

HDRA's heritage seed programme / Henry Doubleday Research Association.

Contributors

Henry Doubleday Research Association.

Publication/Creation

Ryton-on-Dunsmore : Henry Doubleday Research Association, [1991?]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/zsjudyms>

License and attribution

Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Heritage Seed Programme offers you:

- Priority access to our Seed Library of outlawed vegetables
- A quarterly newsletter especially for seed savers
- Instruction sheets on how to save seeds
- *The Vegetable Finder*, an authoritative inventory of varieties
- The chance to guard an old variety for others to enjoy
- Ultimate gardening satisfaction - raising plants from seed to seed



The Henry Doubleday Research Association

Working for a sustainable future, the Henry Doubleday Research Association, or HDRA as it is better known, is Europe's largest organic organisation with members the world over.

- Gives advice on all aspects of organic gardening and growing with regular newsletters, factsheets, and step-by-step guides.
- Carries out scientific research into improved growing techniques that do not use chemicals.
- Runs Ryton Organic Gardens - ten acres of demonstration organic gardens open year round to the public.
- Helps developing countries, where drought and the spread of deserts is a serious problem.
- Preserves genetic resources through its Heritage Seed Programme
- Promotes organic farming and food.

The Henry Doubleday Research Association

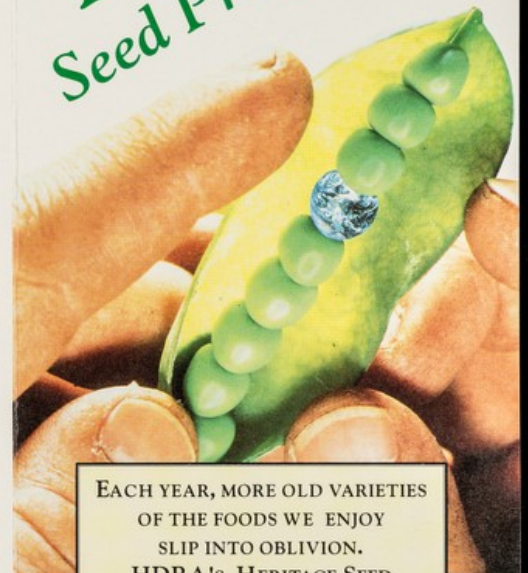
Ryton Gardens Ryton-on- Dunsmore
Coventry CV8 3LG
Telephone (0203) 303517 Fax (0203) 639229

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales, KG., KT., GCB



Printed on 100% recycled paper

HDRA's Heritage Seed Programme



EACH YEAR, MORE OLD VARIETIES
OF THE FOODS WE ENJOY
SLIP INTO OBLIVION.
HDRA'S HERITAGE SEED
PROGRAMME AIMS TO STEM THIS
RISING TIDE OF GENETIC EROSION.

The Henry Doubleday Research Association

Savour the Past and Safeguard the Future

**Why save seeds?
Old varieties are valuable.
Their disappearance threatens
food security, harms the
environment, and robs you,
the consumer, of choice.**

Food

From the Irish potato famine of the 1840's to the billion dollar corn blight of the 1970's, disease is a constant threat to our food supply. The ever-narrowing genetic base of farmer's crops - most are planted to just two or three varieties - increases the risk. Older varieties must be maintained because they are usually the best source of resistance to pests and diseases.

Farming

Modern varieties may be more productive, but only when force fed with fertilisers and propped up with pesticides. As we move to a more sustainable agriculture we will need varieties that can do without expensive and potentially harmful chemical inputs. Older varieties offer the best chance of more environmentally friendly crops.

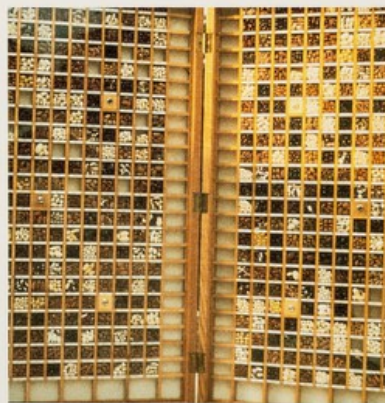
Flavour

Modern varieties are bred to stand up to the buffeting of mechanical harvesting and long journeys. Shelf-life scores over succulence. Flavour is sacrificed to

uniformity. That may suit big suppliers and supermarkets, but not shoppers or home growers. Alas, the old varieties that are so good for gardeners are going extinct because the seed companies cannot afford to keep them in their catalogues.

And finally

Food Security, environmental health, and consumer choice are important, but there is another good reason to save seeds: fun. Old varieties offer just that - variety. tastes, colours, textures and shapes to delight. Go beyond harvesting the produce of the past, by starting to save your own seed for the future, and you will share the deep satisfaction and reward of closing the growing circle, from seed to seed.



Enrolment Form

Yes, I want to join the Heritage Seed Programme BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Rates (Please tick appropriate box)

- HDRA Members £6 per year
 Others £12 per year

If you are not already a member of the Henry Doubleday Research Association and would like to join, send the following for **joint membership**:

- Family £23 per year
 Standard £20 per year
 Pensioners/students
 Unwaged £14 per year

I enclose crossed cheque/postal order value £..... payable to HDRA

or
 Please debit my Access/Visa account by the sum of £.....

Card No / / /

Expires / Signature _____

The Henry Doubleday Research Association
Genetic Resources Dept.
Ryton Gardens, Ryton-on-Dunsmore,
Coventry CV8 3LG UK

