

SEED SAVING BASICS

Planting for Seed Saving

Plant open pollinated varieties

Learn which varieties cross pollinate (If plant has same genus and species it can cross pollinate so the next year the saved seeds may not produce the same fruit.)

Provide adequate spacing or barriers to prevent cross pollination

Growing for Seed Saving

Provide adequate fertilizer, water and light

Grow varieties that will fully mature in your region

Collecting Seed

Vegetables and fruits: choose healthiest plants, best tasting fruit or vegetable

Flowers: choose the best plant in terms of color, yield, vigor, stature and overall appearance

Seed must be fully mature (flower dead and brown; vegetable or fruit over-ripe or brown)

Dry: Seeds are collected from plant without processing

Wet: Seeds whole fruit or vegetable is collected and seeds extracted

Processing Seed

Dry seed: spread seed on screen or parchment paper to finish drying

Wet Seed: ferment for 3-4 days then spread on screen to dry (ie tomatoes)

Wet Seed: scoop seed from fruit or vegetable, wash and spread on screen to dry (ie squash)

Dry seed out of direct sunlight

Do not dry seeds on paper towels - wet seeds will stick to the paper towel

Storing Seeds

Allow seed to remain on screens until completely dry

Store in a paper envelope or sealed container

Label with seed variety and date collected

Store in a dry, dark area with a consistent temperature of 55° to 65°

Sources: Seed Savers Exchange: <https://seedsavers.org/learn/seed-saving/>

Washington State University Seed Saving: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgsc2016/files/387125.pdf>

Seed Saving from OSU: extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/flowers-shrubs-trees/step-step-guide-saving-seed

Botanical Names Basics

GENUS: Group within a plant family

EX: *Cucumis melo* - *Cucumis* is the genus

SPECIES: Identifies one type of plant

EX: *melo* is the species in *Cucumis melo* or *sativus* is the species in *Cucumis sativus*. Both a type of cucumber.

VARIETIES: Varieties occur in nature - most are true to type. The full name for Straight Eight Cucumber:

Cucumis sativus var. Straight Eight

CULTIVAR: Means "cultivated variety"- A cultivar was selected and cultivated by humans. The full

name for Summer Top cucumber: *Cucumis sativus* 'Summer Top'

(A variety is always written in lower case and italicized. It also often has the abbreviation "var." for variety preceding it. The first letter of a cultivar is capitalized and the term is never italicized.)

SEED	BOTANICAL NAME	POLLINATION TYPE	
ARTICHOKES	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	insect	Annual
ARUGULA	<i>Eruca sativa</i>	insect	Annual
ARUGULA WILD	<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>	insect	Annual
BEANS	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	self/insect	Annual
BEETS	<i>Beta vulgaris</i>	wind	Biennial
BROCCOLI	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Annual
BROCCOLI RAAB	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	insect	Annual
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Biennial
CABBAGE	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Biennial
CABBAGE CHINESE	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	insect	Annual
CARROTS	<i>Daucus carota</i>	insect	Biennial
CAULIFLOWER	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Biennial
CELERY	<i>Apium graveolens</i>	insect	Biennial
CHARD, SWISS	<i>Veta vulgaris</i>	wind	Biennial
COLLARDS	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Biennial
CORN	<i>Zea mays</i>	wind	Annual
CUCUMBERS	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	insect	Annual
CUCUMBER ARMENIAN	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	insect	Annual
EGGPLANT	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	self/insect	Annual
ENDIVE	<i>Cichorium endivia</i>	self	Annual
FENNEL	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	insect	Annual
KALE	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Biennial
KOHLRABI	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	insect	Biennial
LEEKS	<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	insect	Biennial
LETTUCE	<i>Lactuca sativa</i>	self	Annual
MELONS	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	insect	Annual
MUSTARD GREENS	<i>Brassica juncea</i>	insect	Annual
ONIONS	<i>Allium cepa</i>	insect	Biennial
PEAS	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	self	Annual
PEPPERS	<i>Capsicum annum, baccatum, chinesis</i>	self/insect	Annual
PUMPKINS	<i>Cucurbita maximum</i>	insect	Annual
RADISH	<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	insect	Annual
RUTABAGAS	<i>Brassica napus</i>	insect	Annual
SPINACH	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i>	wind	Annual
SQUASH SUMMER	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i>	insect	Annual
SQUASH WINTER	<i>Cucurbita maximum, pepo, moschata</i>	insect	Annual
TOMATOES	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	self/insect	Annual
TURNIP	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	insect	Biennial
WATERMELON	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	insect	Annual

