

# PRODUCT NEWS

SPACESAVER CORPORATION

## HYDROPONIC HERBS IN MANHATTAN

Spacesaver helps an urban farm gain 30% more space



Manhattan chefs want to serve meals made with the finest, freshest ingredients, and they're willing to pay top dollar for them. But supplying fresh foods year-round can be difficult for farmers, particularly with New York's cold winter climate and the logistical challenges of transporting produce into the city from farms and greenhouses in the countryside.

With Spacesaver's help, a Manhattan entrepreneur has devised a creative solution to this problem: he has transformed a restaurant basement into a thriving hydroponic herb-growing business. The enterprise, called Farm.One, grows between 100 to 200 different varieties of high-value herbs and microgreens year-round. Located in Manhattan's Tribeca neighborhood, the farm is about 20 minutes away by bike or subway from most of the restaurants that it supplies.

In an effort to maximize space in the small room, Farm.One CEO Robert Laing sought a way to eliminate wasted aisle space between the growing racks. He found information about the ActivRAC® Mobilized Storage System online and he worked with the Manhattan-based Spacesaver distributor to design the layout. "It gave us about 30 percent more space in the room, which is obviously a really big deal for us," he said. "It's a beautiful piece of engineering." The farm uses proprietary automated systems for lighting and irrigation, along with natural pest control methods, to keep the plants healthy without artificial fertilizers or pesticides.

Note: ActivRAC is available in stainless steel, which is recommended for humid environments.

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