



## Why Every Household Needs Heirloom Seeds

In times of economic upheaval or global violence, how do we stay afloat? Those practicing self-reliance know that if you can feed yourself, you can save yourself. That's why we put so much emphasis on having emergency food. While it's essential to stockpile nonperishable food, no one knows how long a crisis will last.

If the past few years taught us anything, it's that our supply chains are fragile. We know that we cannot rely on our government to make sure store shelves stay stocked.

If things get really bad, those who survive will be those who know how to grow their own food. Given the predictions of serious economic and global catastrophes in the future, we should all be prepared to do some home gardening. A good place to start – is to stock heirloom seeds in your gardening supplies. Learn how to plant those seeds, and learn how to harvest the seeds year after year.

### Heirloom Seeds Compared to Others

It's not enough to stock up on just any seeds. You want heirloom seeds. Heirloom seeds, as their name suggests, have been around for many years and have been passed down through generations (as an heirloom). The passing down through the generations, using open pollination, makes heirloom seeds special and hardy. Over years of cultivation, heirloom seed varieties develop a natural resistance to specific pests and diseases.

Heirloom seeds are not hybrids (crossbred) or GMOs produced and genetically modified in a lab. In comparison to hybrid seeds or GMO seeds, "Heirlooms have superior taste, quality, and hardiness when compared to other seed types." If you are planting the food you plan to eat, plant the best seeds.

### Preserving the Past

Take a minute and consider family heirlooms. Maybe it is a family Bible, wedding china, or jewelry. Most family heirlooms have some sort of value – but they may just be sentimental. Now imagine what a difference it would make if you could pass down an heirloom to future generations that could save lives.

This is how heirloom seeds have been treated throughout history.

### Why Heirloom Seeds

1. **Superior Quality** – The number one reason is their superior quality. Countless farmers claim that heirloom seeds produce better-tasting fruits and vegetables. They are time-tested and found to be the most flavorful, beautiful, and hardiest.
2. **Never Buy Seeds Again** – Ideally, you want to continuously grow your own food. With heirloom seeds, you can! You can save the seeds from your current plants and plant them next year to grow the same great-tasting fruit and vegetables. This means that, if you master seed saving, you won't ever have to buy new seeds again (unless you just want to try something new).
3. **If buying seeds for the first time** – buy 2 years' worth of seeds. Enough to plant this year, enough to store in the freezer for the next year. Store this year's harvested seeds in the freezer and plant the older seeds the next year. Continue a rotation plan – always keeping one year's worth of seeds stored in the freezer.

### Don't Start Your Garden Plants From Seed?

Many of us buy our plants already growing – ready to put in the dirt. What if these ready to plant plants were not available? Would you be able to grow your own, if needed? It would be a huge benefit if every gardener, every family had a "stash" of seeds, stored in the freezer as part of their emergency food supplies. Seeds will keep for several years if stored this way.

There are numerous YouTube sites with information and instructions on where to purchase and how to plant, harvest and preserve heirloom seeds.

With Spring planting time just around the corner - Now is a great time for Households to stock up on Heirloom seeds.