



**Roughwood Seed Collection**  
**P.O. Box 75**  
**Devon, PA 19333**  
**PHONE: 610-688-9185**  
[roughwoodtable@gmail.com](mailto:roughwoodtable@gmail.com)

Dear Grower,

Thank you for your interest in being a grower for the Roughwood Seed Collection! Growing rare seeds is an amazing opportunity and many of our seeds are found nowhere else in the world. We will have growers at all levels of involvement, from occasional growers who just have a bit of extra seed, to full-time larger growers able to provide a bigger quantity. The purpose of Roughwood Seed Collection is to preserve and propagate heirloom and landrace varieties and ensure their purity, long term storage, and availability. We may make assignments of varieties to interested people who would like to try their hand at growing out seed to be placed back into the Roughwood Seed Collection, with hope of future proliferation. Not every variety may be offered for grow out. Our seedbank stock comes before the seed for sale.

The most important thing about growing out seed is not necessarily experience. Experience is helpful, but not always required. Growing these crops for seed is mostly not much different from growing them for the table. What matter most to us is that the seed we receive back to be true-to-type and pure with good germination. You are welcome to grow more than one variety of anything in the seedbank, but proper isolation as noted after the Grower Agreement must be followed. Purity is an important concern, as many of these seeds are being let out of the bank for the first time. Any complications of contamination from another variety or GMO (genetically modified organism) may preclude a grower from participation in future grow outs.

Please take a look at the following information, and if still interested and agreed take a look at the list of seed bank accessions we need aid in growing. Then contact a Roughwood Seed Collection representative stating you agree and we will be in touch and select with you as many as you have space, time, and resources for. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Stephen Smith  
Roughwood Seed Collection Manager

## **GROWER AGREEMENT**

### ***The Grower agrees:***

- (a) to cultivate and care for the crops and take precautions to keep crops free from disease and comply with any directions provided by Roughwood Seed Collection.*
- (b) as often as is deemed necessary to allow Roughwood Seed Collection and its representatives, to inspect the crops from time to time and carry out all "rouging" as may be deemed necessary to ensure trueness to type, strain and freedom from disease.*
- (c.) that all culls, dirt, sticks, cracked seeds etc. are to be as best removed as possible but will be further cleaned once returned to the Seed Collection.*
- (d) Seed provided by Roughwood Seed Collection is to be used for no other purpose than is provided in this contract. Any extra seed left over is to be stored in case of a failure as a backup for another planting.*
- (e) The Grower will remain in contact monthly to bi-monthly or more often on the progress of crops so Roughwood representatives can have future planning ability for seed sales, promotion, etc.*
- (f) Roughwood Seed Collection remains the owner of the furnished seed and shall own the crop produced therefrom and the grower will not have the right or authority to sell, dispose of, use or encumber, or permit to be sold or distributed either while the seed is growing or is being harvested or at any time thereafter, nor shall the furnished seed, nor the crop be or become liable for any claim now or hereafter existing against the grower unless with specific permission provided by Roughwood Seed Collection.*
- (g) The grower agrees to return specified amount (s) of the chosen varieties or all seeds they are growing at the end of this contract of the varieties or await arrangements made by Roughwood during the season. Depending on variety and seed stock, you may be allowed to keep a small portion of the seeds for yourself BUT CANNOT TRADE OR SALE THEM. While heirloom seeds are 'open trade/free source' the varieties within and from Roughwood are the SOLE SOURCE OF INCOME for the collection non-profit as we work towards getting on our own feet. If other companies or growers take our seeds and market them without our consent, negotiating royalties/compensation, or in general, this is a severe cut into income to keep Roughwood working towards its purpose and mission as well as going against the Open Source Seed Initiative we have signed up to be a part of. A single variety could make or break the income we use to pay our workers, managers, and keep the gardens tended. We have had bad*

*experiences before with our seeds being abused and stolen so we take extra precautions for this issue.*

- (h) Allow Roughwood Seed Collection representatives to contact you in any necessary format (e-mail and phone are preferred) during any part of the growing season to check in on production status, losses, or other matters of business.*
- (i) It is your duty to ensure these seeds remain 100% pure with no cross pollination or contamination of any sort. We will be able to provide and give access to info for isolation.*
- (j) It is your duty to plant these and do ALL that is possible and necessary to keep them happy and healthy and to ensure the best possible crop you can have/bear.*

*\*\*While not required, we would greatly appreciate growing information (days to flower, days to maturity, flower color and shape, leaf sizes, vine length, plant height, fruit color and taste, etc.) and photographs of the varieties you are growing so they can be placed into the Seedbank Files with the type. Some of these have never been grown before or have any information or photos. We may use the info and photos on our media/site where you will be given credit for supplying them and the seeds as well if we offer them for sale.\*\**

### ***Roughwood Seed Collection Agrees***

The seeds we hold in Roughwood are priceless and the future of our food system and biodiversity is an invaluable resource for the future generations. If Roughwood is lost or any of our varieties, this is a huge loss to the biodiversity of the crops that have sustained Man for millennia. Once extinct, there is no getting them back. We appreciate your interest in supporting this work. It is a mission we can only sustain by cooperating. While some feel the valuable work in growing, selling, learning about and education, and preserving these varieties is enough compensation all on its own, we rightly will compensate growers for their work, to be determined through negotiation with Roughwood, custom to the grower's needs. The grower will be allowed, if an overabundance of a variety occurs, to sell the fresh produce off of this variety at their farm or local market. This will be a factor in grower compensation if they choose to be paid, as this is profit they are making off the provided variety from us, which we will not be receiving payment from/for. We at Roughwood ask that you do not sell seeds unless per our approval, where an agreement will be written up for both parties to sign.

- 1.) Roughwood agrees and understands that with a grower, the weather and other events are out of the grower's hands and crop failure or loss is a possibility.*
- 2.) Roughwood agrees to answer all questions in a reasonably timely manner and to the best of its ability. Busy seasons may cause a delay in answering.*
- 3.) Roughwood will issue receipts necessary for tax exemption for those who chose to donate materials.*
- 4.) Roughwood agrees to promote the growers that we offer their seeds for sale of through the Roughwood Online Store. Your name, farm name, and possible photos of what you grew will be published online on the Roughwood Table website.*
- 5.) Roughwood also agrees to add your biography/your farm's biography and short description on our website under the still under construction page dedicated to our growers. Please, if you have not done so already, send in farm photos and a description of your farm to us at Roughwood for this webpage.*
- 6.) Roughwood will be able to promote your work as a grower via our social media as well, Facebook and Instagram are our main platforms. Photos of your farm and what you grow and short captions may be used to let the world know what an amazing job you are doing!*

**Grower Signature**

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**Date**

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**Roughwood Seed Collection Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**

## ISOLATION GUIDELINES

To maintain pure strains, varieties must be isolated in varying degrees to prevent accidental crossing. We work with our growers to ensure that they have the information they need, since maintaining pure strains is crucial. Call or write to us with any questions you might have. We are strict upon the guidelines for corn the most, as it is one of the most easily contaminated seeds and the strains we maintain are very, very rare and must have no genetic impurity.

**Beans, Common (*P. vulgaris*):** Self-pollinated. Separate by 2-10 feet if desired, but they can generally be planted right next to one another without much if any cross pollination.

**Beans, Lima (*P. lunatus*):** Self-pollinated, can be pollinated by insects. Separate by at least 4-8 feet.

**Beans, Runner (*P. coccineus*):** Self-pollinated, can be pollinated by insects. Separate by at least 4-8 feet.

**Melons/Cucumbers:** Insect/cross pollinated. Requires male and female flowers and are easily crossed between varieties of the same species. Separate by ½ mile or more, or hand pollinate.

**Corn:** Wind-pollinated. HAND POLLINATE ONLY OR DISTANCE ISLOATE.

Special circumstances will only allow wind/natural pollination requiring 1-2 miles apart or using time delay. If you live in an extremely isolated area or wish to pursue time delay, please call or write to us concerning this so we may discuss it with you.

**Squash:** Comes in four different species. The species are believed not to cross with each other, so a gardener could grow four different squashes simultaneously, assuming he was growing one of each species. Separate varieties of the same species by ½ mile or more or hand pollinate.

**Tomatoes/Peppers:** Self-pollinating, but separating by 5-10 feet is recommended.

**Cowpeas:** Self pollinating typically before flowers even open completely. You may choose to use net bags if you desire to cover flowers. Plant 5-15 feet apart unless space availability is low.

**Lettuce:**

**GROWER VARIETY (IES) INFORMATION**

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