

Name: Sarthak Dixit

Mentor's Name:

College: IIIT Delhi

Date: 08 January 2024

Task Number: 2

Task2:Tree Plantation Drive

Introduction:

This task was not only limited to planting trees but also included documenting the process and sharing it on social media platforms to inspire a wider audience.

I couldn't find any nursery to get saplings. Therefore, I headed to the market of Harkesh Nagar and got a lot of old overgrown potatoes, onions, peas and aloe vera,

Strategy:

I prepared a small presentation for my 6 friends (mostly gardeners of IIIT Delhi), it was more like a talk than a formal lecture, I then invited them to join me on a plantation drive (I already had the saplings/seeds ready). We spent around 3 hours softening the ground, manuring it, placing the saplings/seeds and then finally irrigating the saplings and the seeds. In the process, we planted over 21 peas, 5 onion saplings, 6 potato pieces having 'the eyes of the potato', and 2 aloe vera plants. I then posted about it on Twitter to spread awareness, inspiring others to take on similar challenges.

Twitter links:

<https://twitter.com/Sarthak33738451/status/1747005601383911735>

<https://twitter.com/Sarthak33738451/status/1747006064649007336>



Sarthak Dixit

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so we went on a Tree Plantation Drive.....we planted peas, aloe vera, onions and potatoes.

Peas (*Pisum sativum*)

Ecological Value:

- Nitrogen-fixing for enhanced soil fertility
- Living mulch reducing weeds

Medicinal Value:

- Nutrient-rich and delicious
- Culinary and health advantages



Aloe Vera (*Aloe barbadensis miller*)

Ecological Value:

- Air purification abilities
- Adaptability and resilience
-

Medicinal Value:

- Soothing gel for sunburns and cuts
- Potential health benefits



Onions (*Allium cepa*)

Ecological Value:

- Natural pest-repelling properties
- Contribution to biodiversity

Medicinal Value:

- Antibacterial properties
- Culinary uses and health benefits



Potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*)

Ecological Value:

- Soil health and erosion prevention
- Promotion of microbial activity

Medicinal Value:

- Nutrient-rich when harvested
- Versatile use in cooking
- Caption: Potatoes: More than just a kitchen delight!



2:49 AM · Jan 16, 2024 · 5 Views

Challenges:

Its so hard to find seeds/saplings, no body even has any moong dal or infact even knows that you can grow potatoes out of potato buds or eyes. The shopkeepers/vendors whom I went asking for these saplings really think that 10 trees can even make a difference.

I had to search the whole Sabzi mandi but couldn't find a place to plant my plants, I finally got to know from our college gardener that I could plant just behind the place where he plants his plants. Definitely most of my friends are just so lazy to listen to my presentation. It was hard to convince them to join me on the plantation drive but soon we were enjoying it. I also had to be super selective about which plants I plant because some plants might not survive the harsh weather conditions of delhi but since I used to plant plants in my house, I was able to select the best options.

Observations/Result:

Initially, I was a bit hesitant and thought this would be a super boring task, but soon, in no time. I started enjoying the process, not to mention its positive environmental effects. Living in a place like Delhi, with the highest pollution in the world. It wasn't hard to see how this could help us. Moreover, I received a lot of positive feedback on Twitter regarding this challenge. Indeed, this was surely one of the best tasks given to me.

Presentation:

Tree Plantation Drive

By Sarthak Dixit

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photos:





















