Run by the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona, Las Milpitas de Cottonwood is a six-acre community farm that serves as a gardening and educational cornerstone for Tucson. At no cost, Las Milpitas offers local residents the materials and support necessary for growing their own food, thereby making fresh produce more accessible to the wider community. In addition, Las Milpitas provides seasonal workshops for gardeners to learn essential and advanced skills in organic desert food production.

**GARDENER DEMOGRAPHICS / OUT OF 26 RESPONDENTS**

**GENDER**
- **61.5%** Female
- **26.9%** Male

**AGE**
- **18-24** (3.85%)
- **25-44** (61.54%)
- **45-64** (23.08%)
- **65+** (11.54%)

**ETHNICITY**
- Caucasian (26.92%)
- Hispanic (57.69%)
- African American (3.85%)
- Native American (7.69%)
- Other (3.85%)

**WHY COMMUNITY MEMBERS JOIN LAS MILPITAS:**
"I'M TRYING TO FOCUS ON BETTERING MYSELF & BE THE CHANGE I WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD!"
8 Gardeners (30.8%) reported that they are immigrants.

**Education Level**

- No High School Diploma: 23.08%
- High School Diploma: 19.23%
- Associates: 3.85%
- Bachelors: 38.46%
- Masters: 11.54%
- PhD: 0%
- Unknown: 3.85%

"I'm a teacher for special needs students & I want to teach them a skill."

**Household Income Level**

- $0-$12,000: 19.23%
- $12,001-$24,000: 19.23%
- $24,001-$36,000: 15.38%
- $36,001-$48,000: 11.54%
- $48,001-$60,000: 0%
- $60,001-$72,000: 7.69%
- $72,001+: 3.85%
- Unknown: 23.08%

*To reaffirm, zero gardeners reported having a PhD.
**Does not factor in number of persons living in household; To reaffirm, zero gardeners reported earning an income within the range of $48,001-$60,000.
### Time Spent Gardening

#### Length of Garden Membership
- New Member (38.46%)
- <1 year (15.38%)
- 1 year (11.54%)
- 2 years (15.38%)
- 3 years (3.85%)
- 4+ years (3.85%)
- Unknown (11.54%)

#### Seasons Gardeners Plant
- Spring: 19 (73.1%)
- Summer: 14 (53.9%)
- Fall: 12 (46.2%)
- Winter: 17 (65.4%)

#### The Two Most Cited Factors Influencing the Amount of Time Gardeners Spend Working on Their Plot Are "Work" & "The Weather"
- 16 Gardeners (61.5%) stated that they spend enough time tending to their plot.
- 17 (65.4%) work
- 7 (23.1%) the weather
ACCESSING THE COMMUNITY FARM

THE AVERAGE TRAVEL TIME TO THE COMMUNITY FARM IS 14 MINUTES

WHY COMMUNITY MEMBERS JOIN LAS MILPITAS:

"MY FAMILY GARDENED HERE & I LOVE BEING ABLE TO GROW THINGS."

ON AVERAGE, PEOPLE LIVE 3.75 MILES AWAY FROM THE COMMUNITY FARM (RANGING FROM 0.15 MILES TO 11 MILES)

GARDENER HOUSEHOLD LOCATIONS & TIME TRAVELED IN RELATION TO THE COMMUNITY FARM

Map created by Daoqin Tong
14 gardeners (53.8%) solely rely on driving for traveling to the community farm.

4 of the 5 gardeners** that reported that traveling to the community farm is inconvenient have an average travel time of 28.75 minutes.

18 gardeners (69.2%) perceive traveling to the community farm as convenient.

The 6 gardeners that reported that they do not spend enough time working in their plot have an average travel time of 22.5 minutes.

*To reaffirm, zero gardeners indicated that they use public transportation when traveling to the garden.

**One gardener did not report a time.
RECEIVING & APPLYING GARDENING INFORMATION

20 gardeners (76.95%) stated that they are able to identify & fix leaks in their garden plot.

5 gardeners stated that they are unable to identify & fix leaks.

All are women & 4 are new members of the community farm.

14 (53.8%) printed handouts
9 (34.6%) one-on-one training
18 (69.2%) mini-workshops on planting/volunteer days

Preferred method of receiving gardening information.

Of the 7 gardeners that preferred to receive only printed handouts or one-on-one trainings, 6 bike to the garden.

Why community members join Las Milpitas:
“TO GROW HEALTHY FOOD & BE MORE CONNECTED TO A COMMUNITY, [AS WELL AS] DO GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.”

Survey completed as a component of the project ‘Greening the Food Deserts of Tucson, Arizona’ in collaboration with The Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona’s Las Milpitas de Cottonwood Community Farm.

Research Team: Stephanie Buechler, Daoqin Tong, Ashley Erbe, & Emily Marderness
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