



SEED LIBRARY



www.gmlibrary.com.au



What is a Seed Library?

A Seed Library is a community resource consisting of seeds that can be taken home instead of books! This is a free seed sharing program sustained through donations from the community.

The return on this loan is not the fresh produce, but rather some seeds that you have harvested. These seeds are then shared with other library members in a reciprocal manner.

Our seed Library was proudly established in collaboration with Goulburn Mulwaree Landcare Landscapes.



How does the community benefit from a Seed Library

The Goulburn Seed Library was created with the intent to cultivate a community of self-reliance, sharing, resilience, and knowledge.

The aim is to:

- Encourage community connections and involvement with the Library through sharing of seeds, knowledge and resources
- Create and build upon community partnerships
- Nurture and embrace our unique local environment and support the community to enjoy their gardens
- Support sustainable practices in the community by encouraging people to attempt to grow some of their own produce
- Encourage the sharing and use of local seeds and the maintaining of heirloom seed varieties.

How it works...

How it works:

- Borrow up to two packets of seeds at a time from the Library
- Grow the seeds into plants
- Harvest seeds from the plants
- Return collected seeds to the Library for others to enjoy!

Browse our recyclable seed packets and follow the instructions to brighten up your garden!

Borrowing from the Seed Library is FREE. All you need is a membership at Goulburn Mulwaree Library.



What kinds of seeds do we collect?

We collect a variety of seeds for our Seed Library collection, including natives, flowers, vegetables and herbs.

Please note, we don't collect, distribute or accept donations of plants that are on the NSW Department of Primary Industries WeedWise list.

For more information visit the NSW WeedWise site - <https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/> or The Department of Regional & Primary Industries website on controlling weeds here <https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-and-primary-industries/biosecurity/weeds>



NSW WeedWise site



Control invasive weeds

What seeds are available?

The seed library is an evolving collection based on the season and diversity of donations, but here are some of the sorts of seeds you can expect to find (subject to availability):

Seeds:

Vegetables - Tomatoes, cucumber, zucchini, beans

Herbs - Parsley, basil, coriander

Flowers - Everlasting daisies, poppies, sunflowers,

Natives - Wattle, bottlebrush, eucalypts, kurrajong

Harvesting Seeds

Growing plants from the seed library is fun and free! You can keep the fun going by harvesting seeds from your plants. Plant them again next season or return them to the library for others to enjoy.

Which seeds should I keep?

The best plants for collecting seeds are the healthiest ones. Take a mature fruit or seed head or two from each for best results. Save the seeds that look plump and fairly uniform in colour, and get rid of any seeds that are mouldy, damaged, discoloured or appear dehydrated. For information and resources on saving seeds go to Page 7 & 8 for websites and books available at the Library.

How do I harvest my seeds?

- If you are collecting seeds from pods (e.g. beans) or from seed heads (e.g. coriander), collect the seed pods or heads in a paper bag or shallow cardboard box just as they begin to turn brown.
- If you are collecting seeds from fleshy fruit (eg. capsicum, tomato), scoop out the seeds from a slightly over-ripe fruit. Wash the seeds to get rid of any excess flesh before leaving to dry.
- Leave seeds or pods/heads in a warm, dry place until they have dried out completely. Then either collect the seeds by hand or place pods/seed heads in a paper bag and shake to release the seeds.

Place your seeds in an envelope or paper bag labelled with the name of the plant and the date you collected the seed and return a portion to the library front desk. Meanwhile, store in an air-tight container in a cool, dry area.



Seed Donations

Donations to the seed library are not mandatory but are very welcome - they help us keep the program going and share the joy of growing things within our community. If you would like to donate:

1. Bring your dried seeds in your own paper bag or envelope to the Library front desk.
2. Please specify type of seeds, variety and when they were harvested on the slip provided.
3. A member of staff will take your seeds and they will be repackaged by local Landcare volunteers ready for sharing.

We accept:

- Healthy-looking seeds
- Clean, dry seeds.
- Seeds of all the same species - no mixed packets please.



We don't accept:

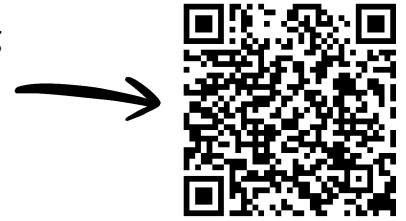
- Seeds that are mouldy, slimy or rotting.
- Seeds with excess soil or debris.
- Packaged seeds that are past their expiry date.
- Unlabelled packets of seeds.
- Plants listed on the NSW Department of Primary Industries WeedWise list



Resources - Websites

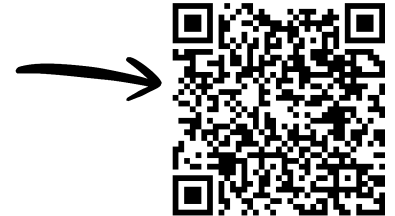
Gardening Australia Series 32, Episode 5 - Tino shares his tips for saving seed from your patch.

<https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/how-to/seed-saving-secrets/13239606>



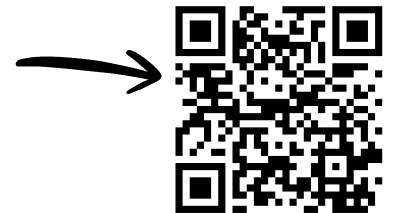
ABC Organic Gardener - Essential Guide to Saving Seeds

<https://www.organicgardener.com.au/essential-guide-to-seed-saving/>



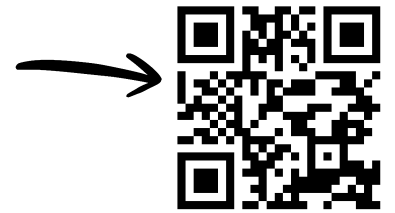
Gardening tips, companion planting, edible gardening, habitat gardening, plants, soil & more!

<https://www.sgaonline.org.au/>



The Seed Savers' Network is a not-for-profit organisation, based in Australia, that conserves traditional varieties of food plants in home gardens.

<https://seedsavers.net/>



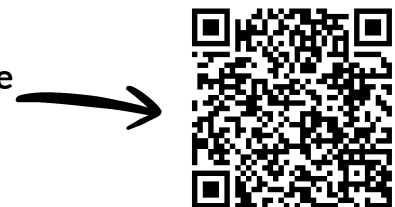
Collecting and caring for seed from Australian native plants

<https://riversofcarbon.org.au/handy-how-to-guide-collecting-and-caring-for-seed-from-australian-native-plants/>



Choosing the right species for our climate. Seeds and propagated plants derived from locally acclimatised stock will generally survive and produce better than those from different origins. - Digger Climate Zone Map:

<https://www.diggers.com.au/pages/choosing-the-right-plants-for-your-climate-area>

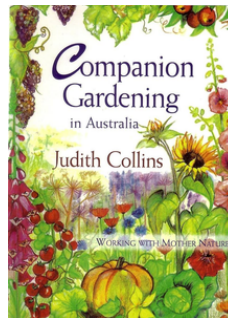


Resources - Books

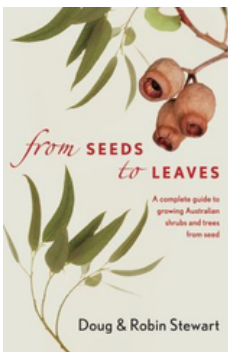
Books available in the Goulburn Mulwaree Library collection - browse and reserve at gmplib.co



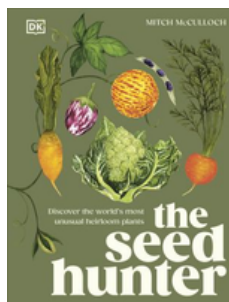
The Seed Savers' Handbook - Michel & Jude Fanton



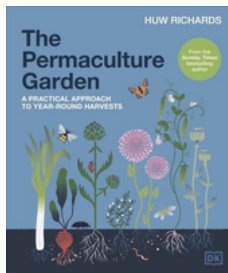
Companion Gardening in Australia - Judith Collins



From Seeds to Leaves - Doug & Robin Stewart



The Seed Hunter - Mitch McColloch



The Permaculture Garden - Huw Richards



Beginning Seed Saving for the Home Gardener - Jim Ulager

Companion Planting Chart

By growing 'companion plants' through your garden, you can add another dimension of colour and texture while attracting pollinators, deterring pests and disease, enhancing the health, nutrition and yield of your plants. **Sustainable Gardening Australia** have compiled a comprehensive companion planting chart you can access via the QR code below.



Local Groups

Goulburn Mulwaree Landcare Landscapes

Ph: 0413 364 436

Email: coordinator@gmll.org.au

Website: www.gmll.org.au



Goulburn Region Permaculture is a network of passionate people creating gardens, sharing skills and resources and building community through the Principles of Permaculture. GRP has monthly Activity Days at member's gardens, which may be working bees in the garden or be more focused on sharing and learning new skills, or creating resources like seed banks. Find them on Facebook or email goulburnregionpermaculture@gmail.com to join the mailing list.



Australian Plant Society NSW

Southern Tablelands District Group

Website: www.austplants.com.au/Southern-Tablelands

Secretary: Kaye Norman 0438 246 476



Goulburn Community Garden

Increase your skills for locally growing highly nutritious and tasty food, by coming along to the Goulburn Community Gardens and meeting like-minded people
Fridays 9.30-12pm, Saturdays 10-12pm

43 Goldsmith Street, Goulburn

www.facebook.com/groups/goulburncommunitygarden

Website: www.goulburncommunitygarden.org.au



Goulburn Field Naturalists Society Inc. Working to preserve and record native flora and fauna and promote all aspects of safeguarding the local natural environment. Active participants in local conservation projects in the Goulburn area.

Meeting: Fourth Friday of every second month and regular field trips

www.facebook.com/groups/1712721095964455

Website: <https://goulburnfns.wordpress.com/>



FROGS (Friends and Residents of Goulburn Swamplands) is slowly turning the Wetlands into a great resource for people and wildlife ... and cleaner water. Come and visit, or come and help. Working bees are held every Wednesday morning and the second Saturday of the month.

www.facebook.com/FROGS.Landcare.Goulburn/



Planting Guide

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Artichoke (Jerusalem)												
Asian Greens			 				 	 	 			
Basil 	 											
Beans												
Beetroot	 	 							 	 	 	 
Broad Beans				 		 	 	 				
Broccoli	 											
Brussel Sprouts	 											
Cabbage	 								 	 	 	 
Capsicum 	 									 	 	
Carrots	 	 							 	 	 	 
Cauliflower	 											 
Celery									 	 	 	
Chilli												
Cucumber										 	 	 
Eggplant 										 	 	 
Garlic												
Kale												



SEED LIBRARY

goulburn mulwaree library

For more information about the seed library contact:

Goulburn Mulwaree Library

184 Bourke Street Goulburn

www.gmlibrary.com.au

(02) 4823 4435

library@goulburn.nsw.gov.au

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 10am-2pm

Closed Sundays & Public Holidays

www.gmlibrary.com.au

