



Date - 1/4/2024

2. Fresh and Local Produce through Organic Gardening

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham's internal portal highlights the university's commitment to organic gardening, especially at the Amritapuri campus where students and faculty actively cultivate an organic vegetable garden. The garden produces a variety of seasonal vegetables including spinach, okra, tomatoes, cauliflower, pumpkins, bananas, tapioca, green chilies, and many more using natural, chemical-free cultivation methods.

The garden was inspired by Chancellor Amma's vision, with students dedicating time daily to tend, water, and nurture the plants. They follow organic farming practices such as composting, crop rotation, and pest management without chemical inputs. Every Wednesday is set aside for collective student gardening efforts, fostering mindfulness, responsibility, and connection with nature.

Student volunteers learn essential agro-ecological skills like vermi-composting, keyhole gardening, and sack gardening on balconies to maximize nutrient-dense home food production, even in limited spaces. These hands-on experiences serve as living laboratories in sustainable agriculture and promote biodiversity on campus.

The garden also presents a unique integration of academic learning and spiritual motivation. Students offer their first harvest to Amma, reinforcing a philosophy of service and harmony with nature. The initiative helps reduce food procurement costs for campus kitchens and encourages fresh, healthy, and locally grown produce in daily campus meals. It also strengthens the university's outreach by spreading organic farming knowledge to nearby communities.

This organic gardening program can be further detailed on the [amrita.internal](#) website's Agriculture and Sustainability pages, outlining the range of crops grown, student involvement schedules, educational workshops, and the environmental benefits of organic cultivating practices. Links to volunteer sign-up, composting clubs, and organic farming webinars would support ongoing engagement and learning.

This expanded content provides a comprehensive overview for the internal website audience, connecting Amrita's cultivation efforts with ecological stewardship, nutritional security, and student empowerment through practical sustainability education.