

Seed Share Community Project

Curating nutritious, resilient and beautiful mixes

Who is this project for?

Amateur seed savers, hobby plant breeders, seed librarians...
Anyone with an interest in seed saving and seed sovereignty.



First, why grow and save seeds from mixes?

Beautiful diversity and health benefits that come with it.
More chances to get a crop despite pests, diseases, weather etc.

Reduce the need for large populations or isolation.
A more relaxed introduction to seed saving, focused on saving good quality seeds from healthy plants and avoiding undesirable crosses.

Increase returns to seed libraries and make the most of seed donations (smaller amounts, no variety on the label etc).



A note on heirlooms:

The conservation work done by many seed savers and organisations is vital to ensure that heirloom varieties are available for future generations and this project is not meant to undermine their effort. On the contrary, it complements their work towards seed sovereignty, helping both new and experienced seed savers access a range of seeds that meet their needs.



How does it work?

1- Community Seed Swap: Send in your seeds, get back community seeds.

Members send in some of their seeds (no commercial F1, no undesirable potential crosses)

Seeds are bulked into mixes that make sense both in the garden and the kitchen (for example sugarsnap peas and soup peas will be separate mixes)

Seeds are repackaged and mixes are sent back to members.

Seed returns at the end of the season would be appreciated but not compulsory.



2- Community Back-up/Mini Seed Bank

A portion of the seeds will be put aside for freezer back-up, future grow-outs, increase diversity etc.

3- Community Grow-Outs

In parallel to having seeds returned from the seed swap group, seeds are sent out to trusted seed savers to grow out and return. The bigger volume of seeds can then be distributed and used to increase the back-up/mini seed bank if needed.



4- Community Distribution: Make the seeds freely available to all.

Once a bigger volume of seeds is being returned, seeds can be distributed to seed libraries, community groups, schools, online etc.



What is the first step?

Setting up the Community Seed Swap.

Timescale?

A small-scale pilot in March-April 2025 and on a bigger scale, Autumn 2025.

Get in touch and be part of the Community Seed Share Project.

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