

From the Preservation Gardens

at SEED SAVERS EXCHANGE

For the first time ever, Seed Savers Exchange is proud to offer a selection of heirloom varieties 'From the Preservation Gardens' through our catalog.

The Preservation Gardens at Heritage Farm are where we maintain our unique collection of heirloom and open-pollinated varieties—a collection with far more diversity than our catalog. Previously available only to members through the Seed Savers Exchange Yearbook—our annual publication that facilitates seed exchange—these 'From the Preservation Gardens' varieties will be available to the general public on a limited edition basis through this 2013 catalog only.

These varieties were selected because of their interesting histories, unique characteristics, and popularity with SSE staff. We hope that you consider adding these special varieties to your garden. It is our hope that you will save seeds from your garden to share with your family and friends or, better yet, that you will become a member of SSE so that you may list these varieties—and any others you may love—in the Yearbook.

Limited Edition 2013

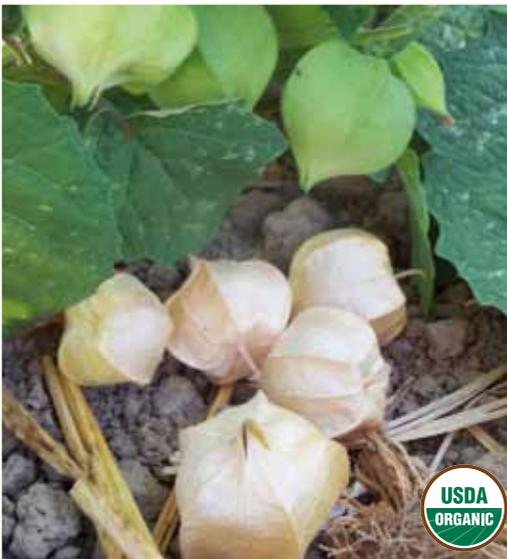
Our work is guided by a mission of participatory preservation. The efforts we take at Heritage Farm to preserve America's garden heritage are only half of the story—the other half involves the distribution of varieties from our collection to gardens

across the country, where they can be grown, enjoyed, and shared within families and communities. We hope that by making select varieties from our collection available through our catalog we can bring more active participants into our preservation efforts.

Are you a current SSE member? These varieties, plus thousands more, are also available to you through the 2013 Yearbook.



Your purchase of 'From the Preservation Gardens' varieties helps to support the preservation efforts of Seed Savers Exchange. Thousands of heirloom and historical garden varieties are maintained in our collection at Heritage Farm, making Seed Savers Exchange the largest non-governmental seedbank of its kind in the United States. Our collection grows partly by the generous donations of gardeners and farmers who had the foresight to send their seeds and stories to SSE for preservation. With your support, we are able to preserve, document, and share these heritage varieties.



The story of
 'Loewen Family Heirloom'
 GROUND CHERRY

Donated to SSE in 1999 by Edna and Ann of Minnesota. This variety has been handed down through at least four generations of women. Ann received seeds from her mother, Edna, who received seeds from her mother, Maria (Loewen) Regehr. Maria brought the variety with her when she emigrated from Russia to Canada in 1925. The variety had been grown in Russia by Maria's mother. Edna remembers her mother making ground cherry jam and that baskets of the fruit would be left on the porch in the fall, providing snacks for the children as they entered the house.

Physalis pruinosa · Very productive plants with a sprawling habit; fruit approximately 2/3" diameter, tangy and sweet, encased in a papery husk; allow fruit to fall to the ground before harvesting.

1615A- Packet (25 seeds) \$3.50

The story of
 'Ole Timey Blue'
 COLLARD

Donated to SSE in 1989 by Ralph Blackwell of Alabama. In his donation letter, Ralph described how this variety has been grown by his family for over a hundred years. Ralph has since passed away, but the variety is still being grown by his brother, Barry. Barry says the family preferred this collard over other varieties and always planted it in the fall, as its flavor sweetens up after a frost. Ralph and Barry's mother, Ira, would use the leaves to make a dish similar to sauerkraut.

Brassica oleracea · Attractive plants grow to 2' tall; broad, blue-green leaves with undulating leaf margins and purple stems and veins; very good eating qualities.

1612A- Packet (100 seeds) \$3.50



The story of
 'Bear Paw'
 CORN

A popcorn developed by Glenn Thompson of Vermont. Glenn grew and distributed 'Bear Paw' throughout New England from the 1930s until the mid-1960s. This popular variety was served in New England homes and movie theaters and was featured in the Vermont exhibit at the World's Fair. When Glenn's health declined and he was no longer able to keep up production, 'Bear Paw' became hard to find. His daughter Ginny has fond memories of the popcorn. She tells how her father hired local boys to help with the harvest; when work was done for the day, the boys were often invited in for cocoa and cupcakes. Ginny and her children remember sitting on Glenn's lap while the corn was popping over a coal burning stove.

Zea mays · Plants 4-5' tall; attractive purple coloring on husks and stems; pearly off-white kernels; 4-5" ears are often flattened and split at the silk end, giving them the appearance of a bear's paw.

1613A- Packet (50 seeds) \$3.50



The story of
'Collier'
CUCUMBER



Graham and Margaret Collier

Donated to SSE in 1989 by Graham and Margaret Collier of Tennessee. Margaret's parents acquired this variety from a group of migrant people traveling through Indiana sometime around 1910. When Margaret married Graham in 1936 and moved with him to Tennessee, she brought seeds of her parents' cucumber variety with her. Margaret and Graham's son, Robert, remembers that this was the only cucumber his parents grew in their garden each year. The family most often ate the fruit fresh in salads, but sometimes used them for pickles as well. At some point during the 1950s, the variety was nearly lost—the entire seed stock had been planted, but no seeds had germinated due to dry weather. Fortunately, in the following year, a volunteer plant came up. Graham carefully nurtured the plant and was able to rebuild a seed stock.

Cucumis sativus · Short, blocky fruit, 2-5" long, 1½-2" diameter; pale white-green skin ripens to yellow; subtle flavor, slightly sweet, not bitter; crisp, moist flesh and tender skin.

1569A- Packet (25 seeds) \$3.50



The story of
'Gulley's Favorite'
LETTUCE

Donated to SSE in 1992 by Lucille Reeves of Oklahoma. In her donation letter, Lucille stated that this variety was reported to have been grown by the Gulley family of Oklahoma since about 1890.

Lactuca sativa · Butterhead type; round, dark green leaves with a moderate red tinge and slightly undulating edge; very good eating qualities, crisp texture, good flavor; a staff favorite.

1616A- Packet (50 seeds) \$3.50



The story of
'Phebe Vinson Heirloom'
LIMA

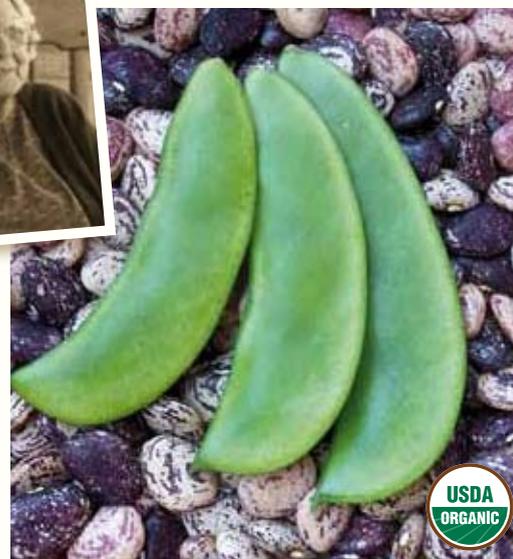


Phebe Vinson

Donated to SSE in 1987 by Phebe Vinson of Nebraska. Phebe remembers that her mother always grew this variety. When Phebe married and left home in 1919, her mother gave her some seed to take with her to her new home. In her donation letter, Phebe wrote that she preferred this heavy-bearing variety to others. Phebe's descendants recently resumed stewardship of her lima.

Phaseolus lunatus · Bush habit, plants 2-2½' tall; beautiful beige and purple mottled seed coat; very good flavor and eating qualities.

1617A- Packet (25 seeds) \$3.50





The story of
'Martin's Carrot'
 PEPPER

Donated to SSE in 1996 by Dr. William Woys Weaver of Pennsylvania. Dr. Weaver included this variety in his 1997 book *Heirloom Vegetable Gardening* and wrote, "This rare and very old heirloom is believed to have been introduced or developed in the nineteenth century by Mennonite horticulturist Jacob B. Garber (1800-1886) of Lancaster County. It was preserved for many years by the Martin family of Ephrata, Pennsylvania." Dr. Weaver acquired the variety directly from the Martin family in 1971. In his book, Dr. Weaver suggests an interesting way to consume this pepper: "I have often been tempted to call this the Pennsylvania Dutch jalapeño, since it can be used like a jalapeño in cookery. The Pennsylvania Dutch who pickle it whole often serve it stuffed with peanut butter; which makes an interesting hors d'oeuvre, especially when eaten with salt pretzels and beer."

Capsicum annuum · Plants 2-2½' tall and somewhat sprawling; carrot-shaped fruit, 1½-3" long, ripens to deep red-orange; good fruit set; smoky hot flavor and thin flesh.

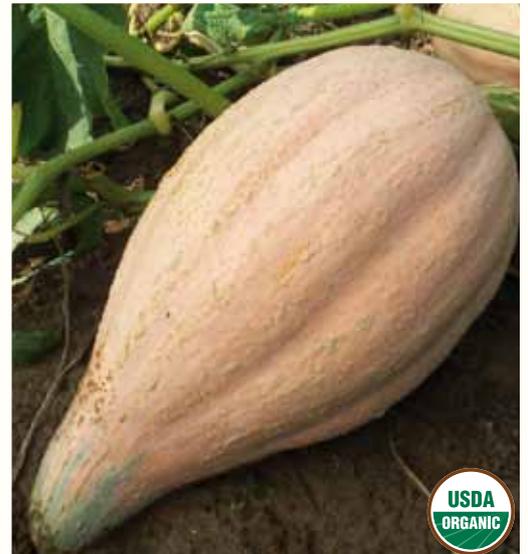
1618A- Packet (25 seeds) \$3.50

The story of
'Sweet Fall'
 SQUASH

Donated to SSE in 1998 by Ortha and Wallace Broeker of Nebraska. Wallace remembers his uncle Rob growing this variety back in the 1930s. Wallace's cousin Harold received seed from Rob and passed some on to Wallace and Ortha in the late 1940s; it has been a favorite of theirs ever since. In her donation letter, Ortha wrote that they prefer to eat the squash with only butter and salt, as it is so sweet that no sugar is needed.

Cucurbita maxima · Vining plants; Hubbard type, teardrop-shaped fruit; attractive orange and blue-green skin; fruits average 4 lbs; excellent eating qualities, very sweet, unique flavor; a staff favorite.

1619A- Packet (25 seeds) \$3.50

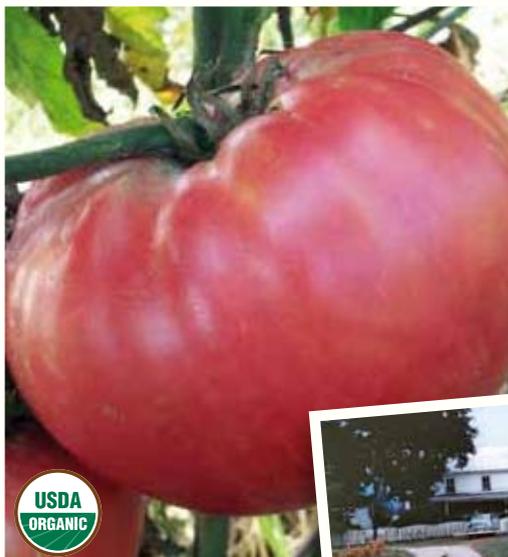


The story of
'Mamie Brown's Pink'
 TOMATO

Donated to SSE in 1995 by Alicia Brown-Matthes of Iowa. This variety was a favorite of Alicia's grandmother, Mamie Brown, and Alicia remembers seeing it growing in Mamie's garden when she visited her grandparents in West Virginia during childhood summer vacations. Alicia received seeds of the variety from her aunt Louise, Mamie's daughter. Louise remembers the variety from her childhood in the 1930s. The family most often uses the fruit for canning and making juice.

Solanum lycopersicum · Indeterminate; large pink beefsteak fruits range from slightly flattened to round to slightly heart-shaped; double, irregularly shaped fruit are somewhat common; good flavor, balanced sweetness and acidity.

1611A- Packet (25 seeds) \$3.50



Homestead of W.T. & Mamie Brown