

Lettuce Unite!

Seed Libraries and Beyond



Presented by
UC Master Gardeners of Placer County
And the Loomis Seed Library



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ UCCE Master Gardener Program

Who Are Master Gardeners?

Master Gardeners of Placer County

- ❖ Extend **research-based**, sustainable gardening and composting information
- ❖ Present accurate, impartial information to **home gardeners**
- ❖ Encourage public to make **informed** gardening decisions



Who Are Master Gardeners?

Where to find us...

Online, in the Media, and Special Publications

- ❖ Hotline: Call **(530) 889-7388** or submit your questions online
- ❖ Website: pcmg.ucanr.org
- ❖ Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- ❖ Gold Country Media monthly column
- ❖ *Curious Gardener quarterly* newsletter; email and on website
- ❖ *Gardening Guide and Calendar*



Who Are Master Gardeners?

Where to find us...**YES!**

Workshops, Fairs and Festivals and Special Events

- ❖ Speakers by Request
- ❖ Workshops (various venues, check website)
- ❖ Farmers' Markets (seasonal: Auburn, Roseville)
- ❖ Fairs and Festivals Booths (varies)
- ❖ Garden Faire (April)
- ❖ Mother's Day Garden Tour (May)



UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

Who Are Master Gardeners?

pcmg.ucanr.org



Placer Pests | Gardening Essentials | Gardening Year Round | Vegetables | Landscape Plants | Fruits & Nuts | UC Gardening Guides

SHARE | PRINT

UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

Home

2021 Gardening Guide and Calendar

2022 Gardening Guide and Calendar - Now Available

Join Our Email List

Ask a Master Gardener

School & Community Gardens

Curious Gardener Newsletter

About Master Gardeners

How to Become a Master Gardener

Contact Us

Placer/Nevada UCCE

For PC Master Gardeners Only

Upcoming Events

Event Name	Date
Lettuce Unite! Zoom Workshop	2/5/2022
Citrus Tree Care in the Foothills Zoom Workshop	2/12/2022
Totally Tomatoes Zoom Workshop	2/26/2022
Dealing with Deer: Deer Deterrents and Deer Resistant Plants Zoom Workshop	3/12/2022
Planning Your Vegetable Garden Zoom Workshop	3/26/2022

Virtual Gardening Workshops

To view previous workshops: [Recorded Virtual Gardening Workshops 1 31 2022](#)

2022 Gardening Guide & Calendar



HOTLINE UPDATE

The Hotline office is currently available to answer your gardening questions. You can submit them by using the Ask A Master Gardener link below or by leaving a message on our Hotline number shown at the bottom of this web page. Note that the office continues to be closed to walk-in clients.

[Ask a Master Gardener...](#)

See Hotline Update (above)

To learn more, [Click here.](#)

Placer County Vegetable Planting Guide

Specifically designed for foothill gardeners, the [Placer County Planting Guide](#) shows what and when to plant in your

Let's Look at your Handouts

- Resources Page
- Seed Chart
- Six Tips for Saving Seeds
- Easy Peasy Seeds

Available on pcmg website with recorded presentation.



Agenda

- What is a seed library?
- How do I 'borrow' seeds?
- How do I 'return' seeds?
- How do I save seeds?

Agenda

- What is a seed library?



From mammoth to lunchbox sized!

- What is a seed library?



Loomis Seed Library

- How do I 'borrow' seeds?

Drawers hold
seed packets



Spring = Warm Season veg.

- How do I 'borrow' seeds?

**Sign out seeds
Up to 5 packets**



- How do I 'borrow' seeds?

Enter information

Placer County Vegetable Planting Guide
Warm Season Vegetables

Loom's Seed Library

Checkout form
Please record which free seed packets your are taking with you. This helps with future purchasing decisions. Please limit selection to 5 packets.

DATE	NAME	SEED PACKETS (SPECIFIC)	TOTAL PACKETS
9/28	Ellen Chien	Spicy, Bull + flowers	4
9/29	Amy Riley	Wonder Pea, Sugar Snap, Green Cabbage, Tanga Cabbage	4 (1 each)
9/29	Amy Riley	Champion Butternut, Wonder Pea, Tanga Cabbage	3 (1 each)
	Pereline Roseau	Lincoln Pea, Bright Lights Sweet Corn, Super Buns	1 each
		Kickoff Xtra, Bright Lights Tomato, Marketmore Teardrop	
		Conlet Nimmis Carrot, Northrup Butternut	
		Plato Best Jumbo Butternut, Golden Bantam Corn	
10/30	Salma Hukaj	Parade Butternut, Bright Lights, Carrot, Golden Bantam	3
10/28	Shannon Grotzke	Red onions (3), beets chioggia 2	5
10/29/21	Michelle Casanova	Red onion, Yellow Onion, Champion Radish, Parklands Red	5

• How do I 'return' seeds?

Easy as 1-2-3!

1. Follow seed saving protocols
2. Enter data on Seed Label
3. Return seed packet to library.

LOOMIS Seed Lending Library

Common name: _____

Scientific name: _____

Variety: _____

Grower's name: _____

Location of harvest: _____

Year: _____

Notes: _____

Difficulty of seed to save:

☐ Easy ☐ Difficult ☐ Hand-pollinate

Seeds saved from ____ (Qty.) plants.

Thank you for saving seeds!

Please return some at the end of the season.

Returning Seeds is optional

- How Do I Save Seeds?

OK

- Let's Get Started...

Agenda

- Why Save Seeds?
 - What to Save?
 - Plan for Saving
 - How to Save?
- Now let's grow...



Why Save Seeds?

The beauty of seeds is rivaled only by their purpose.

Within the confines of the seed coat, every seed holds a connection to the future and to the past.

The embryonic plant that rests within a seed contains not only the promise of what is to come as it is nurtured and grows from a young seedling into a mature plant, but also the history and traits that properly saved seeds pass down from generation to generation.

From The Seed Garden: The Art and Practice of Seed Saving

Why Save Seeds?

- Cultivate locally adapted plants
- Preserve natural diversity
- Protect heirloom varieties
- Get free seeds
- Create new varieties?
 - By choice or accidentally.
 - Good thing or not.....

What to Save?

Gardeners Choose

- Taste and Texture
- Productivity
- Bearing-early, late
- Disease/pest resistance
- Drought tolerance
- Slow bolting (temperature)

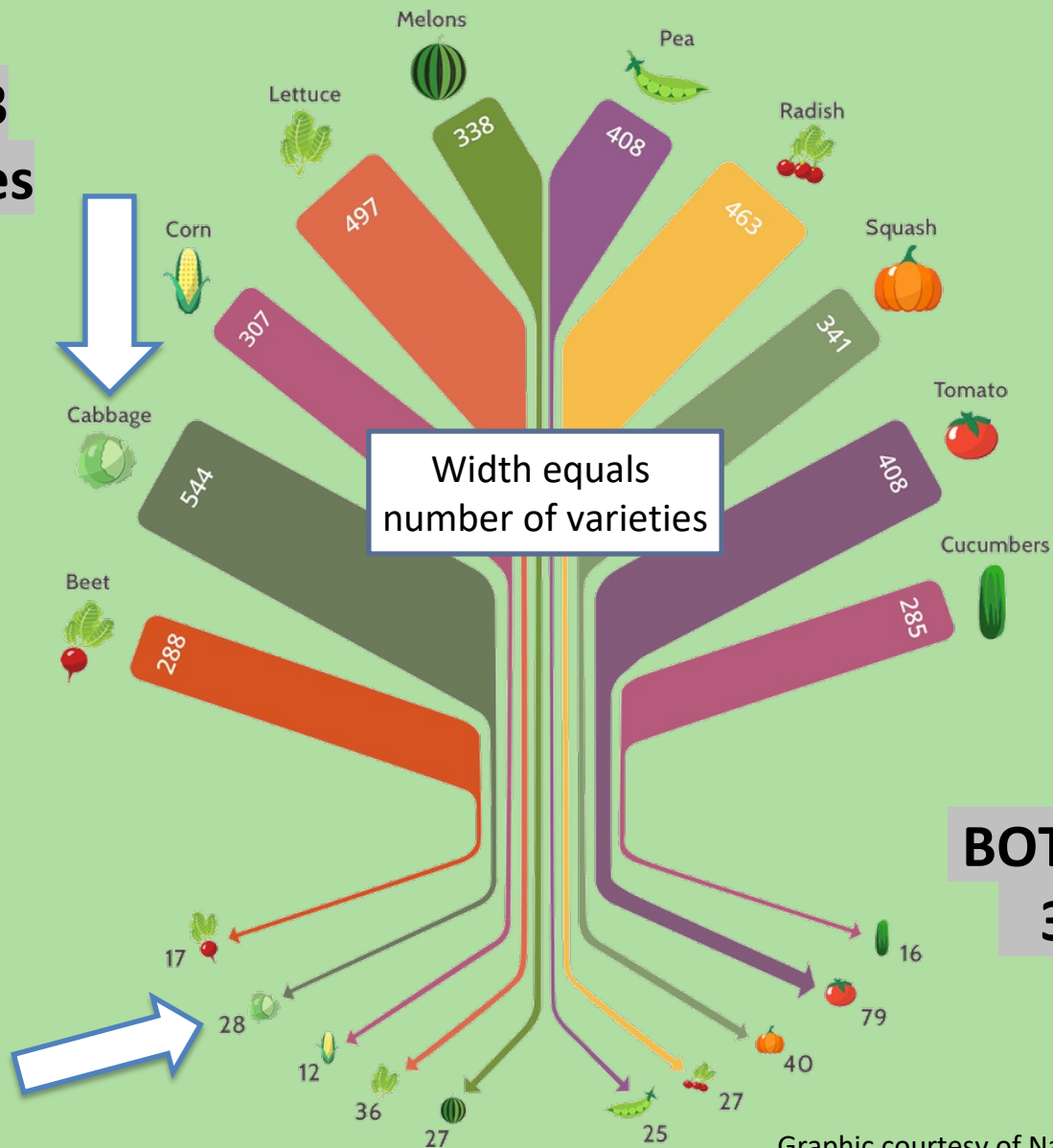
What to Save?

Corporations Choose

- Uniformity
- Storage life
- Shipping stability
- Cosmetic values

Loss of Seed Variety

TOP = 1903
3,879 choices

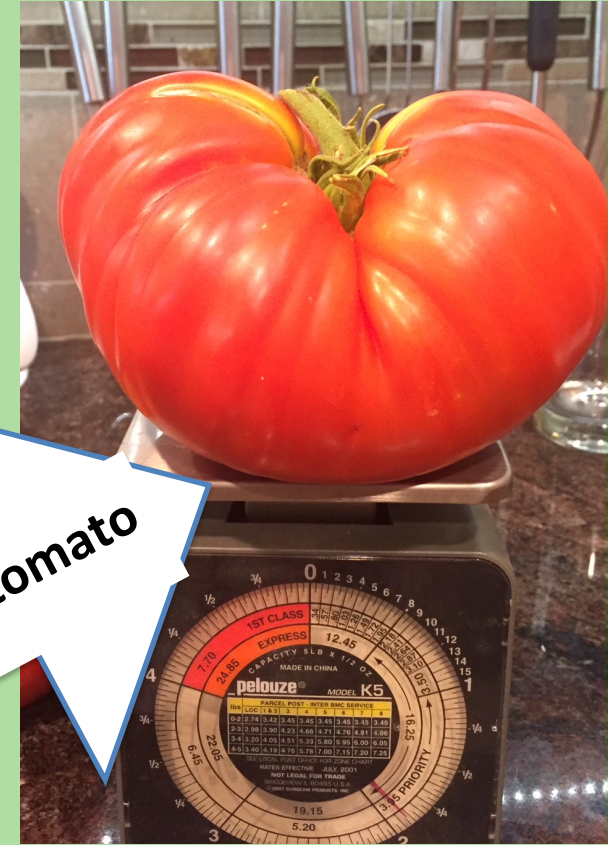


BOTTOM = 1983
307 choices
(8%)

Know Your Parent Plant

**Open Pollinated
vs.
Hybrid**

1.8 lb. Brandywine heirloom tomato



Photo/tomato

Ingrid Elsel

Know Your Parent Plant

Open Pollinated vs. Hybrid

Open-pollinated plants

Have stable genetic makeup
Breed true-to type

Hybrid plants

Produced by crossing
two distinct parent lines
Often labeled F1

Know Your Parent Plant

Open Pollinated



Know Your Parent Plant

Hybrid



Hybrid seed



Sungold

Year 2

Not like last year!



Midnight Snack

Know Your Parent Plant



Heirloom Varieties

Plan for Seed Saving

- Start with easy crops
- Grow enough plants
- Put space between varieties

Easy Peasy Seeds Handout

Easy Peas-y

- Peas,
- Beans,
- Lettuce,
- Tomatoes,
- Arugula - (crosses with wild arugula weeds),
- Dill - (crosses with wild dill weeds)

Watch videos
on saving Peas and Beans and Lettuce
to help you get started. (Resource sheet)

Now, let's look at the Saving Seeds chart

Download

Saving



Seeds

Vegetable	Cy	Pollination	Isolation Distance	Seed Longevity	Saving Ease	Direct Trans	Notes
Bean	A	Self	100'	2-3 yrs	easy	D	Lose vigor rapidly.
Soybean	A	Self	100'	2-3 yrs	easy	D	
Beet/Chard	B	Cross	Wind ½ mi	3-5 yrs	*	D	Beets cross with chards.
Broccoli/Kale/Cauliflower	B	Cross	Insect ½ mi	3-5 yrs		T	Crossing among brassica species is complex. Consult a good reference book.
Carrot	B	Cross	Insect 1500'	3-5 yr	*	D	Crosses with wild species, like Queen Anne's Lace.
Celery	B	Cross	Insect 1500'	3 yrs	*	T	http://vric.ucdavis.edu/pdf/celery.pdf
Corn	A	Cross	Wind ½ mi	2-3 yrs		D	Adequate pollination essential.
Cucumber	A	Cross	Insect 1500'	5-10 yrs		D/T	Harvest at yellow blimp stage.
Eggplant	A	Self	150'	2-3 yrs	easy*	T	
Leek	B	Cross	Insect 1500'	3 yrs	*	D	
Onions	B	Cross	Insect 1500'	1 yr	*	D	Sets produce green onions.
Lettuce	A	Self	50'	2-3 yrs	easy	D/T	
Melon	A	Cross	Insect ½ mi	3-5 yrs		D/T	Muskmelons will not cross with watermelons.
Mustard	A	Cross	Insect ½ mi	3-5 yrs		D/T	Crosses with wild species.
Pea	A	Self	50;	3 yrs	easy	D	Do not save from diseased plants.
Pepper	A	Both	Insect 500'	3-5 yrs		T	Some varieties cross more readily than others.
Radish	A	Cross	Insect 1500'	3-5 yrs		D	
Spinach	A	Cross	Wind ½ mi	2-3 yrs	*		
Squash/Pumpkin	A	Cross	Insect 1500'	2-5 yrs		D/T	Moschata 2-3 yrs, pepo & maxima 3-5 yrs. These three species generally do not cross.
Tomato	A	Self	25-100'	5-10 yrs	easy	T	Potato-leaf types need the greater isolation distance.

How to Save Seeds

- Know when seeds are mature
- Collect your bounty
- Store safely

Mature Seeds



Bean seeds



Lettuce seeds



Tomatoes

Bag Fragile Seeds



Save Your Seeds



Dry Seed Saving



Decanting Seeds

Save Your Seeds



Decanting Seeds



Fungus layer

Wet Seed Saving

Dry Your Seeds



Store Seeds Safely



Sharing Seeds



Seed Saving Rules

- Plan for food AND seed
- Know the seed saving rules!!!
 - Not Hybrid varieties!
 - Start with Easy-Peasy
 - Seed chart advice
- Proper cleaning, drying, storage

Let's Recap...


Saving seeds allows:

- More choices
- Varieties you enjoy
- Plants adapted to your garden



Growing Vegetables





pcmg.ucanr.org



Placer Pests Gardening Essentials Gardening Year Round Vegetables Landscape Plants Fruits & Nuts UC Gardening Guides

Home
2021 Gardening Guide and Calendar
2022 Gardening Guide and Calendar - Now Available
Join Our Email List
Ask a Master Gardener
School & Community Gardens
Curious Gardener Newsletter
About Master Gardeners
How to Become a Master Gardener
Contact Us
Placer/Nevada UCCE
For more information, visit [pcmg.ucanr.org](#)

Connect With Us!

UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

[SHARE](#) | [PRINT](#)

Upcoming Events

Event Name	Date
Lettuce Unite! Zoom Workshop	2/5/2022
Citrus Tree Care in the Foothills Zoom Workshop	2/12/2022
Totally Tomatoes Zoom Workshop	2/26/2022
Dealing with Deer: Deer Deterrents and Deer Resistant Plants Zoom Workshop	3/12/2022
Planning Your Vegetable Garden Zoom Workshop	3/26/2022

Virtual Gardening Workshops

To view previous workshops: [Recorded Virtual Gardening Workshops 1-31-2022](#)


HOTLINE UPDATE

The Hotline office is currently available to answer your gardening questions. You can submit them by using the Ask A Master Gardener link below or by leaving a message on our Hotline number shown at the bottom of this web page. Note that the office continues to be closed to walk-in clients.

[Ask a Master Gardener...](#)

See Hotline Update (above)
To learn more, [Click here](#).

2022 Gardening Guide & Calendar



Placer County Vegetable Planting Guide

Specifically designed for foothill gardeners, the [Placer County Planting Guide](#) shows what and when to plant in your

Growing Vegetables



Placer County Vegetable Planting Guide

Version 3.0

- Start seeds indoors
- Direct sow in garden
- Transplant
- Harvest

The dates on this chart are for gardens at about 1200' of elevation. For Winter/Spring planting, gardeners at higher elevations should delay planting by about 2 weeks for every 1000' above 1200'. Gardeners at lower elevations should plant about 2 weeks earlier for every 1000' below 1200'.

City	Approx. Elevation	Avg. Last Frost Date
Roseville	165'	3/15
Lincoln	165'	3/15
Rocklin	250'	3/23
Loomis	400'	3/26
Granite Bay	480'	3/26
Penryn	625'	3/26
Newcastle	950'	4/2
Auburn	1225'	4/2
Meadow Vista	1700'	4/9
Applegate	2000'	4/9
Weimar	2250'	4/9
Colfax	2425'	4/9
Foresthill	3225'	4/16

Warm Season Vegetables

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
eggplant												Until frost
peppers												Until frost
tomatoes												Until frost
winter squash												
beans, green										Until frost		
beans, dried												Until frost
summer squash												
corn												
cucumber												
melons												
sweet potato												Until frost
okra											Until frost	

Planting and harvest dates may vary between varieties; please check seed packets for details.

Frost dates are approximate due to recent climate changes and varying topography within Placer County.

Acknowledgments: Thank you to Professor Emeritus, Dr. Robert Norris at the UC Davis Plant Sciences Department and the El Dorado County Master Gardeners for the inspiration to create a local planting guide for Placer County.

Master Gardeners of Placer County can be reached at (530) 889-7388, or online at pcmg.ucanr.org.

*Sweet potato slips are rooted cuttings. Please go to sacmg.ucanr.edu/files/187714.pdf for more information.



Thank You!

Any Questions?

Master Gardener Hotline: **(530) 889-7388**

Master Gardener Rot Line: **(530) 889-7399**

Master Gardener Website: **pcmg.ucanr.org**



UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

???

In Closing

Let's consider this a journey we are embarking upon together, We will learn as we go—

- From the plants
- From each other
- and from our 'mistakes'

This is an adventure we can share.

Come back and tell us how your journey went.

We will have stories to tell, too.

Seed Saving Questions

Is this plant a hybrid or an open pollinated variety?

Is this a plant I *should* save seed from?

How far does this plant need to be planted from others to “breed true” or does this plant need others to be properly pollinated (think “self-pollinated” vs needing “cross pollination”)?

Where/when do the seeds form on this plant?

How are the seeds naturally dispersed?

When are the seeds ripe?

Was the plant that you want to save seed from healthy?

How do you clean the seeds? Dry, ferment, etc.

Store your seeds in a cool dry place.

Don't save them for too long. Check the viability chart.

Don't give up!





Thank You!

Any Questions?

Evaluations, Please!

Master Gardener Hotline: (530) 889-7388

Master Gardener Rot Line: (530) 889-7399

Master Gardener Website: pcmg.ucanr.org



UC Master Gardeners of Placer County