



A vision for inspirational commitment to seed saving. A direction for our current work, future aspirations and for insight for others who are interested in getting involved.

We currently:

Are a group of local gardeners from *the* Stroud District who grow and save seed.

Are present at Winter and Early Spring markets to distribute *the saved seed to people in the Stroud District.*

Run workshops and talks.

Celebrate locally adapted seed, seed diversity and growing without the use of chemicals.

Support each other and share advice, tips and stories to improve our learning and enjoyment of seed saving.

Connect with community members, groups and schools to strengthen community bonds, resilience and spread knowledge of the importance of seed saving.

Between now and 2020, we aspire towards:

Maintaining and developing the quality of our seeds, educating around seed saving techniques and clarifying the importance of high-quality seed.

Developing connections with schools and community projects across the district.

Continuing to nurture and grow a community of passionate seed savers, whether new or experienced growers.

Mapping saved seeds and their environment across the Stroud District.

Creating Land Race varieties which are more suitably adapted to our local soils.

What does the Community Seed Bank represent?

- A trusted approach to preservation of local varieties of seed, naturally adapted to grow well in our area.
- Increasing the range and availability of locally adapted seed.
- Maintaining diversification of seed to sustain access to food and enhance food sovereignty.
- Resilient communities able to adapt to consequences of climate change and adopt the principles of sharing and food self-provisioning.

Why are individuals involved in the Community Seed Bank?

Being actively involved in the Community Seed Bank on a small local scale contributes to a global movement of seed saving, making a conscious choice to create a regenerative environment for our generations and the ones that follow. Through seed saving, individuals gain confidence in their ability to produce food from their local area.

How does it support community and environment?

Seed saving can develop sharing networks within our town and district, strengthening our understanding of food systems and the dynamic environment we live in. Sharing seeds, stories, experiences, advice and motivation for planet and community wellbeing can work towards creating healthy, connected individuals and groups.

STROUD COMMUNITY SEEDBANK VISION

1. **RAISING AWARENESS:** for the importance of seed saving, developing self-reliance, diverse genetics and seed that is adapted to the land of Stroud District. Reclaiming local and therefore, global seed sovereignty; of the issues threatening our local seed heritage and the importance of seed saving for developing strong connections between residents and our environment in the Stroud Community.
2. **RE-SKILLING:** our local community residents, providing education around growing, harvesting and storing organic and saving / storage of organic seed for local Stroud public, food growers, and schools; empowering an increasing number of Stroud to feel skilled in seed saving techniques.
3. **PRESERVING:** Creating a living seed bank for protecting, storing and distributing our locally grown and saved seeds: developing seeds which can contribute to sustainable food systems by increasing seed diversity and resilience to future climate changes. By preserving our seed, we can provide a platform to develop our community.
4. **SHARING AND DISTRIBUTING:** local saved seeds, as well as; advice, experiences, support and motivation around seed saving. Working with and reaching out to *all* community members who want to grow as part of a connected, transparent and trusted method of respecting our natural world.