



CITIZEN SEED TRIAL

BE PART OF A
SEED SYSTEM EVOLUTION!



FARMFOLKCITYFOLK.CA

FarmFolk
CityFolk

#CITIZENSEED

Dear Citizen Scientists,

We hope you are all enjoying fresh produce from your balconies and gardens. Tomato season is in full swing and we've been busy harvesting at our Research and Education Seed Farm. This year we are growing 7 different varieties of tomatoes. We are saving seeds from 4 tomato varieties and donating the rest of the tomatoes to [Food Stash Foundation](#) as part of our [Seed to Food](#) program.

Tomatoes are mostly self pollinating and generally require an isolation distance of 10-20 feet to avoid cross pollination. However, older heirloom varieties of tomatoes have longer styles and thus higher potential to cross, learn more about isolation distance requirements for tomatoes [here](#). If you're interested in learning more about flower morphology, check out our informational video [here](#).



If you find yourself overwhelmed by the sudden availability of tomatoes try processing them to save for later. From canning, to freezing, to drying - there's tons of options to preserve tomatoes! Processing can also be a great opportunity to save your seeds for next year. Scoop out the seeds before making your sauce or salsa. Be careful with canning, as you need to make sure the tomato sauce pH is below 4.6, learn more [here](#).

[Fermenting tomato seeds](#) for a few days helps to remove the gelatinous layer and improve germination rates. To ferment your seeds simply scoop them into a container, add some water, and stir. Leave the seeds for 3-7 days, stir regularly and release gas if it's an air tight container. Finally, pour off the top layer which contain tomato remnants and immature seeds. Then pour seeds that have settled on the bottom through a sieve. Allow seeds to dry then package and label. Voila! You now have seeds for next year.

Upcoming Webinar!



Fresh peas: Botany and Genetics

Speaker: Duane Falk

Date: September 17 2021, 11AM PT

Description: *Pisum Sativum* has a foundational place in our understanding of genetics and how traits are passed from one generation to the next. What began in an Austrian monastery in the 1800s -- when Gregor Mendel experimented with peas to formulate his genetics theories -- continues today in both formal research settings, and on farms and in gardens across the country. Join us for this conversation about why we love to study peas, and what the current plant breeding priorities and projects for this plant are in

Canada and beyond. This webinar is for farmers and gardeners who love to grow and experiment with peas, as well as save their seeds.

[Click here to Register](#)

We hope to see you at the upcoming webinar. Duane Falk is a wealth of knowledge. He has taught many Genetics courses at the University of Guelph and has worked on various plant breeding projects. He grew the Beauregard and Slocan snow peas so he has hands on experience with our Citizen Seed Trial.

This is a friendly reminder to continue to rate your traits using [SeedLinked](#). The SeedLinked app makes it super easy to evaluate while out in your garden. At this point in the season you should be able to rate almost all the traits and may even be able to complete your review for the snow peas and beets. If you have any troubles or questions about SeedLinked, please reach out to Siri at mvseedcoordinator@farmfolkcityfolk.ca.

In good seed,

BC Seed Security Team

