

# HOW TO SAVE SEEDS

## 1. SELECT AN HEIRLOOM OR OPEN-POLLINATED VARIETY

- Plants grown from “hybrid” or GMO seeds may not produce seeds or may not produce seeds of the same variety from which they were grown



## 2. SELECT THE BEST

- Select individuals from your crop that display the best traits of that variety (large, healthy, vigorous plants)



## ISOLATE THE SEEDS

- Take steps to ensure that your crop doesn't cross-pollinate with other varieties. Check out [SeedSavers.org](http://SeedSavers.org) for specific information for each plant species.



## HARVEST THE SEEDS

- Collect seeds from mature produce, some seeds may need to be fermented or washed before storing



## DRY THE SEEDS

- make sure seeds are fully dry before storing to prevent spoilage



## WINNOW SEEDS

- separate seeds from hulls, pods, or vegetable flesh by “winnowing” Either passing back and forth through an air current or using water



## LABELE AND STORE SEEDS

- Label seeds with species, variety, and year saved. Store in glass jars or envelopes in a rigid container to prevent breakage. Seeds should be kept somewhere cool and dry and away from direct light.

