



Extension Training and Information Services Division

Home Gardening Series

HG/TT: Ag Ext 97:02

PLACES TO PLANT AT HOME

A HOME GARDEN is much more than a source of food, it enhances the environment around your home if done properly. If you follow the information in this factsheet, you will be able to:-

- Identify the areas around your home which can be put to use
- Choose the type of crop best suited to areas identified

HERE IS WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:-

STEP 1

Make a drawing to indicate the position of your home and all permanent fixtures such as a shed, store room, garage, water tank or trees.

STEP 2

Indicate the open areas around the home where plants or weeds are now growing.

STEP 3

Label the areas as follows:-

- | | |
|-------|---|
| Wet | - e.g. near waste water drains |
| Dry | - very little water |
| Shady | - caused by neighbour's house or fruit tree |
| Fence | - e.g. wall, hedge or chain link wire fence |
| Soil | - deep or shallow ridges/embankments |

STEP 4

Determine which areas receive the most amount of sunlight. Remember, vegetable crops need at least six (6) continuous hours of sunlight in order to grow properly.

STEP 5

List the crops/vegetables which you consume on a regular basis.

STEP 6

Match the crops with the areas identified.

Note: You may be limited in the range of crops/plants that the prevailing conditions (light/shade/water etc.), will allow you to grow.

Generally, crops high in calories and protein require more space than those high in vitamin and minerals.

In areas that tend to encourage weed growth, you might want to plant some sweet potato, yam or squash.

Crops can be interplanted to optimize space, improve soil fertility and allow sufficient distribution of sunlight to plants

SOME COMMON CROP COMBINATIONS

Pigeon peas - corn - cassava

Cassava - lettuce - tomatoes

Lettuce - yam - bhaji

Cucumber - beans - corn - ochro - melongene

Sweet potato - ochro - melongene/tomato - bodi - bhagi.

Corn - ochro - tomato - cabbage - bean

Lettuce - beet - bodi - corn

Pumpkin - tomato - cauliflower - ochro

Watermelon - pepper - cabbage - sorrel

Corn - bhagi - seim bean - radish



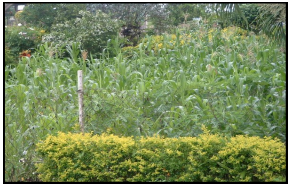

Melongene - patchoi - beet - bean.

Note:- Ornamentals may be incorporated into the crop combinations to add aesthetic value.

The following tables should be used as a guide to indicate the best areas for planting around the home.





The following tables will effectively guide you to places that can be used to plant around the home

Table 1

Location	Type of planting material(s)
Sides of driveway Along walkway/ footpath/skirting	Container planting, growbox, PVC piping, trough 
Under the eaves (front/back)	Container planting, hanging baskets 
Outside fence/on embankments	Cassava/corn/pigeon peas 
Near fence/trellis	Bodi, Cucumber, Carailli, Passion fruit, Barbadinine 

Making maximum use of available land space, adds to the aesthetics of your property and environment while increasing food security.

Table 2

Environmental Conditions	Type of planting material(s)
Shady areas	Fruit trees (they will eventually grow tall and so get enough sunlight for normal growth). Cabbage, lettuce and patchoi will also tolerate some shade. Some ornamental plants grow well in the shade. 
Wet areas e.g. near drains	Eddoes, Dasheen, Tannia, 
Dry areas	Legumes, Cassava, Pineapple, Sugar Apple, Guava, Soursop, Mango, Tamarind, Coconut 
Sunny areas	Tomatoes, Melongene, Ochro, Bodi, Pumpkin, Pepper 

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