

The Carol A Borcharding NSCSAS Garden for Growth - Progress Report

Email

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Project Manager Name

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Requested Metrics

(These represent the program metrics from the end of Fall 2023 until the beginning of the Spring 2024 semester)

Number of attendees at each event -

January 27th Garden Harvest, Transfer, and Cleaning: 13 attendees

December 2nd Garden Harvest had 15 attendees

Type + number of crops harvested (December) -

Cilantro: 3 bunches

Onions: 2

Calendula: an entire bushel

Total: 6 plants

At this event, we left the pumpkin/squash to grow until January (when we would've harvested it), but the frost and lack of water resulted in the plant wilting.

On January 27th we still had plenty of cilantro (another 3 bushels) to harvest and donate to Campus Pantry, but that was the only surviving vegetable.

January 27th Type + number of crops planted -

Peas

Leek

Ethiopian Kale

Carrots

Wild Arugula

Bunching Onions

Garbanzo Beans

Raab Broccoli

Spinach

Turnips

Total: 10 seeds planted in our garden

Project Accomplishments

*Successfully planted 10 plants total during the January 27th de-weeding and planting event; currently monitoring vegetable growth

*Used the CSF Mini-Grant to successfully purchase a sun cover for our garden bed, in addition to a pest-barrier, mulch, fertilizer, and renew our annual garden rental for a full garden bed.

-Successfully applied these purchases to our garden bed by applying fertilizer, mulch, pest barrier, and sun cover at our January 27th planting event.

*Over the past couple of weeks we have experienced successful growth of our Ethiopian Kale and Bunching Onions, in addition to a surprising bushel of lettuce that we planted last semester (now that two of our water lines are functional).

*Confirmed our Survivalist Garden Event with Tucson Fire for March 16th at Station 22, where members can ask survivalist experts for tips on growing plants in this desert, what plants to watch out for (caution), and how to survive in the desert with few supplies. Our club is also pre-health-oriented, and, as a result, our members can ask the EMTs for opportunities to get involved with Tucson Fire.

*Advancing on a Cooking Event idea (may occur in early April) to share a few recipes of healthy dishes with our club members. We will use vegetables mainly from our garden, and only invest in a handful of other vegetables/ingredients as necessary.

Next Steps

1. Primary and Secondary Managers are finalizing details for the Survivalist Garden Event with the Tucson Fire Department on March 16th, 2024; will be advertising the event on Monday, March 11th via nscsas club announcements
2. Will be reaching out to UA Garden Managers to replace the other water lines (2 of them; 1 of them is nonfunctional whereas the other is too short).
3. Coordinating Garden Harvest Day + Cooking Event for the beginning/middle of April; final funds from our CSF Mini-Grant will be used to purchase any vegetables that we did not have planted in the garden this semester.
4. Will be donating any vegetables/herbs that are not used for the Cooking Event to Campus Pantry.
5. Will be turning over responsibilities to the Secondary Garden Manager gradually and will be working on the May Progress Report together.

Challenges Faced

Experienced difficulties with water dispersal; our kale and onions appear to be growing well, but the other 8 vegetables planted that are meant to grow during the time of year and tolerate the Arizona heat - are unfortunately not growing. One of the garden managers, Asia, had generously helped us replace 2 of the 3 dripping lines, but we have since recognized that the third dripping line may need to be replaced. An email was sent on 02/29/2024 to the Garden Managers, and we look forward to further communication after spring break. The Primary and Secondary Project Managers will be monitoring the garden plot as the semester progresses to provide updates for the May report.

Project Support

We would appreciate feedback on how we may expand our project for reapplication in Fall 2024, as we have donated herbs and vegetables to Campus Pantry last semester. Our recent investments in a

sun cover and pest cover have been incredibly helpful in promoting the growth of our vegetables. In addition, the replacement of 2 of our water drip lines have benefitted our garden, and we will be communicating with the UA Garden Managers to replace the other water line (and make one of the new water drip lines longer).

Photo Link

The January Garden Crew Photos (2 photos on Instagram; posted 01.29.2024):

https://www.instagram.com/p/C2tJM9xrSJD/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

Media/Links

January 29th Photos shared (same as in "Photo Links"):

https://www.instagram.com/p/C2tJM9xrSJD/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

January 20th Flyer Advertisement of the Garden Event:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C2VoyBHP8K/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==