PEPPERS, CHILI PEPPERS AND EGGPLANTS

HARVEST, SAVE AND SOW THEIR SEEDS

Choose → Let ripen → Harvest → Extract → Clean → Dry → Label → Store → Reseed

THE PRINCIPLE

To obtain viable seeds, let the fruits reach full maturity and follow each step carefully.

IMPORTANT

Avoid F1 hybrids if you want to faithfully renew your seed stock.



1 CHOOSE THE RIGHT VARIETIES

- Reproducible or open-pollinated varieties
- Healthy, vigorous plants
- Fruits that are true to the variety
- Plants well adapted to your climate and soil
- Several plants to preserve diversity

2 LET RIPEN FULLY

PEPPERS AND CHILI PEPPERS

Let the fruits reach their **full maturity color.**



EGGPLANTS

Let the fruits go beyond the usual harvest stage. They may lose their shine, yellow or brown and the **flesh becomes firmer** or softer.



3 EXTRACT AND CLEAN

PEPPERS AND CHILI PEPPERS

Cut the fruit, remove the seeds and membranes. Remove the remaining flesh. Keep the seeds well formed and healthy.



EGGPLANTS

Put the flesh in water, separate the seeds from the pulp, then rinse them thoroughly.



4 DRY COMPLETELY

Spread the seeds in a single layer in a place that is: **dry, well ventilated, away** from direct sun and humidity.



Stir from time to time and wait until they are completely dry.



5 LABEL YOUR BATCHES

Note at least: **species and variety, year, origin, pollination mode** and any useful notes.



CAUTION WITH HOT PEPPERS!

Avoid touching your eyes or face.
Wash your hands thoroughly after handling and use gloves if necessary.



POLLINATION: STAY ALERT

Flowers can self-pollinate, but insects also carry pollen.
To preserve a variety as faithfully as possible:

- Grow varieties with some distance between them.
- Identify precisely the plants intended for seed saving.
- Protect some flowers before they open if you are seeking very careful conservation.
- Note open pollination if you do not fully control the origin of the pollen.



A fruit may look true to variety, while the cross will only show up in the next generation.

6 STORE

Place the seeds in a paper envelope, labeled packet or suitable container.



Store in a place that is: **dry, cool, dark and stable.**

Avoid humidity, high heat, direct light and large temperature changes.



7 HOW LONG?

Well dried and properly stored, pepper, chili pepper and eggplant seeds can keep their germination power for **several years.**

Their viability decreases gradually over time.

It is best to test and renew your batches regularly.



8 TEST BEFORE RESEEDING

When a batch starts to age, perform a small **germination test.**

Simple method:

1. Place a few seeds between two moist paper towels.
2. Keep warm and in the light (but not in direct sun).
3. Check every day.
4. Note the percentage of seeds that germinate.



KEY POINTS

- ✓ Choose reproducible or open-pollinated varieties and healthy plants.
- ✓ Avoid F1 hybrids.
- ✓ Stay alert about pollination.
- ✓ Let peppers and chili peppers ripen fully.
- ✓ Let eggplants go beyond the usual harvest stage.
- ✓ Extract and clean the seeds.
- ✓ Handle hot peppers with caution.
- ✓ Dry completely.
- ✓ Label your batches.
- ✓ Store in a dry, cool and dark place.
- ✓ Testt germination when batches get old.

THE CYCLE TO REMEMBER

Choose → Let ripen → Harvest → Extract → Clean → Dry → Label → Store → Reseed

Behind every fruit that reached full maturity lies thove la possibilité de faire renaître to a whole nouvelle génération.