

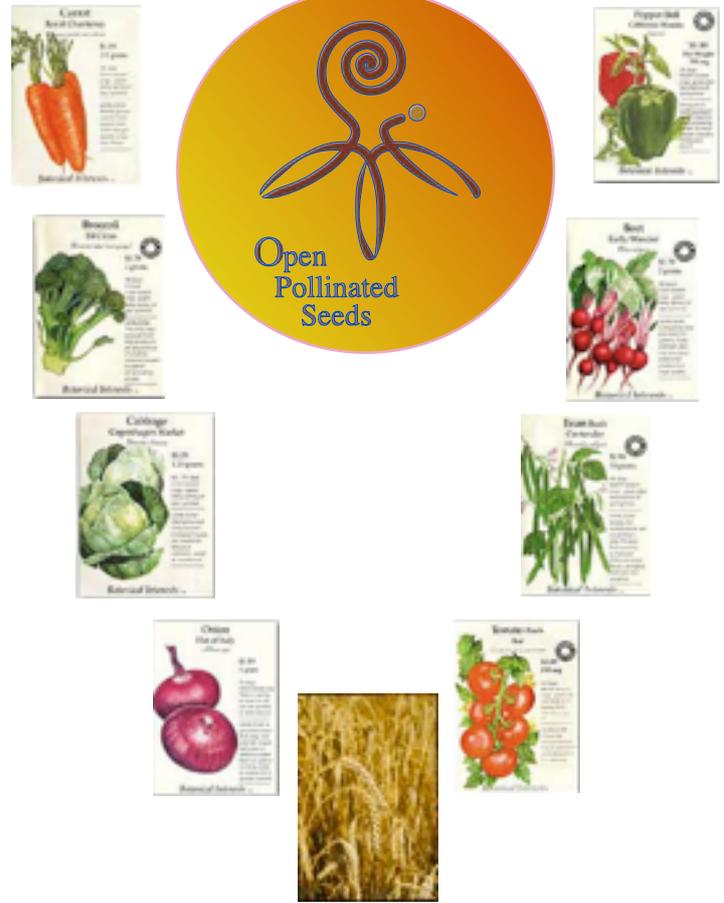
Open Pollinated Seeds



Open Pollinated Seeds:

- are naturally pollinated - by insects or wind; not enforced pollination or in-breeding.
- contribute to food plant biodiversity (of which we have lost 80% in Europe this last century).
- are adaptable - they are genetically variable and therefore able to adapt to climate change, to particular landscapes and environmental conditions and evolve along with them.
- can be seed-saved by farmers, market gardeners, home gardeners and allotment holders.
- seed saved will breed true-to-type plants, resembling parent plants - unlike hybrids.
- can be used to develop local varieties.
- are non-GM, non-hybrid, and non-patented.

By using Open Pollinated Seeds you protect biodiversity. How? Look up www.open-pollinated-seeds.org.uk. Thank you.



www.open-pollinated-seeds.org.uk

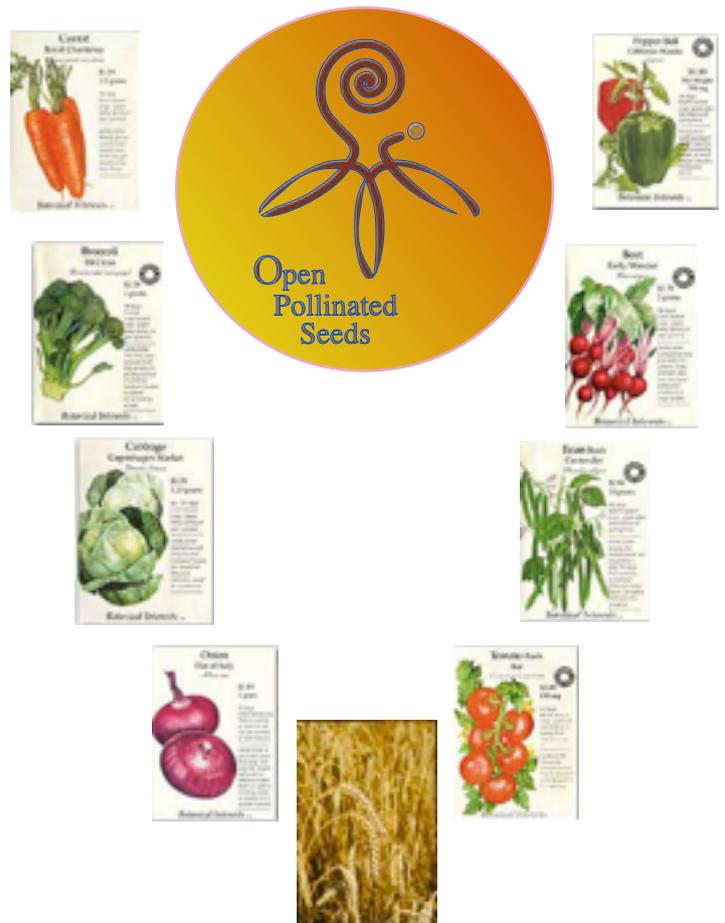
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How to Protect OP Seeds and Encourage their Use

- One obvious way is to **grow** them. OP varieties can be sourced through seed catalogues. Please see *seed links* page on web address www.open-pollinated-seeds.org.uk for OP seeds retailers.
- **Identify** seed types on seeds packets when buying seeds direct from garden centres, hardware stores and agricultural merchants. If there is no F1 written on the packet (front or back), then it is an open pollinated variety.
- A **logo** has recently been designed for identification of open pollinated varieties and seeds. Please use it generously and tell others about its existence. The OP logo on front of card can be obtained from the website mentioned.
- Another way is to **buy** OP produce or **ask** for it. Farm shops, farmers markets and box schemes can now identify their open pollinated produce through using the suggested logo.
- Experience the **wonder** and **beauty** of how your vegetable species go to flower and seed by allowing them to do so. It's fascinating, revealing and the insects love it.
- Learn to **save seeds** of some of the species that you grow by attending *seed saving workshops*.
- If you know the essential principles of seed saving, **offer** workshops and share your knowledge, your experience and your insights.
- **Adopt** an open pollinated variety and maintain it through saving its seeds.
- Become an open pollinated seed **producer**.
- Be an agent and **tell** others about open pollinated varieties and seeds.



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