Cardboard Box Garden

Traditional row crop funding is very labor intensive. The only problem being: the US Government is dramatically lowering the number of H-2A / H2B visas which are commonly used for agricultural / temporary workers from Mexico to work on temporary basis. So who is going to replace them? Some people feel that everyday Americans used to working in an office environment will fill those shoes. The reality? Not so much.

What is needed is a system to make it much easier to grow row crops, one that is not as labor intensive as in conventional farming system.

Introducing the Cardboard Box Garden

WHAT IS IT?

Desperate times call for desperate measures. Hunger is running rampant around the world. We simply need more people to start growing their own food. But what if you have no resources to set up a garden? We believe we have found an answer that everyone can embrace: growing crops in a cardboard box. It means that anyone with any well lit land – be it next to the sidewalk, behind the house, alongside the garage – can grow their own food. Plus, they can do it in literally the cheapest way possible: using trash carboard boxes as the growing vessel.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

You take an ordinary cardboard box, tape the edges to the inside, and then line the box with a heavy-duty industrial trash bag, taping it in place as well. Next, you poke a few holes in the bottom for drainage, and you're good to go.

WHERE DO YOU GET THE SOIL?

We dig the soil locally, but we 'burn' it in the sun to kill the nematodes. This SIGNIFICANTLY reduces the chance of crop failure.

HOW DO YOU FEED THE PLANTS?

For many years now, our organization has grown food using the "Kratky" system of hydroponics. In 2018 and 2019, WHT operated a community garden at "The Branch of Nashville", a food pantry / ESL training center. There we tested the use of liquid hydroponic nutrients with soil-based plants, and the results were nothing short of amazing. We will provide a supply of these nutrients with every "kit" we produce.

WHAT IS THE CARDBOARD BOX GARDEN "KIT?"

It is our mission to create a shrink wrapped "kit" that provides a villager with everything he or she needs to grow food plants. Inside the kit you will find:

- **TAPE** to seal the boxes
- **TARP 1:** A dark plastic sheet to burn the soil
- **TARP 2:** A clear plastic cover to go over the dirt
- **TRASH BAG:** A heavy industrial-strength large plastic bag

- **SEEDS:** Most popular / fastest growing crops of local preference. For example, in our garden photos below they are growing Sukuma, which is basically Collard Greens.
- **FERTILIZER:** A 6-month supply of MasterBlend fertilizer, sodium nitrate, and magnesium sulfate (Epsom salt.) These are all-natural minerals and they assure that the food has the maximum nutrition possible. All food grown officially categorizes as organic.
- **SIMPLE GARDENING TOOLS:** A shovel, a 3-prong claw, gloves, etc.
- **INSTRUCTION BOOK:** Written in the local dialect(s) with simple illustrations. Plus there will be a link to the YouTube videos showing how the system works. Many villagers have cell phones in remote parts of the world.

All of these items are put into a shrink-wrap bag to keep them together. The boxes will be delivered flat to the village and the appropriate number of boxes and kits will be determined by the service organization.

WHO WILL DISTRIBUTE THE CARDBOARD BOX GARDEN "KITS?"

WHT works in sub-Saharan Africa exclusively in Uganda. But this idea will work almost ANYWHERE. Our goal is to make this a viral fundraiser: $10 plants a garden in Africa.

WHEN WILL THE KITS BE AVAILABLE?

WHT is testing this program now at both of our Uganda locations. We hope to begin production and sale of the kits in the fall of 2026.