

# London's Subterranean Farm

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Two entrepreneurs Richard Ballard and Steven Dring have set up a 2.5 acre crop farm below the Northern Line, near Clapham North in London.

The first test garden, which has been up and running for a few months as part of a commercial project called Growing Underground, backed by television chef Michel Roux junior.

The “farm” itself consists of table-height beds of hemp in which salads and herbs are being grown hydroponically. That means nutrient-rich water floods the beds once a day before being slowly drained away, with no soil involved in the process. Above each bed are strips of special low energy LED lights.

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