

Abstract

This work is based on the article by Jan Keller (2000) – *Praise of Gardeners*, in which Jan Keller mentioned garden allotments as places distant to globalized economy and consumerist lifestyle of today's world. The aim is to verify if the content of this article corresponds to the true situation in the selected garden allotments in Prague. This work can help to get an idea of the benefits of the garden allotments not only for gardeners but for all inhabitants of the capital. For this purpose, I conducted a field research accompanied by a number of interviews in the garden allotments. Technomat and Cibulka in Prague. I have gained a lot of information about life in the garden allotments as well as about the relationship of the respondents to their own gardens. I watched whether and to what extent is the life in the garden allotments influenced by the economic, ecological, social and property-legal aspects. Research shows that gardeners actually live a non-consumerist way of life and partly resist market mechanism, but only inside of the garden allotments, not outside. Their environmentally friendly behavior is due to external factors rather than internal as personal beliefs. The garden allotments do not have such an important role in social terms as it may seem at the first sight, but on the other hand the property-legal situation has a very significant influence on respondents' preferences and may also reflect a general view of the garden allotments. In practice this can help to explain both attitudes, positive and negative, toward garden allotments. However, all these could be fully confirmed or refuted only if this study will be compared with similar studies of garden allotments in the capital. After then we can accept any general conclusion.

Key words

Garden allotments, Technomat, Cibulka, Prague, sustainable development, gardeners, property-legal aspects, urban planning.