

Dry Seeds Saving for Home Use

Crop	Isolation Distance	Self / Cross	Planting Time	Population Size		When and How to Harvest
				Maintenance	Improvement	
Beans, String	40 Feet	Self	Last Frost to Mid June	6 plants	30 plants	<p>After pods have turned leathery and begun to turn brown, pick off the pods and allow them to dry in a single layer out of direct sunlight until 1 week after the seeds rattle in the pods</p> <p>1. When flowers are in "half feather" dig up the root ball and let the top sit on a tarp for 2 weeks. Clean the seeds from the chaff</p> <p>2. After the plants have begun to "feather", knock the seeds off into a bucket by vibrating the plants</p> <p>After pods have turned leathery and begun to turn brown, pick off the pods and allow them to dry in a single layer out of direct sunlight until 1 week after the seeds rattle in the pods</p> <p>Pick the pods when the seeds rattle inside them and allow them to dry in a layer no more than half an inch thick for two weeks.</p>
Lettuce	40 Feet	Self	Overwinter or Spring Planted	6 Plants	40 Plants	<p>After the fruits are completely ripe (in their last color phase), cut them opened, scrape the seeds on to a paper plate in a single layer, and allow them to dry for 2 weeks.</p>
Peas, Garden	40 Feet	Self	Early Spring	10 Plants	60 Plants	<p>After the fruits are completely ripe (in their last color phase), cut them opened, scrape the seeds on to a paper plate in a single layer, and allow them to dry for 2 weeks.</p>
Peas, Southern	75 Feet	Self	May through Early July	20 Plants	70 Plants	<p>After the fruits are completely ripe (in their last color phase), cut them opened, scrape the seeds on to a paper plate in a single layer, and allow them to dry for 2 weeks.</p>
Peppers (can also be processed wet)	40 Feet	Self	Last Frost to Late May	10 Plants	25 Plants	<p>After the fruits are completely ripe (in their last color phase), cut them opened, scrape the seeds on to a paper plate in a single layer, and allow them to dry for 2 weeks.</p>
Brassicas (broccoli, cauliflower, kale, cabbage, mustard, collards, Chinese cabbage, radish, etc)	600 Feet	Cross	August through mid October	75 Plants	150 Plants	<p>Allow overwintered plants to bolt in spring and harvest the siliques (long slender seed pods) when they and the seeds inside them are brown. Allow them to dry in a layer no more than 1/4 inch thick for 2 weeks.</p>

<i>Corn</i>	<i>600 Feet</i>	<i>Cross</i>	<i>May through June</i>	<i>250 Plants</i>	<i>1000 Plants</i>	<i>Harvest ears after they are dry and allow them to dry in the shucks in a single layer for two weeks. Allow plants to bolt. They will segregate into male and female plants. Harvest the seed from the female plants when they are brown and allow them to dry in a single layer for 2 weeks.</i>
<i>Spinach</i>	<i>600 Feet</i>	<i>Cross</i>	<i>All Year</i>	<i>75 plants</i>	<i>150 Plants</i>	<i>Harvest beets as normal in fall and store over winter in a root cellar. Replant the best ones without the tops in March. Chard may be simply overwintered. Harvest the seeds in late spring when they are brown and allow them to dry in a single layer for 2 weeks</i>
<i>Beets and Chard</i>	<i>600 Feet</i>	<i>Cross</i>	<i>April-July</i>	<i>75 Plants</i>	<i>150 Plants</i>	<i>Not for beginners in the southeast as they will cross with wild Queen Ann's Lace for a half mile</i>
<i>Carrots</i>	<i>600 Feet</i>	<i>Cross</i>				<i>Overwinter and allow to flower. Harvest Seeds when they are brown and allow them to dry in a single layer for 2 weeks.</i>
<i>Leeks</i>	<i>600 Feet</i>	<i>Cross</i>	<i>August through mid October</i>	<i>50 Plants</i>	<i>150 Plants</i>	<i>Overwinter and allow to flower. Harvest Seeds when they are brown and allow them to dry in a single layer for 2 weeks.</i>
<i>Parsley</i>	<i>600 Feet</i>	<i>Cross</i>	<i>April through mid October</i>	<i>50 Plants</i>	<i>150 Plants</i>	<i>Let the flowers dry on the plant. When the seeds in the flowers turn to look like the ones that were initially plants, spread them out to dry for 2 weeks in a thin layer.</i>
<i>Annual Flowers</i>	<i>40 Feet</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>After last frost</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>75</i>	

Wet Seeds Saving for Home Use

Crop	Isolation Distance	Self / Cross	Planting Time	Population Size		When and How to Harvest
				Maintenance	Improvement	
Eggplant	75 Feet	Self	Transplant from last frost through mid may	15	35	Harvest after the fruits turn dull yellow. Cut plants into 1-2" cubes and cover with water. Let sit at room temperature for 24 hours and squoosh them with your hands. If not all of the seed comes out of the fruits, repeat after another 12 hours. Pull off all remaining large hunks and rinse seeds. Spread into a thin layer and allow to dry for 3 weeks
Tomatoes, heirloom	10 Feet	Self	Transplant from last frost through mid may	15	35	Harvest after fully ripe fruits and mash into a bucket or Tupper with a loose fitting lid. Let sit at room temperature until bubbles stop forming (usually 36 hours), stirring every 12 hours. Pull off all remaining large hunks and rinse seeds. Spread into a thin layer and allow to dry for 3 weeks.
Tomatoes, modern	35 Feet					
Cucumber	600 Feet	Cross	Last frost through late may	20	50	Harvest fruits that have turned yellow of brown and allow them to cure at room temperature for 2 weeks or until any sign of mold sets in. Slice fruits and scoop out the seeds into a Tupper. Add water till the mix is sloshy and ferment at room temperature for 2 days, stirring every 12 hours. Rinse seeds and spread into a thin layer and allow to dry for three weeks
Summer and Winter Squash, Pumpkins, Gourds, Cantaloupe	600 Feet	Cross	Last frost through late may	10	45	Let them grow big and hard. Cure for a month. Cut the fruit, scoop out the seeds, and rinse them. Spread them into a thin layer. Stir seers after 12 hours and then again after 24 hours and then allow to dry for three weeks.

Watermelon *600 Feet* *Cross* *Last frost through*
late may *10* *45*

When fruits are fully ripe, scoop the guts out into a bucket and leave at room temperature for 18 hours. Rinse seeds out, strain and spread them onto a single layer. Stir seeds after 12 hours, and then again after 24 hours. Let them dry for three weeks.