

Seed saving organizations and selected seed companies

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In the past 20 years, there has been a huge consolidation in the seed industry with four multinational conglomerates, Bayer/Monsanto, Corteva (Dow/Dupont), ChemChina (Syngenta) and BASF now owning over 60% of commercially available seed. **Whoever controls our seed, controls our food.**

Many of the seed companies, cooperatives and seed exchanges listed below didn't exist 20 years ago. They represent an alternative to the corporations that are trying to own the world's seed. Many focus on sustainable growing practices, transparency, and keeping seeds in the public commons. They are weaving together a new fabric of locally controlled bio-diverse seed and food systems. The list is organized by region and geographic proximity to our seed garden in Sebastopol, CA.

When seed is grown in similar climate and growing conditions to yours, the better adapted the seed will be to your garden and the better it will perform. Many of the following companies indicate where the seed was grown and by whom. No matter where your seed is originally grown, you can adapt it to your garden conditions by saving it every year and replanting it.

Bohemian Seeds Community Seed Exchange	Occidental, CA Sebastopol, CA	Sebastopol Farmer's Market https://www.communityseedexchange.org/
Living Seed Company Quail Seeds Open Circle Seeds Redwood Seeds Sundial Seed Company Wild Boar Farms	Point Reyes Station, CA Mendocino County, CA Potter Valley, CA Manton, CA Willits, CA Napa and Solano Counties, CA	http://www.livingseedcompany.com https://www.quailseeds.com/ https://www.opencircleseeds.com/ http://www.redwoodseeds.net/ https://www.sundialseed.com/ http://www.wildboarfarms.com/
Artisan Seeds Kitazawa Seed Company Redwood City Seed Company	Sunol, CA Oakland, CA Redwood City, CA	http://store.growartisan.com/ http://www.kitazawaseed.com/ http://www.ecoseeds.com/
Adaptive Seeds Deep Harvest Farm Nichols Garden Nursery Peace Seeds/Alan Kapuler Resilient Seeds Restoration Seeds Siskiyou Seeds Territorial Seeds Uprising Seeds Victory Seeds Wild Garden Seed	Sweet Home, Oregon Whidbey Island, WA Albany, Oregon Corvallis, Oregon Bellingham, WA Talent, OR Williams, Oregon Cottage Grove, Oregon Bellingham, Washington Molalla, Oregon Philomath, Oregon	http://www.adaptiveseeds.com http://deepharvestfarm.com/ www.nicholsgardennursery.com http://peaceseedslive.blogspot.com/ https://www.resilientseeds.com/ https://www.restorationseeds.com/ http://www.siskiyouseeds.com/ http://www.territorialseed.com http://uprisingorganics.com http://www.victoryseeds.com/ http://www.wildgardenseed.com/
Fedco Seeds Grand Prismatic Seed High Mowing Seeds Hudson Valley Seed Company Johnny's Selected Seeds Native Seeds/SEARCH Prairie Road Organic Seed Sand Hill Preservation Center Seed Savers Exchange Southern Exposure Seed Exchange Triple Divide Organic Seeds Co-op Turtle Tree	Maine Utah Vermont Accord, New York Maine Arizona North Dakota Iowa Iowa Virginia Montana New York	http://www.fedcoseeds.com https://www.grandprismaticseed.com/ http://www.highmowingseeds.com http://hudsonvalleyseed.com/ http://www.johnnyseeds.com http://www.nativeseeds.org/ https://www.prairieroadorganic.co/ http://www.sandhillpreservation.com/ http://www.seedsavers.org http://www.southernexposure.com https://triplivedivideseeds.com/ http://www.turtletreeseed.org/

Additional Resources:

Carol Deppe – Oregon plant breeder holds a PhD in Genetics from Harvard University and specializes in developing open source crops for organic growing conditions, sustainable agriculture, and human survival for the next thousand years. She is the author of [Breed Your Own Vegetable Varieties: The Gardener's and Farmer's Guide to Plant Breeding and Seed Saving](#) and [The Resilient Gardener: Food Production and Self-Reliance in Uncertain Times](#).

Council for Responsible Genetics – The Council for Responsible Genetics fosters public debate about the social, ethical and environmental implications of genetic technologies. It publishes a bimonthly magazine, *GeneWatch*, the only publication of its kind in the nation. It also publishes a list of companies that have signed the Safe Seed Pledge. <http://www.councilforresponsiblegenetics.org/Projects/CurrentProject.aspx?projectId=17>

ETC Group – Corporate control of the Food Chain – [Too Big to Feed: The Short Report](#)
Mega-mergers and the concentration of power in the agri-food sector: How dominant firms have become too big to feed humanity sustainably

GRAIN - a small international non-profit organization that works to support small farmers and social movements in their struggles for community-controlled and biodiversity-based food systems. <http://www.grain.org>

Navdanya - Vandana Shiva's effort to bring attention to the importance of seed sovereignty - <http://www.navdanya.org/site/>

Occidental Arts and Ecology Center – a research, demonstration, advocacy and organizing center in Sonoma County, California that develops strategies for regional-scale community resilience. - <http://www.oaec.org/>
Seed saving guide for educators - <http://oaec.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/A-Handful-of-Seeds.pdf>

Open Source Seed Initiative - <http://osseeds.org/> - “Today, only a handful of companies account for most of the world's commercial breeding and seed sales. Increasingly, patenting is used to enhance the power and control of these companies over the seeds and the farmers that feed the world. Patented seeds cannot be saved, replanted, or shared by farmers and gardeners. And because there is no research exemption for patented material, plant breeders at universities and small seed companies cannot use patented seed to create the new crop varieties that should be the foundation of a just and sustainable agriculture. Inspired by the free and open source software movement that has provided alternatives to proprietary software, OSSI was created to free the seed—to make sure that the genes in at least some seed can never be locked away from use by intellectual property rights.”

Organic Seed Alliance - advocacy for organic seed and decentralized seed systems - <http://www.seedalliance.org>
[Downloadable pdf](#) – “A Seed Saving Guide for Gardeners and Farmers” 2010

Rowen White is a seed keeper from the Mohawk community of Akwesasne and a passionate activist for seed sovereignty. She is the director and founder of Sierra Seeds, an innovative organic seed cooperative focusing on local seed production and education, based in Nevada County, CA. [Her writing can be found on social media.](#)

Seed Libraries – Richmond Grows, Richmond, CA - <http://www.richmondgrowsseeds.org/>
List of other seed libraries - <http://seedlibraries.weebly.com/> - look for “Sister Libraries” under “Start A Library” heading