadia Khatun

Username: Sadia 907

Institution: Dhaka University