



RETROSUBURBIA

THE DOWNSHIFTER'S GUIDE TO A RESILIENT FUTURE

CHAPTER 15: GARDEN FARMING

QUESTIONS:

- How much experience and/or success have you had with home food growing? Are there members of the group who can share their skills or mentor other members in garden farming?
- Looking at the diagram on p. 227: where do you lie on this matrix? Why have you ended up like this? (You might like to think about your influences including books or mentors, your personality type and/or the amount of time and energy you have to spend on growing food)
- Consider the list of ideas for increasing your growing area in 'Optimising use of available land' pp. 230–233. Which of these patterns could you use at your place?
- How much of your household's food do you aim to grow? Discuss your aims – are they based on the availability of space and time, interest levels, skills, accessibility of quality organic veggies locally and/or other factors?

ACTIVITIES:

- As a group tour a productive garden farm, choosing a local site if possible. Ask lots of questions! This may be a group member's or someone else from your networks.
- Propagate some seedlings – each group member can grow something different and distribute at the next meeting.

