

Seed harvesting Instructions

A little advance planning will ensure your seeds produce new plants that are true to type & germinate well.

- **Step 1: Choose open-pollinated seeds.**

Avoid hybrids (often marked F1). They produce seeds, but the new plants may be very different. (All our heirloom varieties are open-pollinated.)

- **Step 2: Plant for growing seeds.**

Learn how your varieties are pollinated & which isolation techniques you may want to use. This could be as simple as choosing only one type of bean or tomato.

- **Step 3: Harvest & process right.**

Learn the right growth stage to collect your seeds. After harvest, most need only a little drying time. Tomato seeds need to ferment a little before drying (good, icky fun).

- **Step 4: Label, label, label!**

Include the variety & the date. If you have more than one variety of the same veg, be sure to label each when harvested.

- **Step 5: Store in a cool, dry place.**

Heat & humidity shorten seed life. A glass jar in a cool location or the refrigerator is great.

Online Classes

GALE COURSES

Use your library card to take these free classes and more through Gale Courses. They are each 6-weeks long, new sessions start monthly.

- **Start Your Own Edible Garden**

Learn how to grow delicious, nutritious fruit and vegetables in your own backyard.

- **Growing Plants for Fun and Profit**

An industry professional teaches you everything you need to prosper in the backyard nursery business.

— Learn More —

- <https://education.gale.com/l-arrowhead>

- <https://www.als.lib.wi.us/site/pages-for-patrons/online-courses-tools/gale-courses>

For garden questions, contact the Rock County UW-Extension office (608) 757-5696 You will be put in contact with a Master Gardener volunteer.



Beloit Public Library

605 Eclipse Blvd. • 608-364-2905
www.beloitlibrary.org

Clinton Public Library

214 Mill St. • 608-676-5569
www.als.lib.wi.us/CPL

Eager Free Public Library

39 W. Main St., Evansville • 608-882-2260
www.als.lib.wi.us/EFPL

Edgerton Public Library

101 Albion St. • 608-884-4511
www.als.lib.wi.us/EPL

Hedberg Public Library

316 S. Main St., Janesville
608-758-6588
www.hedbergpubliclibrary.org

Milton Public Library

430 E. High St. • 608-868-7462
www.miltonpubliclibrary.org

Orfordville Public Library

519 E. Beloit St. • 608-879-9229
www.als.lib.wi.us/OPL

Arrowhead Library System

430 E. High St., Ste. 200, Milton • 608-868-2872
www.als.lib.wi.us

*Photos & plant descriptions courtesy of Fedco Seeds
or Seed Savers Exchange.*



Arrowhead Library System

Heirloom Seed Library



Our Mission:

The ALS Seed Library encourages gardening & seed saving as a means of providing our community a fun & affordable source of nutritious sustainable food.

2020

Why heirloom seeds

There are a number of reasons the ALS seed library chose heirloom seeds:

- Heirlooms have exceptional flavor & nutrition.
- You can save the seed from one year to the next because heirlooms are open pollinated.
- These varieties grow well in Wisconsin.
- The produce will ripen over a period of time; making for a longer harvest.



Borrowing basics

- **Step 1: Check Out**
Check out up to five seed packets.
- **Step 2: Cultivate**
Plant the seeds, let them grow, & enjoy your harvest!
- **Step 3: Harvest & Preparation**
Review the seed harvesting instructions.
- **Step 4: Save & Return Seeds**
Save a portion of seeds that you will plant next year, then label & return the remaining portion to the seed library to be checked out next spring.

Your help makes this program grow!

Additional resources

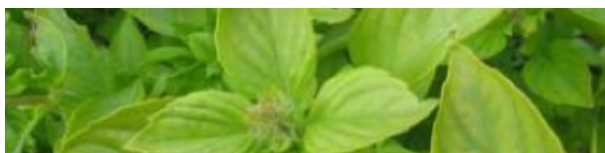
- Browse the library's selection of gardening books & resources.
- Free online classes with your library card:
<https://education.gale.com/l-arrowhead>
- Check for gardening programs at your local library throughout the season.
- Contact the Rock County UW-Extension Office with garden questions. Call 608-757-5696 to connect with a Master Gardener volunteer.
- als.lib.wi.us/site/pages-for-patrons/seed-library

2020 Varieties Offered



Flowers

Queen Sophia Marigold	60 d
10-12" high, bi-colored blooms	
Mammoth Grey Sunflower	120 d
Up to 12', needs staking, yellow	
Florenza Sunflower	120 d
Up to 12', needs staking, maroon with yellow tips	
Cactus Jewel Zinnia	90 d
30-36" high, profuse/immense blooms, scarlet, orange, pink, yellow. Easy to grow from seed.	



Herbs

Mrs. Burns Lemon Basil	64 d
Intense lemony fragrance	



Peppers

These seeds need to be started indoors and then transplanted outdoors.

King of the North	70 d
Sweet, blocky red bell type	
Odessa Market	87 d
Sweet; enjoy green or red—raw, sautéed, or roasted	
Beaver Dam Hot	80 d
6" fruit, sweet with heat	



Tomatoes

These seeds need to be started indoors and then transplanted outdoors.

Amish Paste	80 d
large 8 oz. paste tomato, great fresh & cooked	
Principe Borghese	75 d
Cherry, determinate, fresh eating & drying	
Garden Peach	71 d
Juicy, sweet, fuzzy skin, yellow	
Rose de Berne	86 d
5 oz., rich sweetness, round, soft skin, pink skin	
Bellstar Paste	80 d
4 oz. paste tomato, good in salads	
Black Prince	75 d
5-7 oz., iridescent garnet, heavy-yielding, flavorful	



Beans

Provider Bush	50 d
High early yields, does well in adverse conditions, excellent for preservation	
Blue Lake 274 Bush	57 d
Taste standard, 6" pod, very high yield	
Gold Rush Wax Bush	54 d
5-6" tender, excellent flavor & yield	
Purple Podded Pole	70 d
Purple raw, green cooked, big producer	
Rattlesnake Pole	70 d
Good harvest, flattish 6-7" pods, purple streaks	