Food Production - Planting Space Calculation

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Are you planning to produce your own foods? Many of us do not have a huge planting area so making efficient use of the existing garden space is vital. It starts with what we want to achieve. If you want to consume one-dish that consists of potatoes, tomatoes, and pepper every day, the simple formula below might help:

The one-dish recipe requires (This is just example):
-potato (0.3 lbs)
-tomato (0.2 lbs)
-pepper (0.1 lbs)

Data:
-A potato plant requires 2 sq ft to grow and takes around 90 days to be ready to harvest. One plant can produce 5 lbs of potatoes.
-A tomato plant needs 3 sq ft growing area and requires 75 days to yield. A single plant yields approximately 7 lbs of fruit.
-Peppers will take 1 sq ft per plant. You can expect to grow peppers from seed to harvest in 80 days. The possible yield per plant is 5 lbs.

As mentioned previously, what we want to know is the total growing area that is required to get a one-dish recipe containing those veggies every day.

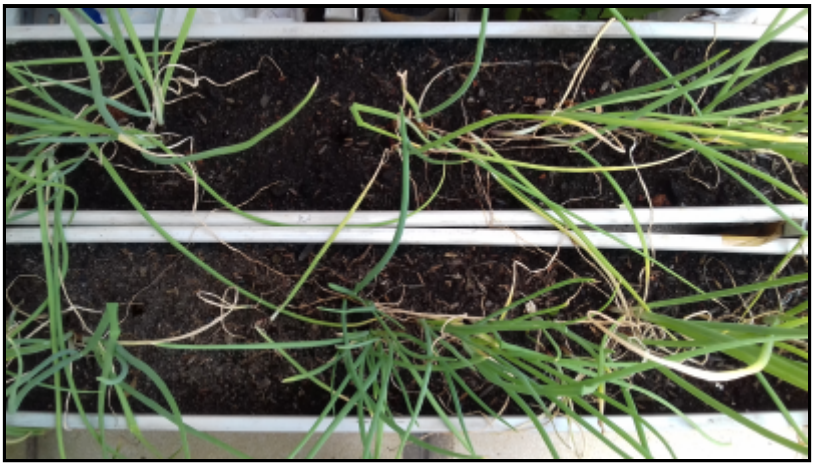
Potato:
5 (lbs per plant) / 0.3 (lbs per day) = 16.6 (days per plant)
90 (days) / 16.6 (days per plant) = 5.4 (plants) => 6 (plants)
6 (plants) * 2 (sq ft per plant) = 12 sq ft

Tomato:
7 (lbs per plant) / 0.2 (lbs per day) = 35 (days per plant)
75 (days) / 35 (days per plant) = 2.14 (plants) => 3 (plants)
3 (plants) * 3 (sq ft per plant) = 9 sq ft

Pepper:
5 (lbs per plant) / 0.1 (lbs per day) = 50 (days per plant)
80 (days) / 50 (days per plant) = 1.6 (plants) => 2 (plants)
2 (plants) * 1 (sq ft per plant) = 2 sq ft

So, the total growing area needed is 12 + 9 + 2 = 23 sq ft. To turn it into a business, just multiply the result with the number of plates that you want to serve.

That is just a rough calculation. Something that I apply myself (with different crops). Each of the plants is grown in a separate container. To get the exact number of yield and other data, you need to experiment by growing some. Definitely, many variables such as plant varieties and weather conditions affect yield. And of course, by applying vertical gardening, the same amount of foods can be produced with a much less space.



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