

Donating Seeds: Guidelines & Considerations

Thank you for supporting the Central MA Seed Hub! Your contributions help foster food security, biodiversity, and community resilience.

You can donate seeds by emailing centralmaseedhub@gmail.com. In your email you please list the types of seeds, quantity and your contact information. Once a network of seed libraries is established, you can donate your seeds directly to one of the libraries as well.

To ensure we provide high-quality seeds to all, please follow these guidelines when donating:

What to Donate

- **Primary Focus:** Food crops (vegetables, fruits, herbs) and native plants
- **Healthy, Viable Seeds:** Fresh seeds from the most recent growing seasons, properly stored to maintain viability
- **Well-Labeled Seeds:** Include the plant name, variety, and collection date
- **Growing Instructions (Optional):** Providing details like planting depth, spacing, and growing conditions is appreciated
- **Optional Consideration:** heirloom seeds are preferred for seed-saving purposes

What not to Donate

- **Invasive Species:** Please research and avoid donating seeds that may be harmful to local ecosystems
- **Old or Poorly Stored Seeds:** Seeds that are too old or improperly stored may have low germination rates

Helpful Practices for Seed Sharing

- **Record Germination Rates & Growing Feedback:** Your experience with the seeds helps us improve the seed-sharing program and provide valuable data to the **Cooperative Gardens Commission** and local volunteers. You can find tracking sheets here from the CGC: <https://www.coopgardens.org/seed-and-harvest-tracking-tools>
- **Package Seeds Thoughtfully:** Use envelopes or small containers to keep seeds dry and protected and label clearly.
- **Support the Seed Hub Beyond Donations:** Attend seed-sorting events, volunteer, or spread the word about our mission!