



SDG 2 - Indicator 2.3.4 - Healthy and affordable food choices

Self-grown Vegetables in Urban Areas

Vegetables are a source of vitamins, minerals, and fiber needed by every individual human being to be able to live a healthy life. However, nowadays vegetables are sometimes detected to have pesticide residues, used by farmers in controlling pests and diseases that attack plants. In addition, suitable and available land for crop cultivation is increasingly limited, as more agricultural land is being converted for economic and social purposes.



As an anticipatory step, Sriwijaya University, through professors and students of the Faculty of Agriculture made a movement to encourage urban communities to cultivate vegetables in the yard or in open spaces where it is still possible. One step further, the Faculty of Agriculture Team increased the intensity of cultivation at narrow spaces in residential locations by not only cultivating leaf vegetables floating on the surface of the water in concrete tubs, but also adding fruit vegetables that grow vines (lianas) to parapara made at a height of 2 meters above the concrete pool, and the fast growing freshwater tilapia fishes were cultivated within the pool.

This three-layer cultivation system was later named by mass media partners as 3-in-1 cultivation to contribute on meeting the

needs of protein (from fish), vitamins, minerals, and fiber (from leafy vegetables and fruity vegetables). This activity was widely covered by many local newspapers, including 'Sumatera Express' and broadcasted by local television (BL).