

Aquaponics In The News



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You may not have heard of aquaponics, although you have probably heard of hydroponics. Three or four decades ago hydroponics was considered futuristic, although the concept has been around since at least the Seventeenth Century. Futuristic or not, hydroponic foods have often been criticised as inferior to foods grown in soil: inferior nutritionally, inferior in taste. The solution is to add another ingredient – fish!

If you are not *au fait* with the concept, here is [a brief introduction](#). Meanwhile, here is an up to the minute [report from the United States](#). This modest operation uses catfish and koi carp (the standard); although it hasn't been up and running for long, it is not only successful but is helping to spread the word. You will also find many videos about aquaponics on YouTube in case you want to have a go yourself.

On the other side of the world, a teenage girl has started not only her own aquaponics farm her but her own business. The system she uses is **her own design**. Not bad for a young 'un!



SchoolGrown's aquaponics farm (Credits: SchoolGrown)

Finally, another report from the US. Ouroboros Farms is a **commercial aquaponics company** in San Francisco, but under its roof is a not-for-profit organisation called **SchoolGrown** which is described as an aquaponics classroom, as you will probably have guessed from the name. Perhaps American and other universities should take a greater interest in the feeding of future generations; they could do this by replacing their **gender studies departments** with aquaponics courses.

Talking of which, next week there are aquaponics course at Ouroboros, from July 23-6. Registration is now open.

Ouroboros has two sister farms: one in Colorado; one in Florida. Perhaps one day we will see one not in every state but every city, town and village in the US and throughout the world. If you think that is unrealistic, there is already an alternative: Monsanto!