

No 7

August '89

Spring Newsletter



The Seed Savers Network.
PO Box 105, Nimbin. 2480.

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Introduction

Since we left Australia in late April '89 the Seed Savers' Network has been under the charge of Aine helped by Vivienne, Jenny and Jacqui. From their letters and the telephone calls that we have had with them we learn that they have streamlined procedures in the office. This shows that the S.S.N. has a manageable organisation. Thank you to all of them for their voluntary work.

In France our kind of project is subsidised by the government. As well, more and more young men who object to one year of compulsory military service are paid to work in community services for two years. We will be looking into getting some funds for paid staff from a government department on our return.

We were first hosted at the Papeari Botanical Gardens on the island of Tahiti. That is where Harrison Smith introduced many food plants to Tahiti in the 1800's, e.g. from Sarawak the pomelo - the super-sweet enormous grapefruit that easily comes apart into segments.

Many dedicated local people have researched and compiled information on disappearing food, and folk medicines. They have published papers and books on the islands' flora but no one has yet tried to make an inventory of the local varieties of food, e.g. of breadfruit, mangoes, taro.

The Botanic Gardens director, Michel Guerrin, expressed the need of his gardens to keep the diversity of food plants alive, and not to concentrate on just ornamentals. The University of Hawaii for example maintains a collection of hundreds of varieties of taro, a starch staple of the Pacific.

All Tahitians we spoke with were well aware of the need to keep and to replant forests to regain clear river waters and to keep their lagoons free of agro-chemicals in order to keep themselves healthy. Few realized the need to look after their crops' genetic base which is shrinking rapidly. Most Tahitians work early morning until late evening in shops, tourism, canneries, fishing, building. They enjoy spending Saturday afternoon and Sunday preparing time-consuming fermented foods (poe, poi tai'oro) made of fruits and vegetables. These are three times the price of imported French foods!

There is still a strong gardening urge with even the lowliest suburban Tahitian hut having its breadfruit, mango, lime and pawpaw trees.

1

A respected local songwriter and musician, Bobby, has made educational best-sellers on the need to keep lagoons clear, and was instrumental in establishing natural reserves on the island of Huahine. He asked us for a feasibility study on creating reserves for the collection of old varieties of local foods. It would be a resource for future Polynesians.

In east France, we visited the Nancy Botanical Gardens where medicinal plants were grown according to complaint, e.g. a bed for liver complaints, another for stomach, etc. They were interested in exchanging publications with us, and were aware of our existence from a magazine article we had had published in France.

In south France we met government-paid professionals maintaining collections of local varieties, e.g. peaches, figs and grapes. They also run an autonomous organisation called Page Provence, Alpes, Cote d'Azur which produces and distributes video and slide kits on the need to preserve genetic diversity.

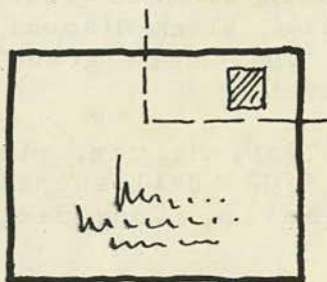
In this year of drought Europeans are thinking about drought tolerant specimens amongst old varieties. Many groups are collecting apple varieties (e.g. Les croqueurs de pommes). There is a strong network of groups concerned with maintaining old varieties of fruits, vegetables, cereals and animals.

We have seen with pleasure front yards under fruit and vegetables. French kitchen gardens are huge by most Australian standards. Farms are much smaller and the population is much more rural-based. Everywhere you see folks out in the vegie garden. Fruit and nut trees abound on the roadside.

It has been an inspiring trip and we have made many good connections, and reaped great new ideas. We will soon be back to join the volunteers at the Seed Savers' again.

*Jade and
Michel Fanton*

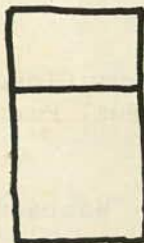
USE YOUR ENVELOPES TO MAKE SEED PACKETS.



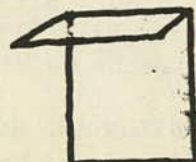
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2. fold over
name address
- glue or tape.



3. Open out
top.



4. Fold down
to Secure
Seeds.

Requests

There are many well-remembered plants that are sought after. Sometimes they are no longer available in commercial circulation. Perhaps you may have one of these, or know from where it may be obtained.

PLEASE WRITE DIRECTLY TO THE
PERSON REQUESTING

FLOWERS

JUDY WILLIAMS, 46 Gumland Drive,
Maleny 4552. Boronia.

EDITH STAUNTON, 41 Alfred Street,
North Haven 2443. Morning Glory.

TOMATOES

J. RIEDEL, 9 Regent Street, Kempsey
2440. "Long Tom" tomato.

N. LANGTON, 37 Dorothy Street, Ryde
2112. "Potentate" tomato.

FRUIT AND NUT TREES

CHRISTY PATTON, "Old Schoolhouse",
Toonumbar via Kyogle 2474.

Nut Sedge or Chuffa nuts (Tiger
nuts) *Cyperus esculentus* from West
Asia/Africa, Wineberry *Rubus*
phoenicolasius from Japan/China.

ANDREW TOTH, 392 Watagan Road,
Watagan 2325. *Owenia acidula*,
Cryptocaria obovata, Bunya Pine,
Solanum laciniatum, *Solanum avicu-*
lare, Kaffir Plum, Appleberry
(Twiner), *Billardiera longiflora*,
Butia capitata.

HELEN FYSH, Unit 4, 5 County Close,
Whealers Hill 3150. Montreuil Peach
Tree, *Pêche de Vigne*

IRMA DIXON AND HUGH ROSE, "Wombats"
Nimmitabel, 2631, Russet apple.

M. MCCULLOUGH, P.O. Box 16, Macks-
ville 2447. Cape Gooseberry.

BEANS AND PEAS

DON FOGG, 36 Sunhaven Avenue, Lind-
isfarne, 7015, French bean "*Comp-*
tesse de Chambord"

MARY ENFANTIE, Post Office, Walker-
ston via Mackay 4751. Bean, 12
inches long, 1 inch or more around,
pale green skin with darker mark-
ings, similar to New Guinea bean,
though seed a different shape.
Anything else unusual.

GRAINS

BOB RAABE, M.S. 546, Forest Hill
4342. Kent Oats.

ONIONS/POTATOES

ROBERT WESTWOOD, P.O. Box 50, Nor-
folk Island 2899. Onion, good keep-
ing/storing qualities, similar to
Indonesian onion, purplish small to
medium size bulb.

DON FOGG, 36 Sunhaven Avenue, Lind-
isfarne, 7015. Manistee potato,
Beauty of
Hebron.

ALLAN GARDNER, 59 Bellbird Avenue,
Norlane, 3214, Manistee potato.

JOHN GOODE, P.O. Box 191, Glebe
2037. King Edward potatoes and
Ailsa Craig onions.

MELONS/PUMPKINS

MARJORIE CROSSMAN, 10 Hicks Cres-
cent, Echuca 3564. Black Diamond
water melon, very dark green
slightly oval seed.

H. KERK, M.S. 250, Milman, via
Rockhampton 4702. Bell-shaped
Japanese pumpkin, Conqueror
rockmelon.

TEA

KAREN BUSCH, "Ark Hall", R.S.D.
Lockwood 3551. Redbush (*Aspalathus*
linearis) from South Africa. ▶

HOPS

WILHELM JAIN, Pinnacle Road, Lillian Rock 6728. Hops.

CORN

D. EVANS, 25 Alexandra Road, Ringwood East 3135. Golden Bantam sweet corn.

GLOBE ARTICHOKE

ALISON SAMUEL, P.O. Box 111, Nimbin 2480. Globe artichoke root divisions.

MISCELLANEOUS

J & A WELLARD, P.O. Box 40001, Casuarina 0811. Wanted, any vegetables tolerant of humid tropics growing conditions, Tomatillo (*Physalis ixocarpa*), Rocket (*Eruca sativa*), Tatsoi (*Brassica* spp), Orach (*Atriplex hortensis*), Ceylon Spinach (*Basella rubra*).

ANDREW RYAN, Tuntabale Falls, via Nimbin 2480. Green banana from

Central Africa, Sorghum from South Africa, Neem tree, Black rice from Bali, Manioc tubers from Central Africa.

JOHN CURRAN, 108 Franklin Avenue, Ocean Grove, New Jersey, 07756, U.S.A. "We plan to offer open-pollinated, non-hybrid heirloom and traditional vegetables and herbs, with an emphasis on drought-resistant and heat-tolerant varieties. Personal favourites are tomatoes, peppers, corn, squash and beans, as well as unusual savoury herbs. We would be interested in importing small quantities, from one ounce to one pound, of such suitable varieties you may be willing to send."

KATH LEA, PMB 15, Merilaton 5575. Common flax plant, (*Linum usitatissimum*) and cultural notes which may be of help.



Seed for Growers

Members of S.S.N. have entrusted us with a great many seed lots over the last year. It is delightful to note the growth that seed-saving is enjoying.

All accessions are admired, numbered and catalogued. We keep records of seed forwarded to experienced members. People who are beginners at gardening can try their hand at not-so-endangered seeds which are offered by members in this Spring issue.

Below, extracted from our accessions book, is a list of seeds available for multiplication.

It would be good if even long-time members/friends informed us of any changes to last year's form. It's useful to have information about

your place so that we can send you some seeds suitable to your climate.

Feel free to apply for any of them, but please fill out the form in the centre so that we know we are not sending even a small amount of seed to someone who is not in a suitable situation.

It would also be good to read or reread the seed saving notes in the Autumn Bulletins (#s 2, 4 and 6) to make sure that the varieties you will either send back to us or reoffer in the next Spring Newsletter will come true and vigorous (available \$2.50 post free Box 105, Nimbin 2480).



Seed for Growers

Continued.

FILL OUT THE BLUE SEED GROWER'S
FORM & SEND BACK TO US

WHEN REQUESTING GIVE THE NUMBER AND
NAME

SEND NO PAYMENT - JUST POSTAGE
COSTS

- 230 ANGELICA (sylvanus), shiny-leaved, good with rhubarb, Vic.
- 397 BEANS, Goodwins purple, limited supply, Mackay, Qld.
- 378 BEANS (long New Guinea), Pine Creek, NT.
- 438 RICE BEAN, Nimbin, NSW.
- 054 COLUMBINE, PURPLE, (Aquilegia/ladies bonnet), Box Hill, Vic.
- 345 CORN, Red Indian, small, hardy, stores well, Ravenshoe, Qld.
- 430 GERMAN PICKLING CUCUMBER, Vic.
- 234 EUCALYPTUS, (Microtheca/'Coolabah tree'), outback WA.
- 358 GARLIC (Wild Tasmanian), small bulb about size of a pea, good companion plant, matures quickly and is well adapted to cold climates, Launceston, Tas.
- 414 HIBISCUS (Native), Gympie, Qld.
- 039 MELON (Californian Cream Rockmelon), Para Hills, SA.
- 393 MELON (Peach Vine Mango), Biggenden, Qld.
- 357 BANANA ONION, elongated shape, good for sandy soils. Mature bulbs in one season, Research Centre for Agrobotany, Hungary.
- 360 GOLDEN OVAL PASSIONFRUIT, Mareeba, Qld.
- 417 BLACK BOY PEACH, Darling Heights Qld.
- 278 BLACK PRINCE PUMPKIN, Ashwood, Vic.
- 402 TOMATO (Clark Aerby), Vic.
- 369 DEUTCHER FLEISS TOMATO, Vic.
- 407 EARLY TAKE TOMATO, Vic.

- 026 GROSSE LISSE TOMATO, top taste, superb thin skin, orig from Camberwell, Vic, 1930's.
- 399 ACE ROYALE TOMATO, Pomonal, Vic.
- 424 DON CAMILLO TOMATO, Nar Nar Goon, Vic.
- 416 PINK PONDEROSA TOMATO, Ryde, NSW.
- 420 WHITE BEAUTY TOMATO, Pialligo, NSW.
- 204 WATERMELON, (Large Butter/Ice-cream), many generations in family at Tabulam NSW. This batch from Injune, Qld.

A limited quantity of the following
seeds is available:

- 359 BEANS (Madagascar), perennial, fruits 3-4 times/yr. No frost. Seeds sprout on vine in wet conditions, very tasty. Reasonably hardy in dry weather, Broowena, Qld.
- 392 BLUE LAKE CLIMBING BEAN, Orange, NSW.
- 383 BORLOTTI BEAN, brought from Italy 40 yrs ago, Tamworth, NSW.
- 251 BROWN BEAN, Watervale, SA.
- 340 MUFFET BEAN, grown by Ken Muffet at Penrith, NSW and friends at Moree and Goulburn NSW.
- 379 NEW GUINEA BEAN, long, Pine Creek, NT.
- 233 CORN, Black Hopi, (ex-S.S.N.), Mackay, Qld.
- 415 RED CORN, Avisford, NSW.
- 287 CORN, Red Chief, orig. Africa, Victoria Point, Qld.
- 428 SWEET CORN, Early Gem (orig. Beachmore, Qld.), Tyrendarra, Vic.
- 371 CUCUMBER, "German", large, acid-free, Mareeba, Qld.
- 212 CUCUMBER, thin-skinned, suit pickling, at least 80 yrs in family, Peterborough, SA.
- 422 PURPLE EGG-FRUIT, spring to late autumn, Deception Bay, Qld.
- 321 LETTUCE, large, green, with pink-fringed leaves, orig. S.S.N., Home Hill, Qld.
- 317 LETTUCE, Rabbit-ear, orig

- B.O.G.G., Leconfield, NSW.
- 277 HONEY LOCUST, thornless, (tree), Moree, NSW.
- 395 LUFFA (Crowell's Coarse), Mackay, Qld.
- 315 MARROW, White trailing, Box Hill, Vic.
- 360 PASSIONFRUIT, Golden Oval, very sweet, Mareeba, Qld.
- 215 PAULOWNIA Tomentosa, Armidale, NSW.
- 266 PEA, soft edible pod, needs support, late fruiting, Research Centre for Agrobotany, Hungary.
- 418 OMEGA PLUM, Darling Heights, Qld.
- 201 PUMPKIN, Banana Blue, Dungog, NSW.
- 209 PUMPKIN, Halloween (ex-comm.), Nimbin, NSW.
- 361 ROCKMELON, David's Mother's, approx. 20 medium to large fruit per vine, all ripen within 2 week period but staggered ripening in dry season, pest and disease resistant, Deception Bay, Qld.
- 453 SPINACH, Indian Running, Nimbin, NSW.

- 396 SQUASH, small, green, from Chile, Mackay, Qld.
- 385 SQUASH, White Swan, Westwood, Qld.
- 255 SQUASH, Yellow Bubble, Nimbin, NSW.
- 352 TOMATO, Yellow Pear, leafy, prolific, fruit in bunches, low in acid, Brusselton, WA.
- 320 WATERMELON, Champagne, in family since 1954, Home Hill, Qld.

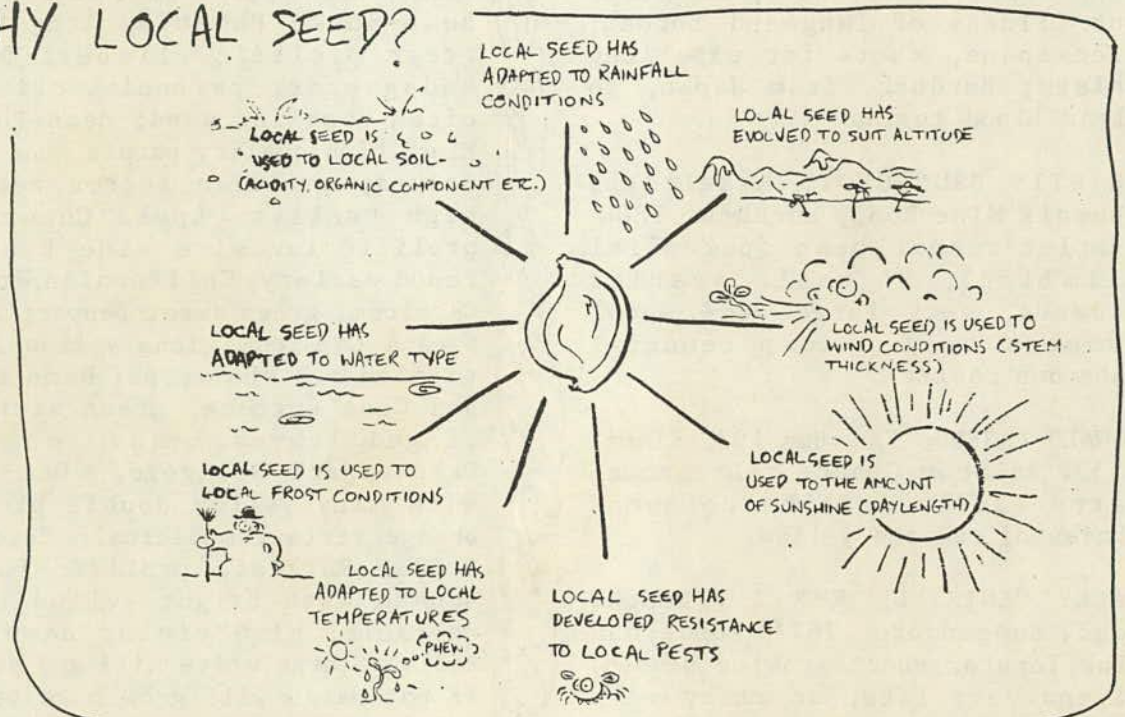
TOMATOES: 368 Bonner Beste, 370 Dudin, 456 Heinze, Bacchus Marsh, Vic.

TOMATOES: 398 Kralowa, 401 Lutschistzusirch, 402 Clark Aerby, 404 Filaris, 405 Abel, 407 Early Tale, 406 Ponderosa Pink, 408 Early Histon, 409 Urbalia, 410 Italian Plum, 413 Query Annan, Pomonal, Vic.

FLOWERS AND TREES

Would anyone like to grow out a larger variety of our stocks of flower and tree seeds?

WHY LOCAL SEED?



Offers

Write a letter requesting seed. Expect 25 viable seeds as a seed stock, (except in the case of corn and sunflowers there should be at least 100 to maintain genetic diversity). Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and payment at these rates:

- * three 39c stamps for small seeds
- * four 39c stamps for larger seeds
e.g. beans, corn
- * five 39c stamps for tubers, cuttings, etc.

BETWEEN MEMBERS WHO ARE OFFERING BELOW, YOUR OWN ARRANGEMENTS, E.G. SWAPS, CAN BE MADE.

PLEASE SEND ADEQUATE PAYMENT AND POSTAGE

Please remember to do this as we would not like to put a strain on members who take the time to offer.

New South Wales

KEN ALEXANDER, 15 Wandella Road, Cobargo, 2550. Thai eggplant, small white round fruit; Woad, leaf used for illness of lung and throat; Elecampane, roots for expelling phlegm; Burdock, from Japan, to clear blood toxins.

KRISTIN BRUNSCHOT, Homeleigh, Phoenix Mine Road, Lucknow, 2800. Scarlet runner bean (perennial climbing), 8' tall, scarlet flowers, very large pods, cool summers only, has perennial tuberous roots.

DONALD CAIRNS, P.O. Box 193, Kiama, 2533. Rainbow Chard, self propagates easily, stalks coloured shades of red and yellow.

SALLY CANTRILL, RMB 253 Brooks Road, Bungendore 2621. Ponderosa Pink Tomato, short growing season, ripens very late, so risky with frost.

JILLIAN CRANNY, M. Rees Road, Fernbrook via Dorriggo 2453. Garlic Chives, white flowers, tolerates temperature extremes; Forget-me-nots.

RAY DALEY, Byangum via Murwillumbah, 2484. New Guinea Bean, handles wet season very well, 8 - 12" long, vigorous cucumber best planted spring.

GRANT EDWARDS, P.O. Box 996, Port Macquarie 2444. Bean-Dwarf Butter, New Gippsland, tasty stringless yellow bean borne on short bushes; Bean-Snake Phoenix, long thick green prolific climber; Bean-Madagascar, perennial climbing often kept for seed; Bean-Purple King, high quality purple bean when cooked, prolific bearer needing high trellis; Apple Cucumber, prolific invasive vine bearing round variety; Californian Wonder Capsicum, green sweet pepper; Sweet Banana Capsicum, long yellow fruit turning red when ripe; Roma Rosso Red Coss Lettuce, green with red tinged leaves, easy to grow; Crackerjack Marigold, 60cm tall with many yellow double blooms, orange variety medicinal; Zucchini Golden Ruffles, prolific button squash with bright yellow skin, reliable, high yield; Japanese Radish, large white mild and sweet, if not eaten will grow huge before going to seed.



HUGH GRAVENSTEIN, Post Office Candelo, 2550. Snake Bean, unique flavour, vigorous grower; French Green Silverbeet, lighter variety and not so strong, all year round grower; Soshu Spinach, cool weather grower, quick to bolt, quick grower; Red Oak Lettuce, non-hearting, fast summer grower, pick leaves as it grows; Chilacayote Squash, covers large area, vigorous heavy bearing grower in cool weather; Muffet Bean, attractive, climbing, heavy yields.

NEIL HEINZE, 11 Alexander Avenue, Berrigan 2712. White Corn (waxy maize).

CHERYL KING, 16 Northview Place, Mt Colah 2079. Tree Dahlia tubers, beautiful pale blue flowers, starting off pink.

MWYFANWY KING, Lot 17 Crooks Road, Mandalong 2264. Snow Pea blue flowered, from Africa, grows 80cm.

JOHN MAUCLINE, P.O. Box 603, Mullumbimby 2482. Purple climbing bean, Snake bean, Guada Bean, Edible Cow Pea.

NEIL MCQUILTY, P.O. Box 99, Nimbin 2480. Black Prince Pumpkin, large vines cropping for lengthy period, fruit large with dark even-coloured flesh, survives dry periods; Dill, aromatic, self seeds, attracts bees; Beans, large heavily cropping vines, will survive several seasons.

LYN ORREGO, Macksville Road, Bowraville 2449. Perennial cotton; Honey locust (Canberra tree).

CHRISTY PATTON, Old Schoolhouse, Toonumbar, Kyogle 2474, Mimosa pudica; Dutchmans Pipe (Aristolochia) beautiful flavour, frost free, shade, slow from seed; Snail creeper (Phaseolus caracalla) Perfumed convoluted flowers; Red Okra (Abelmoschus esculentus), mucilaginous, lovely in curries,

does well in dry soil, pretty flowers; Kalamangi.

BRONWYN SMITH, P.O. Box 684, Taree 2430. Woolombi Maize from Hunter Valley.

HARRY SMITH, 62 Rickard Road, Warrimoo 2774. Amaranthus caudatus, long hanging spiralling purplish-red flowers, young leaves food for budgerigars.

M. SMITH, P.O. Box 228, Mt Druitt 2770. Virginian Tobacco, easy to grow in warm climates or plant in spring or summer.

IAN THOMPSON, 15 George Wilson Avenue, Wee Waa 2388. Duck Bush, ornamental shrub, bright orange flowers, pods look like ducks and float on water (great for kids); Mandarin, prolific fruiting 8-10cm diameter, thick skinned but very fleshy; Butter bush (Pittosporum phillyreoides); Wild Orange (Capparis mitchellii); Quandong (Santalum acuminatum) difficult to germinate but good to experiment with.

COLIN WESTWOOD, P.O. Uki 2484. Luffa acutangular, vege when young, sponge when matured, best trellised; Coffea arabica, best coffee available; Poor mans beans, perennial climbing, hardy, used as green bean.

JOY WILLIAMS, Billen Cliffs, Larnook 2480. Brown Romaine Leaf Lettuce, tall vigorous loose heart; Rabbits Ear Lettuce, small hearting, smooth green leaves; European Spinach, light green tender silverbeet; Bok Choy, Chinese greens.



Victoria

PETER DENNY, 38 Nathan Drive, Bacchus Marsh 3340. Grosse Lisse tomato, prolific, matures very late into season; Grosse Rotte, large round, firm, good taste; Dudin tomato, golf ball size, produces late into season, taste OK; Bonner Beste tomato, prolific, top taste; Deutcher Fleiss tomato, small, very prolific, tasty, lots of seeds; Heinze 1370 tomato, large very firm, good taste; Graf Zeppelin tomato, not very prolific, very tasty; Rouge Pioneer tomato, fruits very early at low temperatures; Redland Pioneer beans, bush, stringless, good taste; Imperial 847 lettuce, spring and autumn cool temperature areas; Melbourne market peas, early maturing bush type, heavy cropper; Baby Carrot, long growing season in cool areas, top taste; Butter bean, very prolific, top taste, bush variety; Mild Red Onion, mild taste, large, dark red skin, mid season; Sugarloaf Cabbage, conical heads, sweet, wide growing season in cool areas; Broad Beans "Dwarf Prolific", low growing variety, good windy areas, heavy bearer.

PAUL GARDNER, Channel Road, Merbein 3505. Tomato varieties - Brui; ALT; Yellow Wenty; Yellow Egg; Hiclorumia; Banana shaped; Chili Tabiche, fairly hot thin walled 2-5cm pepper from Oaxaca Mexico, hardy and produce well; Filius Blue ornamental pepper, small 1-2cm blue purple and red peppers borne on dwarf plants, hot and edible.

L. JACOBS, Lyons Street, Newbridge 3551. Swan Pod (bush).

MRS MCCALLUM, 55 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully 3156. Parsnip (White Crown); Brown Beauty Dwarf Beans; Jacobs Coat or Jockeys Hat, flowering bush, bright red and yellow flowers, early summer to late autumn flowering.

MARGARET PANTER, Box 166, Clifton Hill 3068. Yellow tomato, small sweet; Bubjekosoko Tomato, fruits have fine downy hairs, fruits for 2 summers in sheltered frost free position; Black Velvet Lettuce, hard to grow; Silverbeet, possible Fordhook Giant; Straight Leaf Parsley, grows and self seeds without tending up to 1 metre or more.

M. PORCHER, P.O. Box 73, Gisborne 3437. Red Russian Kale, tolerates poor conditions, good taste, needs a period of cool, even cold weather to show its colours; Perennial Leek, seed stalks can be cut to encourage bulb formation, cool temperate region.

GREG AND DAWN RANKIN, RMB 2020 Baruna, Mitiamo 3573. Anait Tomato, can be grown in dry summers with little additional watering.

JOHN AND LESLEY ROBINSON, 21 Verney Road, Shepparton 3630. Scabiosa flower, large quantities.

W. SCHNEIDER, 21 Theodore Avenue, Noble Park 3174. Valeriana officinalis, herb, as root cuttings; Sweet Peas; Celeriac; Red Beet.

Queenland

W.A. BERGMANN, 25 Investigator Street, Andengrove, Mackay 4740. French Beans; Golden Wax Pod; Redland Pioneer; Borlotti Striped, West Indian Gerrin; available October onwards, limited supply.

EDEN SEEDS, M.S. 316, Gympie 4570. Pigeon Pea; Tephrosea; Giamma Pumpkin; Ceylon Spinach; Amaranthus hypochondriachus; Snake Bean; Quimoa, New Guinea Bean, Striped Sunflower.

I.J. HAMANN, M.S. 379, Childers 4660. Madagascar Bean, will survive a second season if not frosted. ▶

I.R. HUTCHEON, P.O. Box 5100, R.M.C. 4702. Trombone Pumpkin, practical, eat the skin; Rabbbit Ear Lettuce, pick leaves only as required.

BOB RAABE, M.S. 546, Forest Hill 4342. Q'land Blue Pumpkin, likes sandy loam to black soils; Small red capsicum, bears over long period, sweet flavour; Indian Cream Rockmelon, large fruit, soft flesh, not as sweet as others; Ponderosa Tomato, large fleshy, small seed cavity, sweet.

GORDON REHBEIN, Box 98, Jandowae 4410. Bunching Shallots, drought tolerant, frost tolerant, grow with bore water.

EDDIE ROWSWELL, 36 Larch Street, Andrews 4220. Bower of Beauty (*Jasminoides pandorea*), prolific flowering climbing plant, pink bell shaped flower with deep pink throat, thrives on heavy clay; Pomegranite (*Punica granatum*), prickly bush with striking red flowers, grows with wet feet.

ZOE SCHUH, Springfield, Eidsvold 4627. Capsicum, small pointed, best staked; Ponderosa tomato, good taste; Q'land Blue Pumpkin; Pie Melon, one round with red seeds and one oval with black seeds; Armenian Cucumber (*Cucumis melo*), long ribbed, pale green, crisp and tasty; Basil, large leaves, attracts bees; Guada Gourd, harvest 1' long for taste.

ZELDA STRAUGHAN, 12 West Street, Atherton 4883. Dwarf Snake Bean, extremely hardy, would like to contact people with seeds suitable for the wet coastal tropics and the cooler drier tableland areas.

JEFF AND KERRY WATSON, 395 Patterson Avenue, North Rockhampton 4701. Sword Bean, grows well in hot climate.

DAVID WATTS, P.O. Box 70, Biggenden 4621. Yard Long Cucumber, good producers; Argos Rockmelon.

DAVID AND KRIS WHEELER, Lot 39 Jamaica Drive, Deception Bay 4508. Rockmelon; Watermelon; Lima Beans; Garlic Chives; Q'land Blue Pumpkin.

South Australia

TED WHITWORTH, 15 Kingscote Terrace, Kangaroo Island 5273. Q'land Blue Pumpkin, always organically grown.

KATH AND RON LEE, PMB 15, Minlaton 5575. Trombone Squash, vigorous, prolific bearer; African Horned Melon, crisp cucumber; Bennings "green tint" Squash, button squash; Butternut, excellent keeper; Gherkin, for pickling; Russian Cucumber, good yield large gherkin-shaped cucumbers, good for pickling; White Swan Squash; Watermelon, Candy Red, large oval shape, striped skin; Large Striped, superb flavour; Argos Watermelon, wrinkled skin, turns brown when mature; Bush Star; Californian Cream, melon with dark green spots; Indian Cream, drier flesh than usual watermelon; Kolhoznica 593, smooth orange skin with sweet green flesh; Muscat (Pocot) Melon, creamy flesh; SalgirskaJe, 1 kg melon with orange speckled skin, cream to pale green flesh; Zarinthou, yellow-green skin, green sweet flesh; Archs Onions, odourless brown onions, good keepers; Oriental Radish, white with mild flavour; Chilean Scarole Lettuce, sow any time; Milanesa Lettuce, vigorous grower, sow any time; Rainbow Swiss Chard, similar to silverbeet, sow any time; Climbing Snake Bean, vigorous grower; Giant of Stuttgart Bean, fast growing annual, stringless; Redlands Pioneer Dwarf Bean; Scarlet Runner Bean, perennial climber, full flavour; Bush Basil,

fine flavour, sow anytime; Garlic Chives; Curled Leaf Parsley; Balinese Sweetcorn, 2 metres, sweet flavour; Black Indian Corn (Hopi), short grower, large cobs, turning black when mature; Flat Red Maize, tall growth, large cobs; Strawberry Popping Corn; Surprise Popping Corn, dark blueblack corn, pops white; Wollombi Maize, vigorous growth to 3 metres, good windbreak; Golden Sunrise Tomatoes, small round yellow fruit; Grosse Lisse Tomato; Jubilee; Red colossus; Yellow Egg; White Beauty, fruit white to pale lemon; Long Sweet Capsicum, prolific bearer, long pointed fruit; Bell-shaped sweet capsicum.

NOEL FALK, 17 Fairway Street, Para Hills 5096. Snake Bean; New England Blue Hubbard Squash.

FRANCES DURDIN, P.O. Box 366, Port Elliott 5212. Tomatoes - Bonner Best; Bullocks Heart; Bruinama Produkt; Cherokee; Cherry-o-Pink; Djon Beurre; Early Jewel; Golden Sunrise; Grandfather Rivett; Yellow Egg; Potatoes; Black Prince Pumpkin; Tender and True Zucchini; Banana Shaped Pumpkin; White Beet (Albino); Rainbow Chard; Russian Cucumber; Italian Chicory; Nicandra "shoo fly", lavender blue trumpet flower.

B.R. CLAPP, BOX 57, Peterborough 5422. Gem Squash; Coriander; Garlic Chives; Calendula, single yellow; Climbing bean from Bega, mainly eaten as dry bean.

A.W. CARTRIDGE, 104 Penange Close, Edwardstown 5039. Rogue Apple Trees; Chocolate (mahogany brown) broad bean; brown-seeded pea with purple flower, ground-creeping spinach, very prolific; perpetual European spinach.

Western Australia

MARG ADKIN, 25 Highbury Cres, Beckenham 6107. Loofah - bathroom sponge, needs long growing season, can eat young fruits, like zucchini

A.C.T.

JONATHON BANKS, Pialligo Apples, 10 Beltana Road, Pialligo 2609. Bonner Beste tomato, tall slightly ridged, earlyish; Budai tomato, dwarf, late, prolific, medium size roundish fruit; Bubjeckosko tomato, good taste, seems quite hardy and prolific, needs heavy pruning; many apple varieties, best sent while dormant, until end August

Northern Territory

ANN WELLARD, P.O. Box 40001, Casuarina 0811. Pigeon pea, perennial in humid tropics, shell when young, like garden peas, older stage, Dahl, can be used for cattle fodder; Cotton (hibiscus family), from coastal area, self seeds readily, seeds difficult to extract from cotton, plant whole boll or keep wet until germination; Carpentaria palm, solitary feather-leaved palm, needs tropical climate, seeds attract birds, won't tolerate frost or cold, won't survive transplanting.

Tasmania

JOHN GRIMDITCH, 14 Franmaree Road, Launceston 7250. Garlic, matures quickly due to short Tasmanian summer

SEEDS FOR GROWERS WHO WILL MULTIPLY THEM

Please see lists on pages 4, 5 and 6.

Don't send money when applying for the seeds listed below. It would be beneficial to growers to study the seed saving notes in previous bulletins.

- * Name and address _____
- * What seed would you like
to grow from the list? _____
- _____
- * What is your growing experience? _____
- * What is the size of your present garden? _____
- * What is your soil particularly suitable for _____
and what are you accustomed to growing? _____
- _____
- * Do you live in town?..... in the country? _____
- * What is the nearest large town? _____
- * How far away is your nearest neighbour's garden? _____
- * What is your age group and
your profession or ex profession? _____
- * Are there any other details you think relevant? _____

Send to THE SEED SAVERS' NETWORK, P.O. BOX 105, NIMBIN, N.S.W. 2480 with return postage please.

Overseas

LOUIS VAN DEVEN, 608 North Main, Carrollton, IL 62016 USA, special interest alliums; Beet, golden, long season, rough, novelty red beet with white stripes, flavour OK; Broccoli, large head, unusual pointed shape; Carrot, Kinko, good in clay; Danvers carrot, 6-7" long; Long Orange carrot, heirloom type; Goldinhart, excellent taste, medium size; Tokita's scarlet carrot, Japanese, reddish very good; Cauliflower, Snow Giant, very large, doesn't take heat well. Polar Express cauliflower, medium head, grows fast; Chinese Cabbage, Kyoto, better than most, large heads; Cucumber, Lebanese Melon; Italian Long Cariselli; Spacemaster, short vines for limited space; Yard Long, burpless style; Eggplant, Louisiana Green, oval fruit, green colour;

Pinky, similar to above but pink colour; Listada de Gandia, red with white stripes; Kale, 6' tall, more for show than food; Kohlrabi, Capri, fast growing, stays crisp; Leek, Nebraska, large winter type; Lettuce, Red Salad Bowl; Canary Tongue; Tom Thumb; Ruby; Winter Density; Montello; Flame; Anuenue, Hawaiian crisp head; Valprize; Melon, Jenny Lind; Golden Crispy; Okra, Red Wonder; Onion, Torpedo, elongated, needs loose soil; Walla Walla; Kelsae Giant, large Spanish type; Ailsa Craig; Parsnip, Guernsey; Pepper, Jupiter; White Bullnose; World Beater; Summer Sweet; Chinese Giant; all of the above peppers are sweet, not hot; Radiccio, Rossi di Verona; Alto; Adria; Rutabaga, Laurentian; Tomato, Arkansas Traveller; Dutchman; Wolford's Wonder; Golden Sunray; Purple Calabash; Brandywine, fine flavour; Turnip, Long Orange; Watermelon, Bush Jubilee.

Victoria:

Linda White & James Dean, 137 Nelson Rd, Box Hill 3129

Nearest lge town = Melb. generally. Few light frosts
May-July >-5 deg. C. Soil type gen. clay loam.

PLANT NAME	SOURCE	SAVE DATE	NOTES
ASPARAGUS	New Gippsland	30/04/88	Mary Washington. Planting instructions unknown.
AZUKI BEANS	Healthfood store '87	04/04/88	Plant late spring. Use dried beans.
BARLEY, BLACK	seedsav network '86	30/10/87	Plant autumn to early winter. Difficult to hand hull; rec. mainly for poultry feed or for sprouts.
BROAD BEAN	New Gippsland '86	30/11/87	Plant Mar/April or Aug/Sept. Tall variety; plant en masse or stake.
BUCKWHEAT	Phoenix '86	30/01/88	Plant anytime. Will self-sow.
BURDOCK, EDIBLE	Phoenix	01/03/89	
CALLAN SWEET CORN	Buchan '89	01/04/89	
CAPE GOOSEBERRY	self-sown see notes	30/04/87	Plant mid spring. Grows to 1 metre sprawling bush with lanterns inside which are golden berries when ripe. Yummy. Annual in Melb. in most year. Will easily self-seed. Full sun. Seed collected from plants naturalised in Hawthorn, Melb., Vic.
CELERY	Phoenix '86	30/11/87	Golden self blanching. Plant in seed trays in early spring. Keep moist. Will self-seed.
CHERRY CHILLIES	seedsav network '86	04/04/88	Plant mid to late spring. Vigorous plants; very hot chillies. Plant very pretty when chillies are on them. Full sun.

JALEPENO CHILLIES	seedsav member '87	30/04/88	Plant mid to late spring. Very nice medium hot chillies. Requires full sun.
JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE	New Gippsland '85	30/05/88	Non-starch containing tubers. Tubers collected instead of seed. Plant autumn to late spring for a season's harvest. Close relative of sunflowers, and grows similarly. However, is invasive via those tubers which remain in the ground.
LEEK	New Gipps/Broers '86	06/04/88	Plant spring to autumn. Musselburgh. Plant thickly and transplant.
LIMA BEAN, PERUVIAN	seedsav network '86	04/04/88	Plant late spring to early summer. (Don't plant early, as growth won't keep up with snails!) Pinto coloured beans; vigorous vine growth - allow for 2 metres of sideways trellising per plant. Prolific.
LOOSE LEAF LETTUCE	seedsav network '86	30/01/88	Plant spring to summer. With regular use, will last for most of a season. Very nice flavour, and prolific grower. Linda's seed may not produce plants true to type, as was flowering near to another type of lettuce. Use James' seed for distribution. Gold rush loose leaf, from Yandroit, Vic, old strain from Chinese gold digger 1850's.
NEW ZEALAND SPINACH	Phoenix '86	30/04/88	Plant spring to early summer. Will establish permanently. Domesticated variety of "pigweed". Yummy! & almost carefree.
PARSNIP	seedsav	01/04/89	hollow crown and Harris early model both available
PUMPKIN	see notes	29/02/88	Several types: orange with white lobes(Phoenix '87);Q'land blue(seedsav member '87); orange ridged (lge. from Will, origin unk.); orange smooth (med.) (New Gippsland '86); green round (small) (New Gippsland '86). Plant late spring to early summer. Allow lots of room, and feed very well.
RED MAIZE	seedsav member '87	20/04/88	Plant Nov., full sun. Tall; red kernels. Seed from Kath & Ron Lea, SA; from seed sav. network prior to them.
RED MIGNON. LETTUCE	New Gippsland '87	30/01/88	Plant spring to autumn. Use leaves singly, or the whole plant. Linda's seeds may not breed true to type, as another variety of lettuce was flowering nearby.
SCARLET RUNNER BEAN	New Gippsland '86	30/03/88	Plant Nov. to Dec. Grows very tall, > 2 m.; sturdy trellis required. Prolific producer; perennial. Cut back to 30 cm. after season's production. Very long edible pods. Frost resistant.
SILVERBEET, RAINBOW	Phoenix '85	30/04/88	Plant anytime. Protect from snails as seedlings. Full sun to half shade. Very easy to grow. Stems range from white to yellow to deep red in colour.
SPRING ONION	New Gippsland '86	30/12/87	Plant anytime. Bunching variety. Plant thickly & transplant or thin.
SUNFLOWER (GIANT)	Phoenix '85	30/01/88	Plant mid to late spring. Very tall; prefer full sun and manure.
TAMARILLO	New Gippsland '85	30/06/88	Plant late spring (or earlier indoors). Subtropical, fast-growing tree, which bears in 2nd year of growth. Frost resistant but not wind tolerant.
TOMATO KELSTAR	New Gippsland '86	/ /	Plant late spring to early summer. Good late variety. Large round red tomatoes.
TOMATO, GOLDEN DROP	selfsown see notes	04/04/88	Plant early spring indoors, transplant outdoors in Nov. Long, viney growth req. staking or trellising for best results. (Vines up to 3 metres!) Prolific, small yellow fruit, v. sweet. Yummy. Saved from compost, Selby, Melb., Vic., '85

TOMATO, LITTLE STRIP	seedsav network '86	04/04/88	Plant early spring indoors and transplant Nov. Long viney growth req. staking or trellising for best results. Small, delicious fruit, susceptible to snails, slaters if left on ground.
TOMATO, ROMA	New Gippsland '85	30/04/88	Plant early spring and transplant outdoors Nov. Fairly compact growth, but does better if staked. Traditional egg-shaped fleshy tomato, usually used for sauces, etc. Mild flavour.
ZUCCHINI, LEBANESE	New Gippsland '86	30/01/88	Plant late spring, early summer. Pale green, short fat zucchini, slow to go tough-skinned. Trailing growth habit.
ZUCCHINI, BLACK JACK	Belgrave (Vic.) '88	02/02/88	Plant late Spring to Early Summer. Large green zucchini. Allow 1 metre between plants.
ANEMONE ST. BRIGID	Linda	01/09/88	Plant late Summer for next year's flowering.
COLUMBINE (PURPLE)	selfsown see notes	30/11/87	Plant spring. Flowers 2nd year. Frost hardy perennial cottage flower. Collected from Camberwell, Melb., Vic., '85.
CORNFLOWER	Ursula, Box Hill	03/01/89	
FOXGLOVES (DIGITALIS)	self-sown see notes	30/01/88	Plant spring. Annual 1 metre tall flower with potent digitalis poison. Attractive. Collected from James Dean, Belgrave, Melb., Vic., 1988.
HORSERADISH	New Gippsland '86	30/05/88	Roots planted autumn to spring. Roots collected. Easy to grow in well dug soil. Leaves prone to being chewed by snails, slugs and cabbage butterfly larvae.
PYRETHRUM	Phoenix '87	/ /	Seed not very viable; plants require full sun, and are susceptible to snail attack when young.
SWEET BASIL	Phoenix/Yates '87	01/05/89	Plant from early spring to early summer. Annual in southern states. Prefers full sun. Many people like to plant it near tomatoes, with which it is often used in cooking.

MAIL ORDER TREE SEED COMPANIES/SUPPLIERS

(Please send s.a.e's for catalogues.)

MATTHEW ALEXANDER (B.Sc. Forestry), RSD Drysdale, Vic 3232. Commercial tree seedsman, Eucalypt and Acacia. Identification, gen. tree seed info, fresh ripe seeds for regeneration.

BELLINGEN VALLEY RAINFOREST SEEDS, PMB, Bellingen 2454. Fresh ripe seed.

FOREST SEED COLLECTORS, Box 46, Mallacoota 3892. Variety of tree and shrub seed.

FRUIT SPIRIT RESEARCH NURSERY AND GARDENS, Dorroughby 2480. 160 species of fruit trees and their cultivars.

ALAN KEOGH, 184 Parkes Street, Eugowra 2806. Quality prepared carob seeds at \$35 per kg and postage.

DAVID R. MURRAY B.Sc., Ph.D., 7 Acacia Avenue, Gwynneville 2500. Seeds of about 100 different Acacia species. "If anyone needs a particular species, it is worth asking me to see if I have it."

PHOENIX SEEDS, see below.

VEGETABLE SEED CONTACTS

ALF FINCH, Eden Seeds, M.S. 316 Gympie, 4570. Looking for growers of non-hybrid seeds, to provide an outlet for people to spread non-hybrids as widely as possible. "To satisfy our demand we need to buy commercial and other varieties. Therefore we can pay top prices, especially for reliable bio-dynamically or organically grown seed. ... All varieties are needed. Growers who save one variety for distribution make an important contribution."

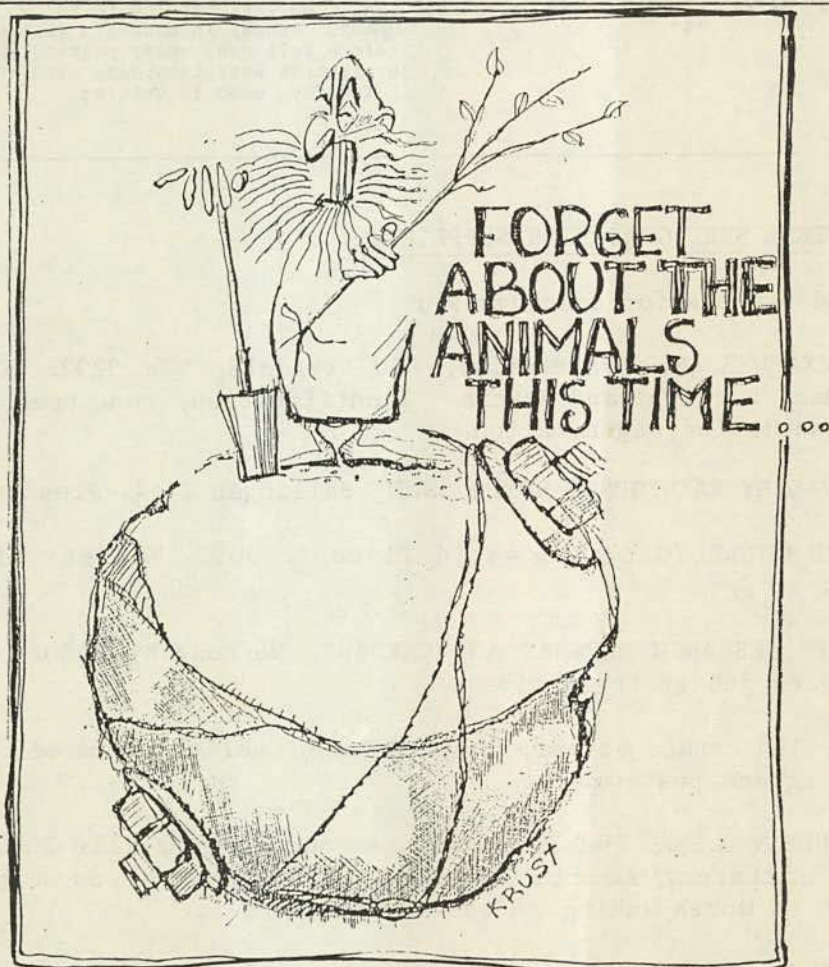
PHOENIX SEEDS, Box 96, Stanley 7331. Has a wide range of great seeds including tree seeds. Free catalogue.

MINARA PTY LTD, Box 69, Aspley 4034. Stocks interesting Asian varieties at 65 cents a packet.

DIGGERS SEEDS, 105 Latrobe Parade, Dromana 3936. Mail order, plenty of non-hybrid vegetables.

HERBS

NORTHERN RIVERS HERB GROWERS AND MARKETERS ASSOCIATION Box 171, South Lismore 2480. Has a good newsletter on propagation and properties of herbs.



World Dictionary of Plant Names.

A member of the S.S.N., Michel Porcher, (P.O. Box 73, Gisborne 3473) is seeking our practical and moral support for a major project of his. This particular work is of great interest to all us seed savers. It is an illustrated dictionary of plant names in forty (plus) different languages, a kind of world catalogue of non-hybrid vegetables. The idea of such a document is to facilitate communication between people of various ethnic backgrounds, and between lay people and scientists. As we know, the preservation of heirloom varieties is very much a multinational activity and we must not fall into the trap of believing that we are saving 3 or 4 varieties when in fact we are dealing with only one under 3 different names. Example: In the U.S. Garden Seed Inventory a specific Japanese squash is listed several times under different names such as "Red Kuri" (kuri happens to be the Japanese word for squash), "Hokkaido Squash" (place of origin), "Japanese Squash" (origin from the American perspective), "Potimarron" is the French name for the same thing, a descriptive name referring to the taste of it, a cross between a pumpkin and a sweet chestnut). So the unaware reader may be led to believe that these names refer to 4 different plants when in fact only one is concerned.

The other aspect of plant identification is the use of the correct botanical name. This is a hard enough job for trained botanists who spend their life reading books, so it is understandable that lay people make the many mistakes they do. To this date very few books have begun to tackle the problem of systematically checking all common names and all botanical names pertaining to specific plants in any language let alone 40 of them. A document that would do that, be properly indexed in all languages, and have colour photos to complement the words would obviously be very welcomed...wouldn't it?

Michel needs to contact the following:

1. People who have colour photos or colour slides of varieties of vegetables of interest to seed savers (seed catalogue types) or detailed shots of flowers, foliage, edible parts, unusual features etc.
2. People who have travelling manuals such as the "Say it in.." series or language manuals such as the "Berlitz" guides. All those usually have a listing of vegetables names 1 or 2 pages long.
3. A botanical artist.
4. People able to write and/or speak 2 or more languages.
5. People of origin other than Anglo-Saxon but able to get by in English (speech only) or French (speech only).
6. People with seed catalogues of foreign origin or books on vegetables written in languages other than English, or bi-lingual dictionaries (English/...whatever language), or polyglot dictionaries dealing with plant names or containing plant names.
7. People having access to typing machines, computers or word processors using foreign fonts (characters) specifically Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Arabic, Turkish, Hindi, Russian, Hebrew, Thai. So far, the program used is Microsoft Word and the computer is an Apple Macintosh. If none of the seed savers fit the above descriptions, perhaps some of their friends do. The idea is to interview as many people as possible, gather as much material as possible and to get access to information either unavailable or hard to get. It would also help if one (or two) volunteers were prepared to type the odd page in his/her own language. We understand that no effort will be left unrewarded.

Germination of Rainforest Seeds.

Nan Nicholson, Terania Creek Road, The Channon, N.S.W. 2480

Many people who live in areas which once supported rainforest are now interested in reforesting at least part of their land with rainforest species. One of their difficulties may lie in obtaining large quantities of seedlings where local nurseries cannot provide the right species or the land-owner can't afford to buy them.

One solution is to grow your own trees from local seed sources. The enormous diversity of rainforest species is matched by the diversity of methods in persuading them to grow, however a few basic rules can help overcome some of the problems.

FRESH SEED

Some rainforest plants, such as White Booyong (*Argyrodendron trifoliolatum*) have a seed viability of only a few days. Whilst most seeds are not quite so sensitive, it is important to assume that immediate planting will give the best results. This particularly applies to soft seeds or those with fleshy seed-coats, such as the laurel family, and to those with fleshy arils, such as the Sapindaceae family.

In many cases this means that seed must be collected straight from the tree instead of from the ground after it has fallen. A few seeds should always be cut open first to check that they are firm and healthy before hundreds are collected.

CLEANING

Capsules or fleshy fruits often harbour seed-devouring insects. Wherever possible it is worth removing as much of the outer covering as possible. In some cases where the fruit is normally dispersed through birds, the seed simply will not germinate with its seed coat intact, e.g. Oliver's Sassafras (*Cinnamomum oliveri*). This characteristic aids species to avoid concentrations of individuals which may attract pests and predators. Lilly-pilly fruits can be peeled or washed off, seeds with capsules can be dried for a couple of days to induce the capsule to open, small seeds embedded in pulp can be sieved to remove flesh. Some seed debris and seed covers can be floated off with water after some agitation.

SOAKING

As a further precaution against seed predators, soaking for a few hours or overnight is usually worthwhile. This also hastens germination, particularly of Brachychitons such as the Flame Tree, by encouraging rapid uptake of water, called imbibing. Some apparently shrivelled dry seeds such as those of the Lomatias can be proved to be healthy by soaking, however some species, such as the Weeping Lilly-pilly, (*Waterhousea floribunda*) resent any soaking at all.

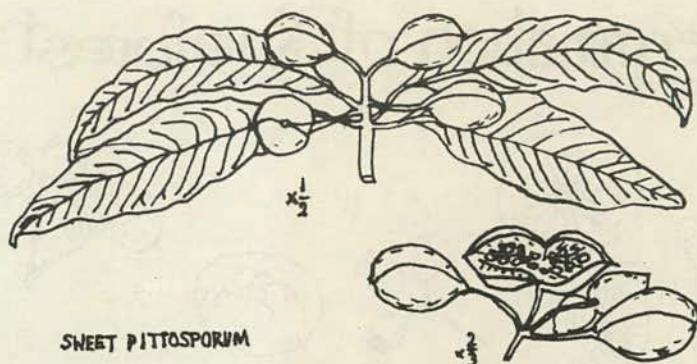
SOWING

A well-drained medium is the most critical factor and for this purpose coarse sand is simple and easy. It provides excellent drainage, has relatively few pathogens and is cheap. It has the added value of having no nutrients at all so that germinated seedlings can be stored for years if necessary, small and yellow, but ready to be potted on and grown when wanted. This often overcomes the problem of some species of short viability fruiting only every few years. Store seedlings, not seed.

Ample water, shelter from frost and strong winds, and no more than 50% shade are also important. Bottom heat is often very useful for tardy seeds but is not essential. Protection from digging cats, bone-burying dogs, and hungry rats is vital. If plastic propagating trays are used, they can also be inverted and used as covers against marauders.

Germination of Rainforest Seeds

Continued.



SWEET PITTOSPORUM

These rough guidelines can be used generally but of course there are many exceptions and some species which don't follow any rules:

BUNYA PINE (ARAUCARIA BIDWILLII), a handsome, hardy tree with delicious nuts. The seeds must be pulled from the fallen cone before they begin to germinate and planted in a fairly deep tray with adequate drainage but a solid bottom which the roots can not penetrate. The germinating shoot will leave the seed case, migrate to the bottom of the tray and remain there for 6 months to five years before sending up a leaf-shoot.

RED ASH (ALPHITONIA EXCELSA), a very useful, fast-growing pioneer species. The small red-brown seeds are encased in stiff capsules surrounded by a dusty black cover. Sometimes the red seeds are left attached to the tree after the outer covers have fallen. They can be collected and each one nicked with nail-scissors to allow imbibing. It is tedious but worth it.

BROWN CURRAJONG (COMMERSONIA BARTRAMIA), another excellent pioneer. The greyish hairy seed-capsules can be put in a blender, without water, for a few seconds to free the tiny brown seeds. Boiling water is then poured over the whole mess for a couple of seconds before rapid cooling with cold water.

WHITE BEECH (GMELINA LEICHARDTII), a very valuable timber species. The purple fruits should be collected as soon as they fall and the flesh mashed off through a coarse sieve with plenty of water. The hard seed case inside looks as if it is half eaten away by rats, but the seeds themselves are behind tiny trapdoors, visible as faint bulges. These trapdoors are difficult to open so it is usually best to simply sow the seed very thickly, several deep, and wait for them to appear spasmodically over the next 2-24 months.

FIGS (FICUS SPECIES), important bird-feeding trees. Fig fruits lose viability fairly quickly. They should be collected fresh, and mashed together with dry sand to make them easy to sprinkle sparsely over the propagating medium.

If not mixed with sand the seeds germinate so thickly that they are impossible to separate and pot up.

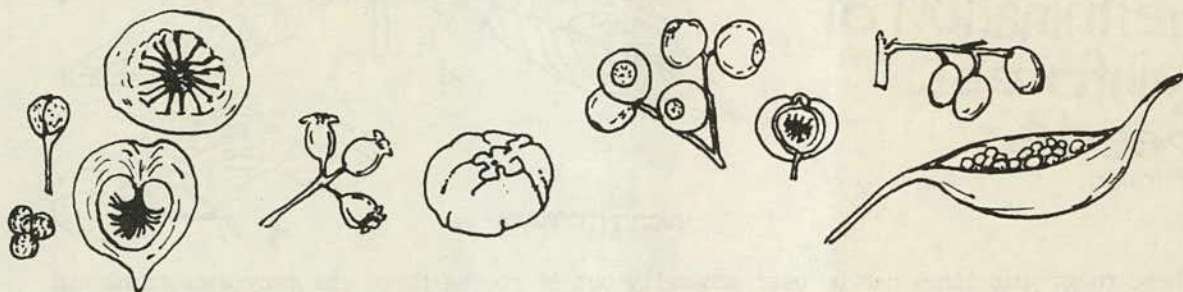
CALLICOMA (CALLICOMA SERRATIFOLIA), a fast-growing pioneer for wet sites. The round capsules should be collected in autumn before their numerous small valves open, then dried for a few days to enable the tiny brown seeds to be released. They germinate rapidly. ►



RED CEDAR

Germination of Rainforest Seeds

Continued.



PITTOSPORUM SPECIES, hardy and beautiful pioneers. All have sticky seeds inside colourful seed capsules. The seeds can be scraped out and mixed with sand as for figs.

RED CEDAR (TOONA AUSTRALIS), fast-growing tree with superb timber. Tear-shaped capsules are brown and ripe in early January; when collected and left to dry they should open within 2-3 days into a star, releasing numerous papery seeds which germinate rapidly after sowing.

PALM SPECIES. Most palm species can be planted immediately and do not need to be cleaned. Some, such as Walking Stick Palm (*Linospadix monostachyus*) have a very hard seed which will not germinate for almost a year. To save nursery space these can be left sealed in plastic bags with a bit of peat for some months. Roots appearing at the sides of the bag are the signal to pot up.

Some of the rainforest species with dry papery seeds, such as Red Cedar, Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) and Teak (*Flindersia australis*) can be stored quite well in the fridge. Such species are also safe to buy from commercial seed houses. Any fruit that is fleshy or moist when ripe can not be stored.

Rainforest seed is becoming more and more difficult to collect as more people become interested. For this reason it is important that only the amount intended to be used is collected. This leaves some for others to grow, and, most importantly, leaves food for the birds and small mammals which need these seeds more than we do.



RED CEDAR.

Drawings from -

'Trees & Shrubs in Rainforests of NSW & Southern Queensland' by William Harden & McDonald.



Early Bush Scallop
squash.



Silver Skin onion



Black Spanish water-
melon.

LOST HERITAGE **by Lorraine Lilja**

They sat patiently waiting on the hard wood benches of Ellis Island. Their faces reflected the nervousness they felt, but their eyes—their eyes were shining with hope.

Maria DeSalla stood near a window, her arms stiffly pushing fists into the stretched pockets of her black coat. Within one of those clenched palms was the only bit of Italy she could take along: seeds of the plum tomatoes that would guarantee decades of manicotti, lasagna, spaghetti marinara, braziola.

Katie Murphy sat in the front row, her arms encircling a blue-eyed toddler. At the bottom of the canvas sack on the floor were four seed potatoes—ones that had survived the famine—traced back as far back as family lore and human memory stretched.

There were cabbage seeds in the lining of Karl Schmidt's suitcase - chili pepper seeds in the band of Jose Sanchez' hat - rye grains filled the toe of Ivan Ivanovich's wool sock.

These brand new Americans brought along these grains of life that gave them confidence to start life anew in a strange land. They planted their seeds and harvested their crops, preserving some seeds for the next growing season.

But succeeding generations lost touch with the earth, and failed to learn the lesson that their ancestors knew so well. The simple acts of self-sufficiency—a small premium to pay for security. The decades spent depending on the commercial distribution system have left few of us nurturing the seeds of our heritage. And this loss is not insignificant.

If your inheritance includes heirloom seeds, care for them well. Share them with old friends and neighbors. Ask every master gardener you know if there are old varieties in his or her garden. Plant and preserve them—for tomorrow.

Reprinted from -Seed Savers Exchange "The First 10 Years" '86 U.S.A.



Boston Marrow squash.



Citron watermelon.



Hubbard squash.

Thank You

We, the volunteers who have been looking after the affairs of the Seed Savers' Network (both in the office and gardens) whilst Michel and Jude were on their study tour overseas, were delighted to compile this newsletter and we wish you all a wonderful growing season. Some gardeners have written reports of poor germination and cropping during the many wet months of early '89 and it seems pressing that seeds be adapted to climatic change. Those who did send their surplus seed to S.S.N. in spite of hazards, are to be congratulated and sincerely thanked. We have been able to supply S.S.N. members' seeds to community gardens in Zimbabwe, New Guinea and Nepal. Clearly, the more help we get, the more seed aid we can provide. We missed receiving grains this year and would like to appeal to anyone who can supply older varieties for multiplication to please do so.

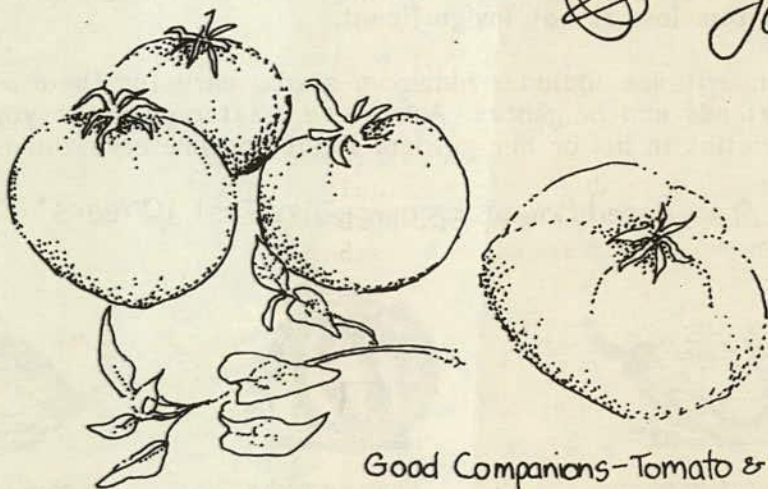
Membership of S.S.N. has increased significantly since printing the Autumn Bulletin. We feel that this is a wonderful testimony to Jude and Michel's foresightedness in founding the network along with its other founder-members. We received several enquiries about how to start further seed saving networks and this is indeed promising.

Over the last six months we have had our ups and downs; many laughs; much pleasant and dedicated help from passers-by (e.g. packaging or collating); lots of much-appreciated encouragement from local people and from S.S.N. members both by mail and visiting the office. Special thanks to anyone who managed to overcome any frustrations with us. We think you are all wonderful too!

*1
Jude*

Vivienne

*Alison
Jacqui*



Good Companions - Tomato & Basil.

Thank You to Jacqui, Tom & Michel

-the Garden is beautiful!

Thank You Alison for the layout.

See you there!

THE SECOND ANNUAL SEED SAVERS' GATHERING

will be held on the last weekend of November near Nimbin. There will be talks and workshops by experts in various fields. Would you like to speak or suggest a topic? Please let us know if you need overnight accommodation. Camping is possible. Bring seeds to swap.

WEEVILS AS UNWANTED STOWAWAYS

Corn seeds, but mainly bean seeds, almost always have little unnoticeable eggs under their seed coat. In a warm seed envelope they will hatch when least expected and the weevils will eat the beans and spread to other seeds.

Freezing the seeds for at least 24 hours kills eggs and weevils, but do make sure that they are completely dry before you freeze.

MARKING SEED PACKETS

- Your name and the town in/near which you live.
- The original source of the seed stock
- Month of the year of harvest.
- Any cultivation notes would be helpful.

MEMBERSHIP

\$10 FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP OR
\$5 FOR MEMBERS WHO OFFER SEEDS IN THE "OFFERS" LIST OR
\$2 FOR AGED PENSIONERS

WITH A FOURTH OPTION OF \$30 FOR SUPPORTIVE MEMBERSHIP

FOUNDATION MEMBERS: Bill Mollison, Sally Smith, Neil Walker, Carmelo Casella, Jenni Edgerly and friends, A.J. Whyte and Frances Durdin have donated \$300 for the long term goals of this project.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Julian Bamping, Andrew Jeeves, Homeland Foundation, Michael Self, Jacqui Fithall, Frederico, Edna Kiss, Fay Roth, Dr. M. Harris, Louise Cavanough, Jim Campbell, and Zimbabwe Institute of Permaculture have given \$100 towards the better running of the network.

THEIR GENEROSITY AND FORESIGHT IS APPRECIATED

RENEWALS

The address label has either a date or a word next to your name. This is to indicate when your subscription is due, e.g.

'12/89 means you are due to pay next December

'7/89 means you were due to pay in July this year

'comp/89 means complimentary copies this year

'Life' means you are a foundation member.



THE FINCH FAMILY M.S. 316, GYMPIE 4570

NON HYBRID

-VEGETABLES
-TREES
-LEGUMES
-HERBS

SAVE OUR SEEDS



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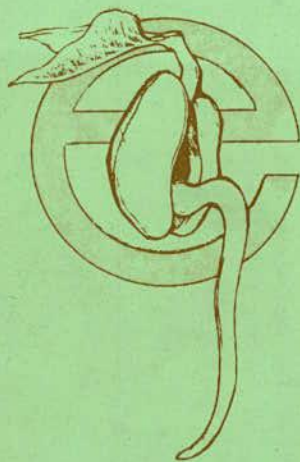
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