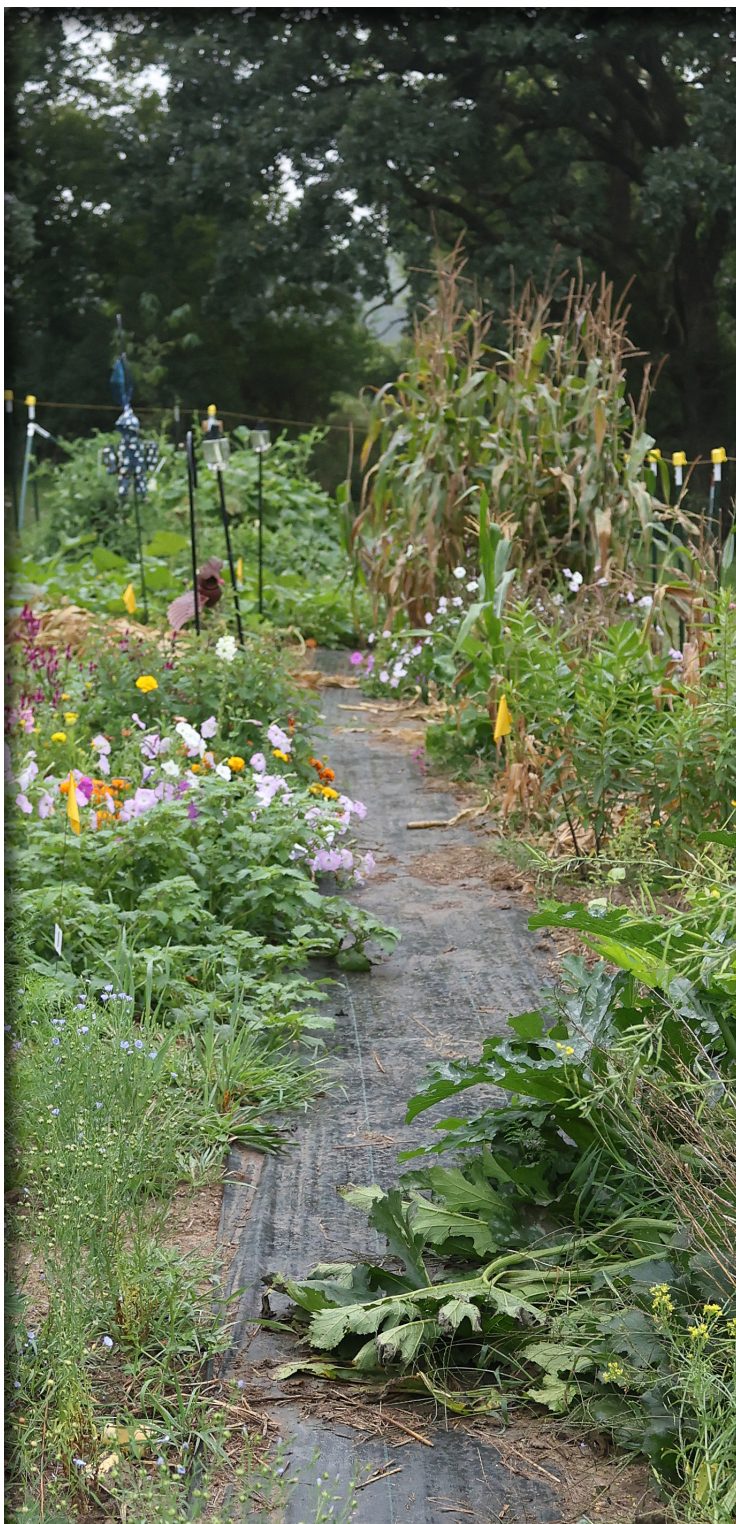




Seed Savers
EXCHANGE®



PLANTING AND SEED SAVING GUIDE



The chart on the following pages will help you plant, grow, and save seeds from your garden. We encourage you to try saving seeds from one of your favorite varieties this year, especially if you have never saved seeds before.

When saving seed in your home garden, keep these tips in mind:

- 1 Start with open-pollinated or heirloom seeds.**
- 2 Determine whether your plants are annuals or biennials.** Annuals produce seed in their first year of life. Biennials usually require two growing seasons to produce seed.
- 3 Learn how your plants produce seeds.**
 - Self-pollinating plants, like most varieties of peas, beans, tomatoes, and lettuce, will almost always produce seeds identical to the parent seeds.
 - Insect-pollinated plants, like melons, are slightly more difficult to save seeds from because insects can transfer pollen between different varieties.
 - Wind-pollinated crops such as corn require isolation by distance or the use of techniques such as hand-pollination can help maintain varieties' characteristics.
- 4 Know when your seeds are ready to harvest.** Some can be harvested when the fruits are ripe enough to eat, but others need to stay on the vine longer.

If you are saving seeds from a variety that is rare, or if you intend to share your seeds with others, take the time to learn more about seed saving in order to protect the unique flavor and appearance of your variety. For detailed information on planting, growing, and saving seeds for every crop in our catalog, go to seedsavers.org.



SEED SAVERS EXCHANGE PLANTING AND SEED-SAVING GUIDE

Plant Type	Latin Name	Plant Seeds	Planting Notes	Days to Germ.	In-Row Spacing	Planting Depth	Life-cycle	Primary Pollination	How to Save Seeds
Arugula	<i>Eruca sativa</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Sow in spring and late summer.	3 to 10	1-6"	1/4"	Annual	Insects	Plants will form flower stalks. Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Asian Greens	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Sow in spring and late summer.	4 to 7	6"	1/4"	Annual	Insects	Plants will form flower stalks. Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Bean	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	Outdoors 4-6 weeks after last frost	Harvest frequently for increased yields. Some varieties require support.	7 to 14	2"	1"	Annual	Self	Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Beet & Swiss Chard	<i>Beta vulgaris</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Direct sow seeds 2" apart and thin.	5 to 10	6-12"	1/2"	Biennial	Wind	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 12-18". After flowering, harvest seeds from dried flowers.
Broccoli & Cauliflower	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	3 to 10	24"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	After flowering in year 2, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Cabbage	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	7 to 12	24-36"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	After flowering in year 2, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Direct sow 2 seeds per 1" apart and thin.	up to 14	2-4"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 10-12". After flowering, harvest seeds from dried flowers.
Celery	<i>Apium graveolens</i>	Indoors 10-12 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	10-20	8-10"	1/8"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 24". After flowering, harvest seeds from dried flowers.
Collard	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	3 to 10	24"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	After flowering in year 2, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Corn	<i>Zea mays</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Direct sow seeds 4" apart and thin. For increased yield, plant in blocks of 3-6 rows, rather than one long row.	4 to 21	8"	1"	Annual	Wind	Allow ears to dry on plants. Harvest before hard frost.
Cucumber	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Make 12" hills 6' apart in all directions. Plant 6-8 seeds per hill; thin to 3-4 plants per hill.	4 to 10	see notes at left	1"	Annual	Insects	Harvest fruit past edible stage when skin is tough and discolored and seeds are plump. Remove seeds, rinse, and dry.
Eggplant	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Indoors 6-8 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors 4-6 weeks after last frost.	10 to 14	18-24"	1/2"	Annual	Self, Insects	Harvest fruit past edible stage when skin is tough and discolored and seeds are hard. Remove seeds, rinse, and dry.
Endive	<i>Cichorium endivia</i>	Indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	5 to 7	8"	1/4"	Annual	Self	Plants will form flower stalks. Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Gourd	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> ; <i>Lagenaria siceraria</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Make 12" hills spaced 6' apart in all directions. Plant seed 1" deep with 6-8 seeds per hill; thin to 3-4 plants per hill.	3 to 10	see notes at left	1"	Annual	Insects	Harvest dry fruit before hard frost. Separate seeds from pulp.
Kale	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	3 to 10	24"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	After flowering in year 2, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Kohlrabi	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Sow in spring and late summer. Can be transplanted.	3 to 10	9-12"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 24". After flowering, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle.
Leek	<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	Indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	5 to 7	6"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 12". After flowering, harvest seeds from dried flowers.
Lettuce	<i>Lactuca sativa</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Sow seeds 1" apart and thin. Can be transplanted. Looseleaf: 6-8" apart; Romaine: 10" apart; Crisphead: 10-12" apart.	7 to 14	see notes at left	1/8" or surface sow	Annual	Self	Plants will form flower stalks. After flowers open and form feathery chaff, shake seed heads into bag. Seeds mature at different rates—repeat throughout season.

SEED SAVERS EXCHANGE PLANTING AND SEED-SAVING GUIDE

Plant Type	Latin Name	Plant Seeds	Planting Notes	Days to Germ.	In-Row Spacing	Planting Depth	Life-cycle	Primary Pollination	How to Save Seeds
Lima Bean	<i>Phaseolus lunatus</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Tolerates heat.	7 to 18	2"	1"	Annual	Self, Insects	Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Melon	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Create 12" diameter hills 6' apart. Plant 6-8 seeds per hill; thin to 3-4 plants per hill.	4 to 7	see notes at left	1/2-1"	Annual	Insects	Remove seeds from ripe fruit, rinse, and dry.
Okra	<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed; can start indoors	Sow seeds 2" apart after soil has warmed. Thin to 12-18" apart. Tolerates heat and drought.	6 to 18	12-18"	1/2"	Annual	Self, Insects	Collect pods when they are hard and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds after completely dry.
Onion & Shallots	<i>Allium cepa</i>	Indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting	Transplant outdoors just before last frost.	4 to 10	6"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 8". After flowering, harvest seeds from dried flowers.
Pea	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Tolerates cool weather.	7 to 14	2-3"	1/2-1"	Annual	Self	Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Pepper	<i>Capsicum spp.</i>	Indoors 6-8 weeks before transplanting	Keep soil warm while seeds sprout. Transplant outdoors 4-6 weeks after last frost.	14 to 18	12-24"	1/4"	Annual	Self, Insects	Harvest fruit up to 2 weeks past edible stage. Remove seeds, rinse, and dry. Wear gloves if peppers are hot.
Potato	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	Outdoors 2-3 weeks after last frost	Plant in light, loose, well-drained soil.	14 to 28	12-24"	6-8"	Annual	Self, Insects	Save best tubers to plant next spring.
Radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Plant every 3-4 weeks for a continual harvest.	3 to 12	2-3"	1/2"	Annual	Insects	Plants will form flower stalks. Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Runner Bean	<i>Phaseolus coccineus</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Provide support for vines.	5 to 10	2"	1"	Annual	Self, Insects	Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Rutabaga	<i>Brassica napus</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Tolerates cool weather.	3 to 10	6-8"	1/2"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 18". After flowering, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle.
Salsify	<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Dig roots in late fall.	20 to 24	2-3"	1/2"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 6". Collect seed heads when dry.
Soybean	<i>Glycine max</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Tolerates heat.	5 to 7	6-12"	1"	Annual	Self	Harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle. Split pods to remove seeds.
Spinach	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Sow in spring and late summer. Tolerates cool weather.	7 to 14	6-8"	1/2"	Annual	Wind	Plants will form flower stalks. Harvest seeds from dried flowers when seeds are very hard.
Squash (Summer)	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Create 12" diameter hills 6' apart. Plant 6-8 seeds per hill; thin to 3-4 plants.	5 to 10	see notes at left	1"	Annual	Insects	Harvest fruit past edible stage when skin is tough and discolored. Remove seeds, rinse, and dry.
Squash (Winter)	<i>C. pepo</i> , <i>C. maxima</i> , <i>C. moschata</i> , <i>C. argyrosperma</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Create 12" diameter hills 6' apart. Plant 6-8 seeds per hill; thin to 3-4 plants.	5 to 10	see notes at left	1"	Annual	Insects	Harvest ripe fruit before hard frost. Remove seeds, rinse, and dry.
Tomato & Tomatillos	<i>Sol. lycopersicum</i> , <i>Physalis ixocarpa</i>	Indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting	Some varieties require support. Mulch base of plants to protect from disease.	7 to 14	24-48"	1/4"	Annual	Self, Insects	Harvest fruit up to 2 weeks past edible stage. Remove seeds, ferment for 2-3 days, rinse, and dry.
Turnip	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	Outdoors as soon as soil can be worked	Tolerates cool weather.	3 to 10	4-6"	1/4"	Biennial	Insects	In year 2, increase spacing between plants to 12". After flowering, harvest seeds when they are very hard and pods are dry and brittle.
Watermelon	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	Outdoors after danger of frost has passed	Create 12" diameter hills 8' apart. Plant 6-8 seeds per hill; thin to 3-4 plants.	4 to 10	see notes at left	1/2"	Annual	Insects	Remove seeds from ripe fruit, rinse, and dry.