



Hart Seed Library

DEFINITIONS:

Heirloom varieties must be **open-pollinated** by insects, birds, wind, or other natural means and “**breed true**,” or retain its original traits from one generation to the next. They are passed down from generation to generation and have developed characteristics naturally over time to resist certain diseases and pests and to thrive in particular climates. This species of plant must be **at least 40 years in the making** and allow you to save your own seed to replant from year to year. Heirloom does not guarantee produce was raised without chemicals. Usually, heirlooms have superior taste, quality, and hardiness when compared to all other seed types.

Gardening organically goes hand in hand with growing heirlooms, since many were introduced before synthetic fertilizers and pesticides became available.

Join us to ensure that organic heirloom seeds are kept in our gardens and on our tables, for generations to come.

Help conserve biodiversity and build a more sustainable future.

Organic seeds are from plants grown that follow organic farm management practices. They use federal organic standards for growing and processing which excludes the use of synthetic pesticides and genetically engineered/genetically modified or "GMO" technologies. (Non-GMO).



Hybrid seeds are manually produced by cross-pollination and you need to buy new seeds for each planting. They are commercially sold under an 'F1' label. Though hybrids are created in a laboratory, they are not genetically engineered or altered by any other means than by cross-pollination.

GMO seeds are genetically modified in a laboratory for large scale production to be drought tolerant, to produce seedless varieties, or to be resistant to certain pests and diseases. The prevalence of GMOs in major field crops threatens the genetic diversity of our food supply.

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