



EARTHBOX ADVANTAGES

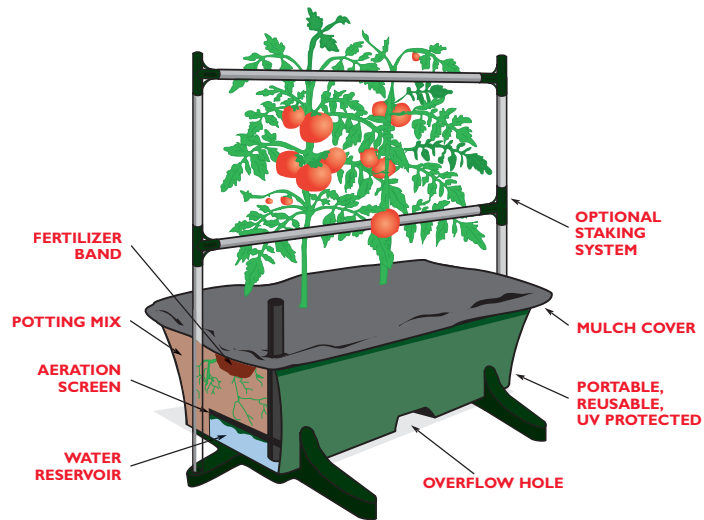
- + High-value, high-quality produce
- + Extremely water-efficient
- + Increased productivity
- + Allows food production where space & arable land are limited (including rooftops, patios)
- + No fertilizer run-off, no water-table contamination
- + Extends growing season
- + Expands crop options
- + Low maintenance, reduces labor
- + Simple to learn & use
- + Affordable & durable

“ In the indigenous communities, the EarthBox gives us the opportunity to introduce delicious & nutritious food. TGC is a community development project with a productive reality that they can see rapidly. ”

Augusto Chacon
Director, Selva Negra
Fundación, Mexico



The EarthBox vastly increases the yield per area over a conventional garden – with less fertilizer & much less water.



The **EARTHBOX** is a key component of **THE GROWING CONNECTION**. Much more than a container garden, the **EARTHBOX** uses the laws of nature to facilitate movement of water and nutrients, easing the plant’s task of producing nutritious vegetables. A strip of granulated fertilizer is placed atop the potting mix. Essential nutrients migrate to the roots of the growing plant, carried by the water, through natural capillary action. In this system, ideal quantities of nutrients reach the roots, thus minimizing the use of fertilizer.

The **EARTHBOX** reduces the water requirements for vegetable cultivation by eliminating evaporation and run-off. Plants draw water from the **EARTHBOX** reservoir only as needed. Over-watering is literally not possible.

Through years of research, ideal cultivation profiles have been established for many crops. Success is virtually assured.

The **EARTHBOX** is highly portable, allows the production of high-value produce in non-traditional settings, and enables an extended growing season through its water-efficiency and the optimization of available sunlight. The **EARTHBOX**’s plastic cover maintains humidity, prevents the invasion of pests, and inhibits the growth of disease-causing mold.

THE GROWING CONNECTION & THE EARTHBOX: FROM CAPE COAST, GHANA TO NEW YORK, USA

From villages in Ghana to pueblos in Nicaragua, to downtown neighborhoods in the USA, participants in **THE GROWING CONNECTION** (TGC) are growing fresh nutritious vegetables with the highly flexible and adaptable **EARTHBOX**.

The **EARTHBOX** provides a common platform for all TGC participants to engage in identical, productive food growing activities, regardless of location.

Using this standardized growing platform, TGC participants pool their data and results, share practical information and knowledge, and exchange ideas and solutions.



+ IT'S QUALITY... AND QUANTITY

Using the EarthBox, small-scale food producers achieve increased yields AND a dependable supply of consistently high-quality produce.

The EarthBox is a flexible system that enables more diverse crop options, extending growing seasons & reducing maturation times.

The EarthBox opens new markets & opportunities for small-scale food producers such as: supplying restaurants with specialty produce; selling organic produce to resorts; & most importantly, selling produce during the dry season, when conventional farmers cannot.

+ EVEN IN AREAS OF POOR SOIL, LAND & SPACE AVAILABILITY

The EarthBox, compact & portable, does not rely on arable land. EarthBoxes can turn rooftops, patios, steep, soil-leached slopes, smallholdings, infertile areas, even refugee camps, into intensive, productive horticultural sites.

+ OVERCOMING THE HUNGRY SEASON

Every year, poor households in the developing world face the Hungry Season – long months when food stocks from previous harvests have been eaten & the next harvest is not yet ready. The worst hungry seasons turn into famines.

The advantages of the EarthBox - *growing highly-nutritious produce with minimal water, shortening maturation periods, minimizing inputs, & selling produce out-of-season* - help families overcome the dreadful impact of the Hungry Season.

+ MORE CROP PER DROP

In many poor countries, the dry season lasts six months or more. Women & children walk an average distance of 6 kilometers a day in search of water.

Simple yet effective, the EarthBox system uses 80% less water than an in-ground, drip irrigation system.

+ ENVIRONMENTAL

The EarthBox has no fertilizer run-off & eliminates water-table contamination.

+ FRESH FOOD FOR ALL...

The EarthBox is low-maintenance, requires minimal training & greatly reduces labor inputs.

Fresh food can be grown at the doorstep, without having to prepare land, with no weeding & minimal water use.

This opens up fresh food production to many, including women, HIV/AIDS sufferers & the elderly.

PLEASE CONTACT US

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Cultivating Food, Connecting Minds, Harvesting Hope

The Growing Connection

* The Growing Connection operates through the United States Committee for FAO, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.