### Welcome to the January 2018 DCGO Presentation Report on the Urban Double Crop Project

## Agenda

- •Reason for the Project
- Project Sponsor
- Project Goals
- Specialized Tools Tested
- Method of Implentation
- •Results to Date
- •The Next Step

# Why do It

- Warm season grasses like Bermuda go dormant in cool weather
- At the same time cool season crops like Swiss chard and broccoli are planted.
- Researchers want to know if home owners could make use of an area they planted in warm season grass to grow cool season crops and have a good lawn the following spring.
- They also wanted to test two new tools for the home gardner.

## Who Ran the Project

- The project was conceived and conducted by the UGA research station in Griffin
- Dr Ellen Bauske Program Coordinator UGA Center for Urban Agriculture/Plant Pathology headed the project with assistance from the turff management group in Griffin.
- Sheri Dorn the Coordinator for the Master Gardener Program at the UGA facillated the master gardners' role in the project

# Object of the Project

- Grow and harvest butter crunch lettuce, bright light Swiss chard and lieutenant broccoli in a Bermuda lawn area.
- Compare the harvest to the harvest of the same crops grown at the same time in a traditional bed in the same location.
- Restore the lawn for the following spring.
- Determine how useful lawn pots and a water drill are in home lawn gardening.

## Tools Tested

- Lawn Pots
  - Helped a little on weed controll
  - Good for lawn maintenance
  - Made planting and weeding somewhat difficult because of the four inch diameter
- Water drill
  - Not rugged construction







## Implemention Plan

- Three treatments of 12 plants each were planted
  - 4 butterhead lettuce, 4 swiss chard and 4 broccoli
  - Control in established garden
  - Lawn Pot
  - Lawn Hole
- Plants would be supplied by UGA for all three treatments
- Fertilizer and potting soil supplied for both lawn treatments
- Fertilizing and watering instructions were given for lawn treatments, garden treatment was maintained as would normally be done.

# Planting

- Plants were shipped from Griffin
  - Arrived 15 September
  - Planted 21 September after a brief hardening off
- Raised bed plants were planted by the regular method
- Both lawn treatments were planted in 4 inch holes created with the water drill
- Lawn pots were installed in the lawn pot treatment
- In both lawn treatments planting soil supplied by UDA was added and the plants were fertilized with fertilizer suppled by UGA





### Problems Encountered

- Poor condition of plants when received
  - Shipped by UPS
  - Bonnie plants in 4 inch pots
  - Had not been hardened off
- Warm weather and soil temperature for first few weeks
- Poor soil in area of lawn treatments
- Insects early in the project
  - Treated with organic insect control methods

### Maintenance

- Raised beds watered by irrigation system
- Lawn treatments watered by hand one half inch per week minium including rain fall
- Lawn treatments were fertilized at planting and after six weeks, 2 tablespoons per plant.
- Weeding as necessary
  - Weeding the lawn pot treatment difficult because of the 4 inch insert my hadn did not fit easily inside this was included in report on lawn pot performance.
- Lawn treatments sprayed with organic garlic based insect repellant
- Raised bed treatment was sprayed with an organic commercial insect repellant

#### Harvest

- Produce was weighed as harvested and weight of harvest by treatment and species was recorded and reported.
- Most of the harvest was donated to St. Patrick's food bank
  - When the harvest was very small it was not donated
- First harvest was October 12 Swiss chard and lettuce from the raised bed
- Last Harvest was December 15<sup>th</sup> Swiss chard and broccoli from the lawn pots and lawn hole treatments



Week End date	RB Let	RB SC	RB Broc	LH Let	LH SC	LH Broc	LP Let	LP SC	LP Broc	Total
No 3 10/14	158.5	88.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	247
No 4 10/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No 5 10/28	45	0	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	100
No 6 11/4	0	0	0	0	27	0	39	20	0	86
No 7 11/11	0	0	0	21	8	0	37	21	0	87
No 8 11/18	0	0	0	0	12	0	12	15	0	39
No 9 11/25	0	40	0	0	19	0	38	2	0	99
No 10 12/2	0	30	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No 11 12/9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No 12 12/16	0	0	0	0	4	42	0	8	45	97
Total	203.5	158.5	112	76	70	42	127	58	45	755

Weight in grams

# Monitoring and Reporting

- Weekly reports made on website set up by project head for reports
  - Number of plants living of each species by treatment
  - Grams harvested of each species by treatment
  - Comments on each species by treatment including photos
  - General comments including photos

## Reporting Continued

- Data was inputed to this website by Janet Hanser
  - Special thanks to Janet for this and for doing the raised bed poprtion of the experiment
- Each location was assigned a code name to maintain confidentiatily.
  - Only entering site could see their data
  - Locations are not known to participants





#### LET'S COLLECT THE DATA FROM YOUR EXPERIMENT

**Record Your Data** 

Step1of5-Date

0%

#### I'm Entering Data For The Week Of: \*

- O September 24 30
- O October 1 7
- O October 8 14
- O October 15 21
- O October 22 28
- O October 29 November 4
- O November 5 11
- O November 12 18
- O November 19 25
- O November 26 December 2
- O December 3 9
- O December 10 16

#### My Plot Is: \*

- O Bloomin' Bauske
- Cosmos
- O Crocosmia
- O Hosta
- Lantana
- O Lavender
- O Lobelia
- O Petunia



### Now What

- Monitor area where vegtables were planted for the recovery of the Bermuda grass
- Monthly reports including will be made on the progress of the Bermuda grass recovery
- Project will be complete when the recovery is complete or mid June if Bermuda grass does not fully recover

#### Questions

Thank you for attending