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Lovely flowers and greens for comfort

Abdul Razak Mohamed

GARDENING isn't confined to flowers or potted plants only. Plant vegetables too. You get to enjoy your garden and harvest fresh vegetables from it.

My favourite plants include bougainvilleas. I also plant hibiscus (Bunga Raya). I have tried stem-grafting, using eight varieties, but the flowers only last for one or two days.

It's the same with bougainvilleas. I've stem-grafted them, so one can see a lot of different flowers from one plant. Some are potted while others are planted directly into the ground.

I don't know about other places, but in Terengganu, bougainvillea plants are given such names such as "Dr Mahathir", "hujan panas", "ice-cream" and "sireh junjung".

I like Dr Mahathir and ice-cream the best because of the colour of the flowers.

Since my garden is quite big, I've built a gazebo in it. There is also a small fish pond where I rear catfish, puyu and haruan.

Beside the drain around the house, I have planted vegetables such as ladies fingers, sawi, long beans, cucumbers and chillies.

I thus have fresh supplies of vegetables every day, which I also give to friends and neighbours.

I also have a few varieties of jambu ayer which fruit all year round. A friend gave me a jackfruit tree which bore fruit after less than two years.

As for the water supply, I get it from underground. It is a sort of tube-well, which is connected to a small suction pump. It consumes very little electricity and the water is used for my plants.

Beside my house there is a football field. In between the fences is a sort of no-man's land. After fencing it at both ends, I planted bananas, pineapples, jambu mawar and a few date trees (kurma).

I'm not sure if the last will bear fruit but it is all right if it doesn't. At least I can watch the trees grow.

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