The Greater Adelaide community recognises a **correlation between growing food at home** and **reducing community vulnerability to climate change**.

Can we creatively foster community resilience from the home garden?

Hannah Thwaites[1,3], Melissa Nursey-Bray[3], Timothy Cavagnaro[1,2]

Background

- Climate change affects every inhabited region upon the planet.
- Ability to foster & enhance resilience is vital for the survival of communities (which typically share geographic boundaries and fate).

  H1. Community connectivity provides opportunities to work together to use adaptive or transformative responses against climate change.

  H2. Household urban agriculture, as a highly-accessible Nature-based Solution, could be used to build community resilience in the face of climate change.

Project Aim

- Understand potential role of urban agriculture in building community resilience in the face of climate change.
- Identify the connections and barriers experienced by communities (wanting to be) engaged in urban agriculture.

Methods

1. Stakeholder meetings to ensure research relevance
2. Semi-structured **survey** '*Urban agriculture and community resilience in the face of climate change: Practices and Perceptions*'
   - Conducted online *November-December 2022*
   - 564 responses received from Greater Adelaide (metropolitan) community across 18+ Local Government Areas

Results

84%

1. More than 4 in 5 respondents currently grow food at home.

67%

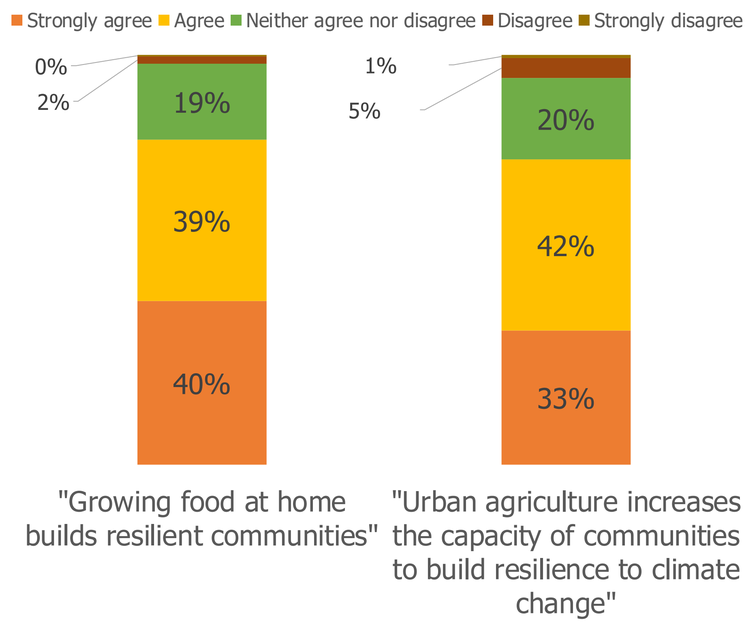
2. More than two-thirds feel this practice connects them with others [and over half of non-connected respondents desire connection].

72%

3. Over two-thirds are currently feeling the impacts of climate change.

4. 75%+ (strongly) agreed that:

growing food at home builds resilient communities;
urban agriculture increases the capacity of communities to build resilience to climate change.



Top 5 limitations to growing food at home (n = 533)	
Limited **time** available for gardening	55%
Lack of **space**/land	49%
Cost of resources	29%
Plant pests and diseases	21%
Limited gardening skills/knowledge	21%

Top 5 change factors for growing food at home (n = 528)	
Availability of **time** to garden [increase]	64%
Availability of suitable **space**/land [increase]	44%
Availability of food to buy [decrease]	31%
Skills/knowledge [increase]	31%
Cost of living [increase]	29%

Future Work

- Delve deeper into suggested range of local, communal and institutional supports suggested to help communities overcome urban agriculture barriers; and what constitutes 'resilient communities'.
- Undertake qualitative community corroboration of survey data to ensure population representativeness and depth of data.

[1]School of Agriculture, Food & Wine, The University of Adelaide
[2]Office of Graduate Research / College of Science and Engineering, Flinders University
[3]School of Social Sciences, The University of Adelaide