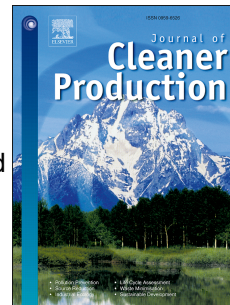


# Accepted Manuscript

Urban agriculture in Mexico City; Balancing between ecological, economic, social and symbolic value

Dr. Hans Dieleman, Professor in the College of Sciences and Humanities



PII: S0959-6526(16)00131-1

DOI: [10.1016/j.jclepro.2016.01.082](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2016.01.082)

Reference: JCLP 6670

To appear in: *Journal of Cleaner Production*

Received Date: 11 March 2015

Revised Date: 17 December 2015

Accepted Date: 27 January 2016

Please cite this article as: Dieleman H, Urban agriculture in Mexico City; Balancing between ecological, economic, social and symbolic value, *Journal of Cleaner Production* (2016), doi: 10.1016/j.jclepro.2016.01.082.

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

# Urban agriculture in Mexico City; Balancing between ecological, economic, social and symbolic value

*article for the special issue on urban ecological infrastructure for healthier cities: governance, management and engineering, Journal of Cleaner Production 83 (2014) 1-4*  
*Type of article proposed: case study*

Dr. Hans Dieleman  
Professor in the College of Sciences and Humanities,  
Center for Urban Studies  
Autonomous University of Mexico City  
Email: [hansdieleman@gmail.com](mailto:hansdieleman@gmail.com), [johannes.dieleman@uacm.edu.mx](mailto:johannes.dieleman@uacm.edu.mx)

## Abstract

The article presents urban agriculture as a practice that is gaining attention in many cities worldwide, and focuses in particular on the experiences in Mexico City. It first gives a general description of urban agriculture, introduces some conceptual dimensions and presents a policy framework to stimulate agriculture in cities worldwide. It then discusses current practices in the periurban, sub-urban and interurban parts of Mexico City, and analyses them in terms of their economic, ecological, social and symbolic dimension. The article shows that Mexico City produces some 20% of its own food, but that its importance in economic terms – seen as employment and income generation - is still limited. Its contribution to the ecological infrastructure of the city equally is limited but has potential, as recent policies firmly integrate urban agriculture in environmental policies of the city. An important challenge is to expand urban agriculture to the 22.000 m<sup>2</sup> of green roof gardens recently created in the city. In terms of the social dimension, it is observed that Mexico City clearly follows international policy recommendations, invests in capacity building and has policies to help vulnerable groups and women. Finally it addresses the symbolic dimension and observes that this is very important in Mexico City, as urban agriculture is seen as a way to restore some of the pre-Hispanic practices of the Aztecs especially the Floating gardens or Chinampas that have largely been lost due to colonization. Its final conclusion is that a policy to balance the economic, ecological, social and symbolic dimensions of urban agriculture is missing, and that such a policy is important, especially for the periurban zone of the city, where most of the food is produced.

## Key words:

Urban agriculture, Mexico City, food security, ecological urban infrastructure, resilience, symbolic and cultural meaning of urban agriculture

## 1. Introduction

Reviewing the rapidly growing amount of literature on urban agriculture, one is bound to arrive at the same conclusion as Michael Ableman did, some years ago: “A quiet revolution is stirring in our food system. It is not happening so much on the distant farms that still provide us with the majority of our food; it is happening in cities, neighborhoods, and

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5480533>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5480533>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)