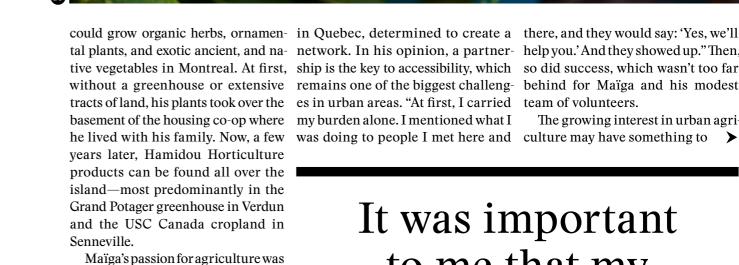


01 USC Canada's urban farm in Montreal populated with ancient, exotic, and native plants.

02 Hamidou Abdoulaye Maïga picking fresh peanuts.

03 Freshly picked African eggplant.





sown a long time ago. Parallel to his career as an accountant, Maïga worked on his family's farm in Niger, where he was in charge of delivering fruits and vegetables. "We were making organic baskets without even knowing such a thing existed." While he nurtured the dream of living on his native land, the lack of access to training and resources was a harsh reality he couldn't ignore. So he ended up

could grow organic herbs, ornamen- in Quebec, determined to create a there, and they would say: 'Yes, we'll tal plants, and exotic ancient, and nanetwork. In his opinion, a partner-helpyou.' And they showed up." Then, tive vegetables in Montreal. At first, ship is the key to accessibility, which without a greenhouse or extensive remains one of the biggest challeng- behind for Maïga and his modest tracts of land, his plants took over the es in urban areas. "At first, I carried team of volunteers. basement of the housing co-op where my burden alone. I mentioned what I

so did success, which wasn't too far

The growing interest in urban agri-

It was important to me that my girls kept in touch with their African roots.



