



 **Farming Concrete**
2011 Harvest Report

2011 Results

Numbers at a glance:

43 gardens participated*

66 gardeners weighed

132 different crop varieties recorded

6,600 pounds of food reported

9,722 plants counted

8,618 of these plants have yield data**

Estimated total yields for participating gardens: **17,000 lbs*****

Estimated total dollar value: **\$52,700*****

For 35 inventoried gardens growing on .94 acres, the estimated yield for crops we have data for was 13,000 pounds, worth \$47,000

Farming Concrete is a three-year grass-roots science project measuring food production in NYC community gardens and school gardens.

There are over 500 community gardens in NYC, at least 80% of which grow food, and the number of school gardens in the city is growing rapidly.

Using simple record keeping methods, Farming Concrete works with gardeners as they record their yields. These numbers can be used to access resources, advocate for permanency, support the argument for more gardens, and more. By democratizing the data and research processes, Farming Concrete hopes to achieve greater access to and sovereignty over the power of information.

To carry out the project, Farming Concrete trained a team of community gardeners to train new gardens. With methods adapted from a similar study done in Philadelphia, gardens participate in one or both of two parts. The first is called Harvest Count, for which gardeners receive a free scale and harvest log and weigh their harvests by crop.

The second, called Crop Count, is an inventory of the number of plants growing, per

crop, for an entire garden. This is done one to three times in a garden throughout the growing season to account for succession planting. The average pounds per plant recorded by gardeners is applied to the number of plants recorded in the Crop Count to arrive at the estimated overall garden yield. This yield is then monetized using prices from Whole Foods to account for premiums on local produce and **displayed on an interactive map at harvest.farmingconcrete.org**

* Not all gardens participating in 2011 were community gardens, there were also school gardens and a small handful of backyard gardeners.

** We couldn't estimate yields for every crop reported. For example, some gardens recorded cilantro in square feet as opposed to number of plants. We do not have data on the average number of cilantro plants per square foot, and so could not estimate yield using our formula. If there was one plant per square foot, there would be 118 additional cilantro plants, yielding 426 lbs and \$4,500 worth of cilantro.

***Estimates based on crops weighed by gardeners. Not all crops were weighed, and not all yields were necessarily recorded. As such, this is a very conservative estimate.

Thank you!

We are enormously grateful to all of the participating gardeners for their dedication. We also thank our partners: NY Community Trust, William and Mary Greve Foundation, Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Brooklyn Community Foundation, GreenThumb, and NY Restoration Project, for their support.

2011 Crops

blacha allium almond tree **apples** apricots artichoke **arugula** asparagus asta
basil bean sprouts beans beans (bush) beans (pole) **beets** bit
ter melon blackberries blueberries bok choy
brussell sprouts burdock root burdock wood cabb
oupe **carrots** cauliflower celery celery r
E cherries chickpeas chickweed **chives** c
compost CORN cow peas crab apple tree c
dandelion greens dill Edible flow
carole fennel fennel seeds **figs** garl
berries gooseberries gourd gr
oneydew horseradish **jalapeno** na
rabi lavender **leeks** lemon
melons **mesclun** micro greens m
nasturtium nectarines **okra**
parsnip peaches **peanuts** pe
peppers (sw) **peppers** (un
atoes (b
tabago
er) **squash** (f
ring beans (bush) **sugar cane** sunflower **sweet potato**
arzo tatsoi tarragon **thyme** tiger
ES tomatoes (cherry) tomatoes (heirloom) tot soy **turnip greens** turnip

Get your garden on the map
www.farmingconcrete.org

