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Master Thesis Defense

Entitled

Can home garden be a safe haven in times of crisis! House Holders Attitude,
preferences and willingness to have Home Garden at time of pandemics

by

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Abstract

Keeping fit and being healthy are important at any time, especially during the coronavirus pandemic. Having a garden or outdoor space, provides the opportunity to have a place that can be used to maintain a healthy life and well-being of an individual. The coronavirus lockdown has provided the time and opportunity to create a garden which has been always wanted by householders. Garden is a plot of ground where herbs, fruits, flowers, vegetables and etc. are cultivated. Al Ain City is called “the garden city of UAE” and home garden is very common among the residents. The majority of Al Ain home gardens are mainly utilized for aesthetics purpose; not for family consumption. The main objective of this study is to analyze the householder’s awareness and willingness to have home gardens which can enhance their lifestyle, their demographic characteristics and etc. A logistic model was used to analyze the factors affecting the respondent’s preferences of having the garden. According to the results, while the factors such as owning the house, size of backyard, income level, education level, and etc. increase the probability of having the garden, having full-time job and household size had negative effect. As a conclusion, it is highly recommended to householders to have home gardens which can provide a quality life styles, some fresh vegetable and fruits as alternatives to the retail market, and a leisure time during the pandemic.

Keywords: Pandemic, Home Garden, Lifestyle