Massey University

Community Gardening Club

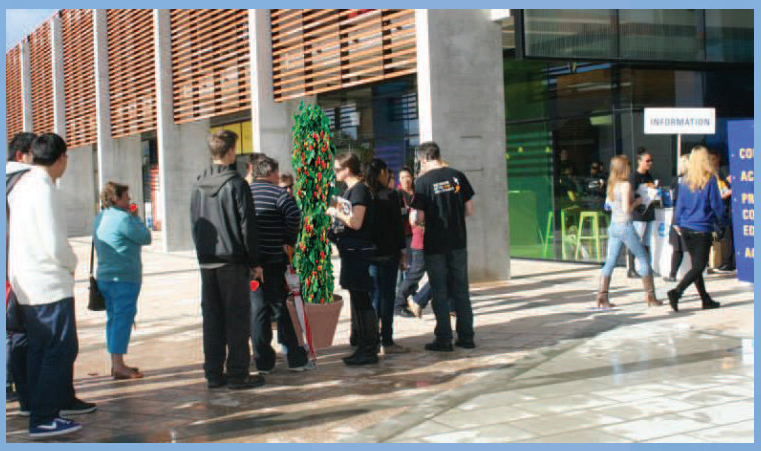
presents

Strawberry Towers

Strawberry Towers are a column of pipe, with rows of holes drilled in them. Strawberry plants are grown in the holes, creating a vertical column of deliciousness.

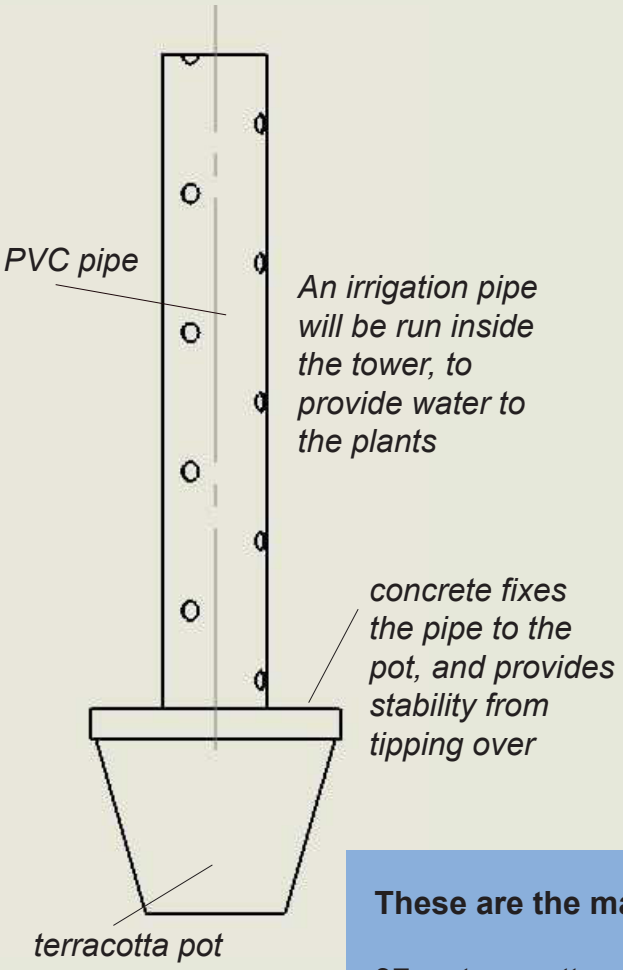
The Strawberry Towers will be brought out when the fruit are in season, for all students and staff to enjoy for free.

This is a fun way to increase awareness of the Garden Club, and is Stage 1 of the Edible Landscape Initiative, which will be unveiled later in the year.



The Towers will be kept at the soon to be proposed ‘Social Area’ at the Club Gardens.

Materials and Costings



These are the tools required to make any strawberry towers

power drill	1	$39.98
54mm holesaw	1	$23.49
arbor for holesaw	1	$13.79
hacksaw	1	$9.50
	sub total = $86.76	

These are the materials required to make any strawberry towers

quickset concrete 25KG bag	1	$11.78
scoria 25L bag	1	$8.67
sand, washed 20kg bag	1	$8.67
irrigation pipe, 20meter coil	1	$7.52
weedmat 20meters	1	$16.98
	sub total = $53.62	

These are the materials required, per tower

37cm terracotta pot	1	$29.98
irrigation fitting, tee	1	$0.97
irrigation fitting, end plug	1	$0.77
200mm PVC pipe, 2.5m	1	$95.02
	sub total = $126.74	

The PVC pipe is by far the most expensive part of this project. 200mm diameter pipe is selected, to give the strawberry plants more space for their root structures. This will mean a healthier plant that produces more fruit. A smaller pipe can be used, which will cost less, but may mean stunted plant growth due to being root bound.

These are the total calculated costs for the project, and the effective cost per tower when the number of towers is scaled up

# of towers	total project cost	effective cost per tower
1	$267.12	$267.12
2	$393.85	$196.93
3	$520.59	$173.53
4	$647.32	$161.83
5	$774.06	$154.81
6	$900.80	$150.13
7	$1,027.53	$146.79
8	$1,154.27	$144.28
9	$1,281.00	$142.33
10	$1,407.74	$140.77

The lifespan of the Strawberry Towers is expected is exceed 10 years. Although the soil and plants may need to be replaced from time to time, the pipe-setup will be able to be reused many times over.