



A Sociological study on The Impact of Coronavirus to the Home Garden concept

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Article Info

ISSN (online): 2582-7138

Volume: 05

Issue: 06

November-December 2024

Received: 16-10-2024

Accepted: 18-11-2024

Page No: 1214-1217

Abstract

Covid 19 period is one of the pathetic situation which faced by the whole people around the world. Still we have the risk of this coronavirus. Lockdown was the longest period of quiet in recorded human history. When it comes to gardening it has always been touted as a relaxing recreational activity that can provide great personal rewards. During this time, many people worked at home and students learned at home, gardening can be a positive family inclusive activity to adopt. What is the nature of home gardening during the covid 19 periods is the research problem. Main objective was to study the impact that happened to the Sri Lankan livelihood because of the home garden concept during the coronavirus period. The researcher used 150 houses from the Hikkaduwa Grama Niladari section as the sample of the study and it used Random sampling method for the study. This study was taken by 53% female and 47% by male population. Among them most of them were engaging with home garden because of pandemic situation. With the curfew they started to grow plants and vegetables in the home gardens. There were many benefits with home garden, Economic Benefits, Make health a priority, Live the fresh is best lifestyle, Enjoyment, Environmental Impact, Control, Easy Access.

Keywords: Coronavirus, Sociology, Home garden, Ecology, Healthy

Introduction

Home gardens or household garden is a small scale production system supplying plant and animal consumption and utilitarian items either not obtainable, affordable or readily available through retail markets, field cultivation, hunting gathering, fishing and wage earning. Household gardens tend to be located close to dwelling for security, convenience, and special care. They occupy land marginal to field production and labour marginal to major household economic activities. Featuring ecologically adapted and complementary species, household gardens are marked by low capital input and simple technology (Ninez, 1984) ^[1]. Home garden is an area of land, individually owned, surrounding a house and usually planted with a mixture of perennials and annuals (Terra, 1954) ^[2]. Home garden refers to garden within the household perimeter, including the garden located out in the field, the produce of which is normally intended for household consumption (Eusebio, 1998) ^[3]. The rapid expansion of the covid 19 pandemic, engulfing 186 countries between December 2019 and March 2020, has aggravated risks of severe/extreme food insecurity from 135 million January 2020 to 265 million by the end of 2020. The severe problem of food insecurity will affect population in both the developed and developing countries. What we can realize through this is that it is really important to engage in home gardening to face these types of pandemic situations. 40% of informers were gather home garden knowledge from agriculture offers. 27% were used media as a resource person for gathering information. With the government rules and regulations informers were unable to collect chemical fertilizers for home garden. So more than 90% of them were used organic fertilizers. Gardening makes good use of space and protects the soil.

Objectives of the Study

Main objective

- Study the impact that happened to the Sri Lankan livelihood because of the home garden concept during the coronavirus period.

Specific objectives

- To identify the how home gardening affect to the mental peace of the people.
- To study the how home gardening impact to the economy of the people.
- To identify the how home gardening helpful for the time management during lockdown period.
- Suggestions to uplift the healthy eating patterns.

Methodology

Study Area: As the field of research, Grama Niladari section of Hikkaduwa in Galle District used. **Sample and Sampling:** The researcher used 150 houses from the Hikkaduwa Grama Niladari section as the sample of the study and it used Random sampling method for the study.s

Method of Data Collection: Researcher used both primary sources and secondary sources for data collection in this resource. The primary sources as well as the secondary source were used for data collection. Observations, Field surveys were used as primary data sources. Books, Magazines and articles and research articles were used as secondary sources.

Data analysis

It used to analyse the data collected through primary sources and secondary sources using two methods, which are, Quantitative data analysis/ Qualitative data analysis,

Quantitative Data Analysis: Researcher used categorical variables to analyse the quantitative data obtained from the subscribers.

Qualitative Data Analysis: Researcher used common ideas, themes & concepts, as well as qualitative data analysis methods such as sequential analysis, case-file analysis, the simulation system, descriptive comparison, the agreement method, for the descriptive data analysis.

Findings

This study was taken by 53% female and 47% by male population. Among them most of them were engaging with home garden because of pandemic situation. With the curfew they started to grow plants and vegetables in the home gardens. The involvements for the home garden of men were increased in this situation comparing to usual involvement of them.

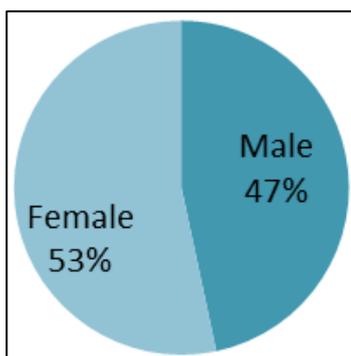


Fig 1: Gender

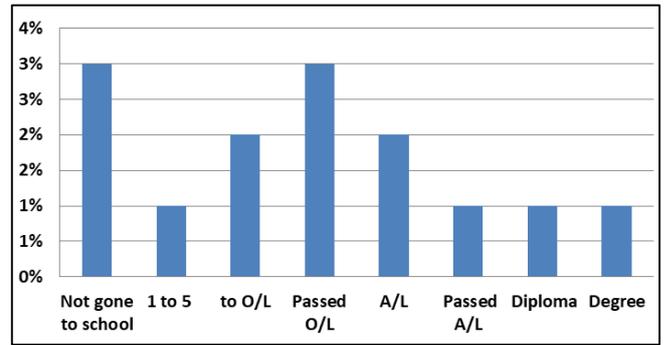


Fig 2: Education Level

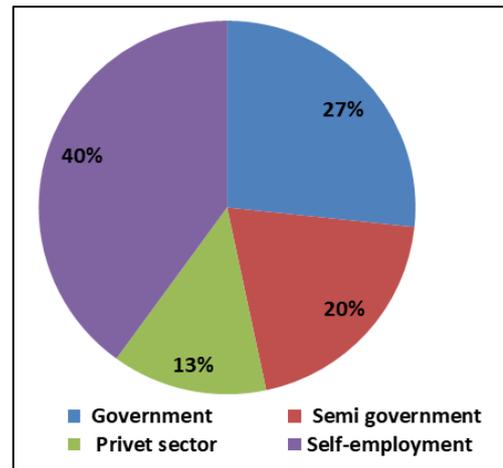


Fig 3: Occupation

When analysing the educational level these women have completed, 1% are degree holders and another 1% are diploma holders. In contrast, another 1% has gone to school only up to grade 5 or less, and another 3% have gone to school only up to O/L or less. So more than 6% have an education less than OL, and 2% have education beyond ALs. Overall 30% of the totals have passed ALs. 63% of these women are employed, while 37% do not engage in any kind of employment. From the employed women, majority (56%) are employed in the private sector. 9% were government employees, and 19% were self-employed.

According to study 40% of People who engaged with home garden in this pandemic situation are self-employed. The reason for their contribution toward on this was most of them were financially corrupted. They were lost their jobs, and then they have to find a way to survive. Because of this situation led them to home gardening. 27% government employees were engaged with home garden with their government advices.

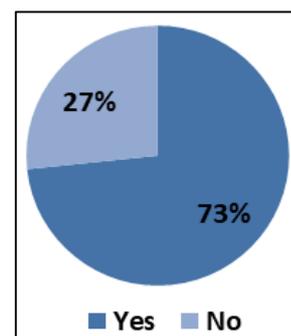


Fig 4: Home gardening after the covid 19

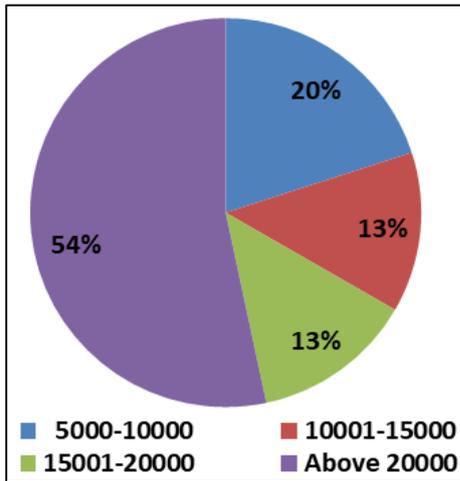


Fig 5: Monthly Income

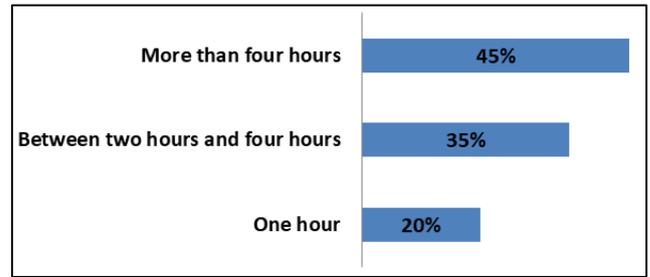


Fig 9: Time spend per day for cultivation

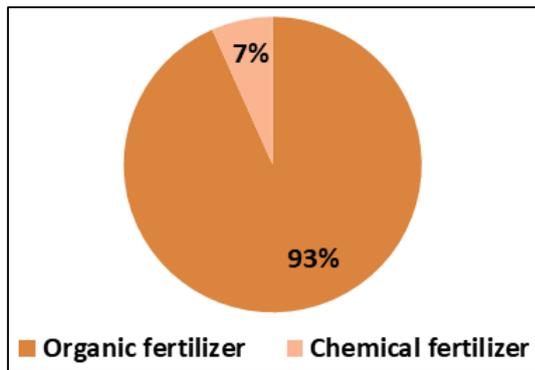


Fig 6: Types of Fertilizers Used

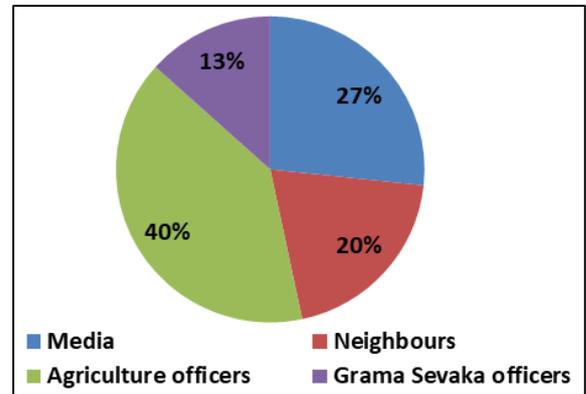


Fig 10: How get the knowledge for home gardening?

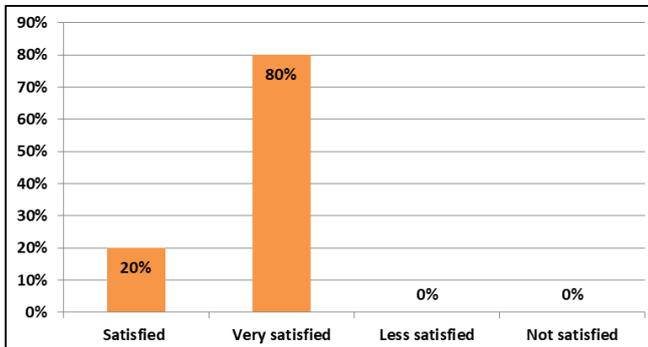


Fig 7: Satisfaction Level

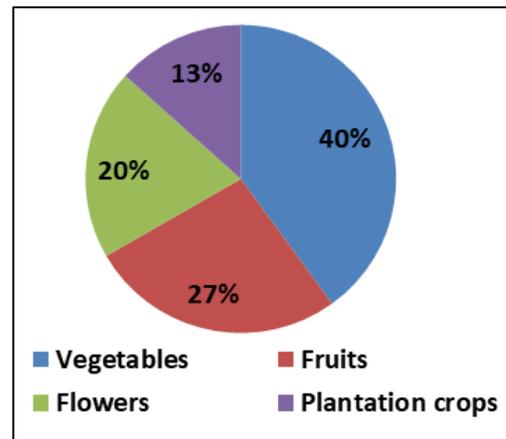


Fig 11: Cultivated crops

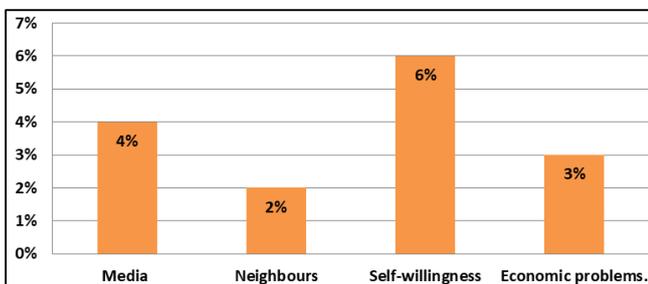


Fig 8: Factors that inspired you to engage in home gardening

According to data analysis 73% percentage of people were engaged with home garden because of corona pandemic situation. Most of them were busy with their jobs. This period they were full time available for anything. But the reason was they were unable to move out of houses so this was really effective. And the most important fact was they were self-willingness. Social media and government advertisements were helped to increase people’s willingness. 54% percentage of people who had monthly income more than Rs.20, 000/= were involve with home garden more than daily income informers. 40% of informers were gather home garden knowledge from agriculture offers.

27% were used media as a resource person for gathering information. With the government rules and regulations informers were unable to collect chemical fertilizers for home garden. So more than 90% of them were used organic fertilizers. This was useful to make a friendly eco system. Informers were engaged to grow vegetables by 40%. They used these vegetable daily meals. They were much more using these vegetables because those were fresh. With their free time on this pandemic situation more than 40% of informers were spend more than four hours with home gardening. With their successful cultivations more than 80% of informers were very satisfied with their home gardens. 80% percentages of informers were engaged with home garden for household consumptions.

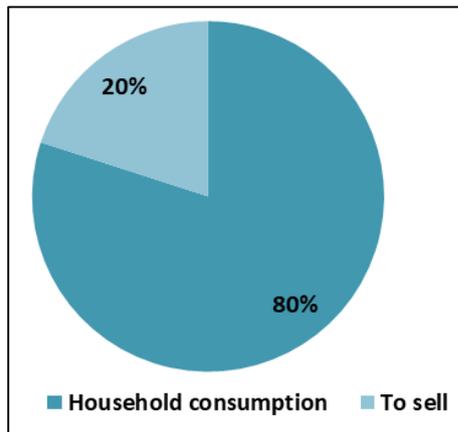


Fig 12: Reasons for engaging in home gardening

Conclusion and suggestions

It can be conclude Home gardening gives more benefits for gardeners. Those advantages can mention according to the research.

Easy Access

A home garden gives you instant access to fresh produce, so that you are not forced to visit the grocery store or farmers market to find it. You save time and money on gasoline rather than driving somewhere else to buy your produce. Depending on the type of vegetables you plant, you will also save money on the food itself. Growing vegetables at home dose cost money on seeds and supplies, such as fertilizer, but a single plant often produce lots of produce, so that you often save money by growing your own.

Control

Growing your own food gives you complete control over the chemicals and products used during the growing process. Organic produce typically costs more at the grocery store, but you can grow your own organic fruits and vegetables at home by skipping the chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

Environmental Impact

A garden provides the opportunity to make a positive environment impact. A compost pile allows you to recycle certain kitchen and yard waste products into nutrient rich additive for the garden. This reduces the waste you produce and provides natural fertilizer for your plants. If you choose to avoid or limit chemical use, you reduce pollution and groundwater contamination from your gardening activities. Garden plants often help reduce erosion by holding the soil

in place. Mulching around plants in your home garden further reduces erosion and runoff.

Enjoyment

For many homeowners, planting a garden provides enjoyment. Watching your garden go from bare ground to ripe produce or beautiful plants offers a sense of satisfaction. Some gardeners find the activity relaxing and stress relieving, for overall mental health benefits. Caring for the plants gives the entire family a chance to work together. If you have neighbours who also garden, the activity sometimes offers social interaction. Gardening also offers a form of moderation outdoor exercise.

Live the fresh is best lifestyle

Nothing beats flavour and nutrient packed power of fresh picked fruits and vegetables. Once harvested, produce begins to lose moisture and nutrients.at the grocery store, the freshness of vegetables is largely out of our control. But when we grow our own fruits and vegetables, we can exactly when they have been picked and how fresh they are.

Make health a priority

There is one important nutrient gardening can give people before even take a bite of produce is vitamin D. the sun's rays promote vitamin D production, which is vital to our health. Tending a backyard garden for about 30 minutes daily can promote better sleep and positive energy. The experts say, gardening activities like soil preparation, planting, removal of weeds, watering etc. Engage most of body muscles and mind too.

Economic Benefits

Due to the product of the garden, self-sufficiency is improved and the earnings from excess can be used to purchase other items than daily food needs. Home gardens contribute to a cohesive social environment; improve the house hold status and their wealth.

Gardening makes good use of space and protects the soil

We use the soil space around the house to plant a garden that gives all the benefits stated above and the one below. Plus, when we cover the soil with beneficial cover crops, erosion is reduced and regular bush growth around the house will minimised.

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