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Urban Agriculture, a tool towards more resilient urban communities?

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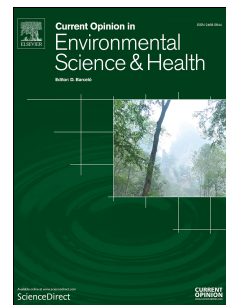
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11 **Key words:** Urban Agriculture, Pollution, Circular Economy, Food Sovereignty, Sustainability12 **Abstract:**

13 Urban agriculture is seen as having the potential to contribute to more sustainable and  
14 resilient urban communities, for its pivotal role in the implementation of circular economy  
15 strategies at the city level, closing energy and mass loops, while contributing to restore natural  
16 cycles and ecosystems' environmental services. In addition, Urban Agriculture can contribute  
17 to higher food sovereignty levels, and can be used as *leitmotif* to implement new education,  
18 participatory and citizenship strategies. There are nevertheless some problems in deploying  
19 urban agriculture, that has to do with the high level of pollutants in urban areas that may  
20 cause health problems if the pollutants enter the food chain. This paper discusses the risks and  
21 addresses the potential of urban agriculture for more sustainable and resilient cities.

22

23 **Introduction**

24 Urban agriculture is producing a quiet revolution stirring our food system [8]. Armar-Klemesu  
25 [1] estimated that 200 million urban residents produced food for the urban market, providing  
26 15 to 20% of the world's supply, mainly in developing countries. This amount has grown  
27 substantially ever since, despite the risks inherent in growing crops in potentially polluted

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