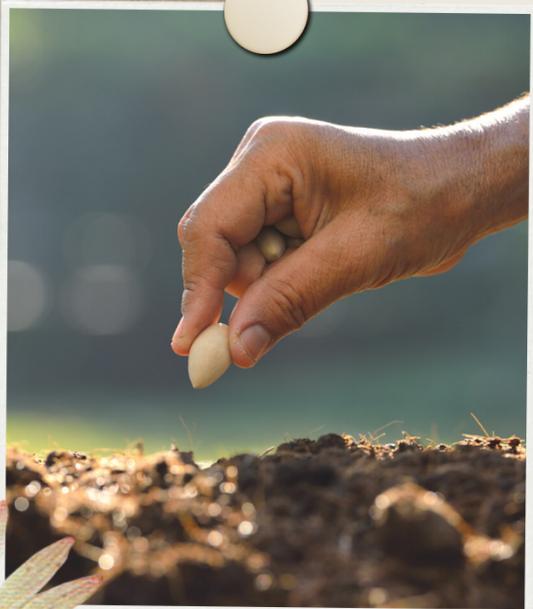


Seed Saving

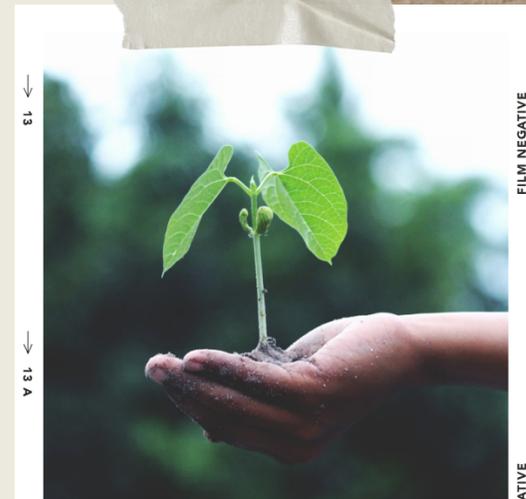
SBC Agriculture Division



Overview

WHY AND HOW

1. Save Money
2. Preserve Genetic Diversity
3. Types of Seeds
4. Saving your Seeds
5. Connect with your Garden
6. Help #SaveTheBees
7. Build Community



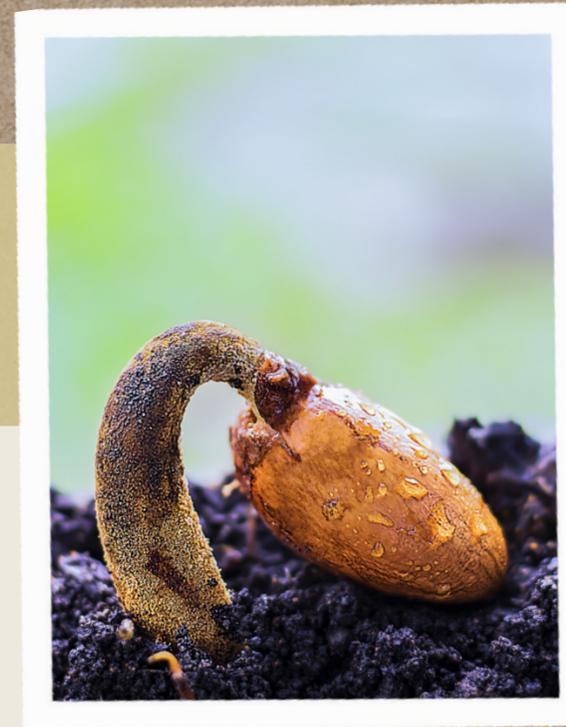
Saving Money



Seed packets are about \$3+ and transplants about \$5+

If you do not save your seeds from the year before, you will have to buy seeds or transplants for your current/future garden.

Saving the seeds from the plants you planted is completely free!



Preserving Genetic Diversity

- X What is Genetic Diversity
- X Why is it important to preserve genetic diversity
- X Consequences of low genetic diversity



Genetic Diversity

Variation of all living forms at the genetic level: genes, alleles, etc.

The natural variation that exists within the individuals of a species.



Types of Diversity

Ecosystem Diversity



Species Diversity



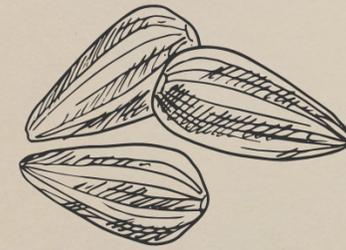
Genetic Diversity





GENETIC DIVERSITY IS IMPORTANT
FOR ADAPTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL
CHANGES AND POTENTIAL SURVIVAL
OF SPECIES.

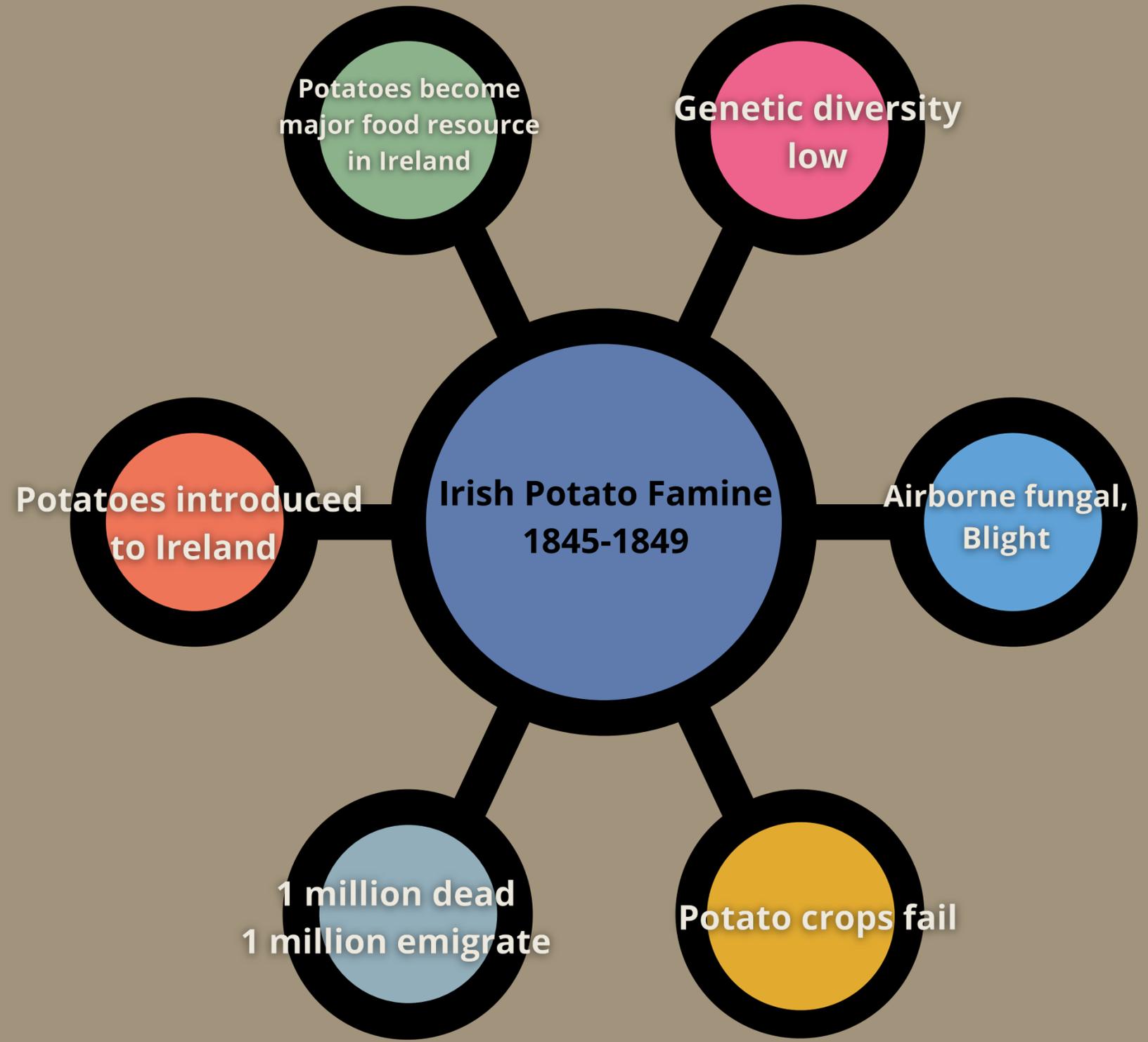
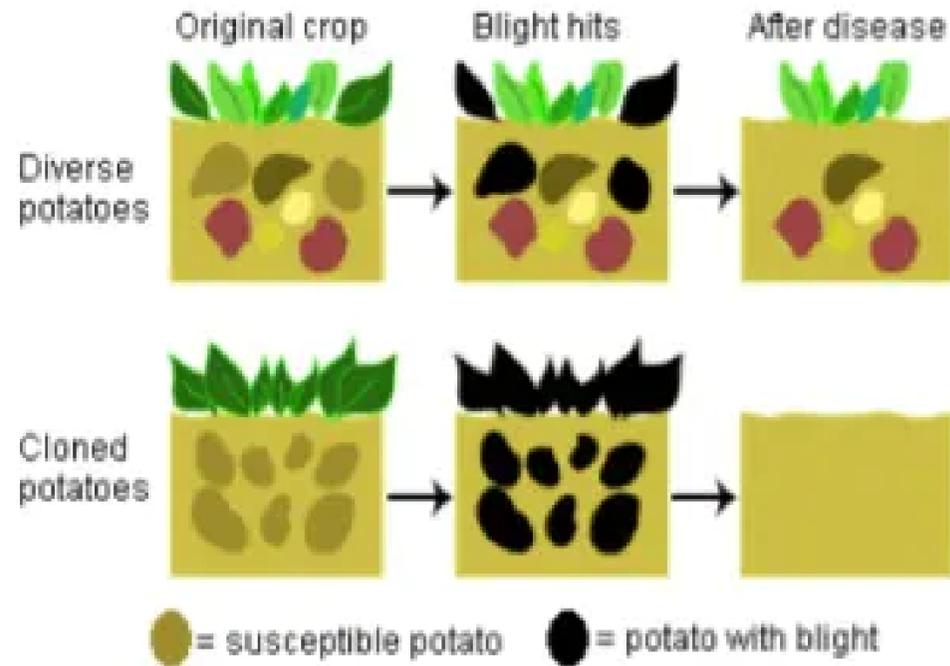
AT LEAST SOME INDIVIDUALS HAVE A
BETTER CHANCE TO INHERIT
GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS THAT
ARE VITAL FOR THEIR SURVIVAL



Consequences of Low Diversity

Irish Potato Famine

The image below compares the effect of a blight on diverse and cloned crops.



TYPES OF SEEDS

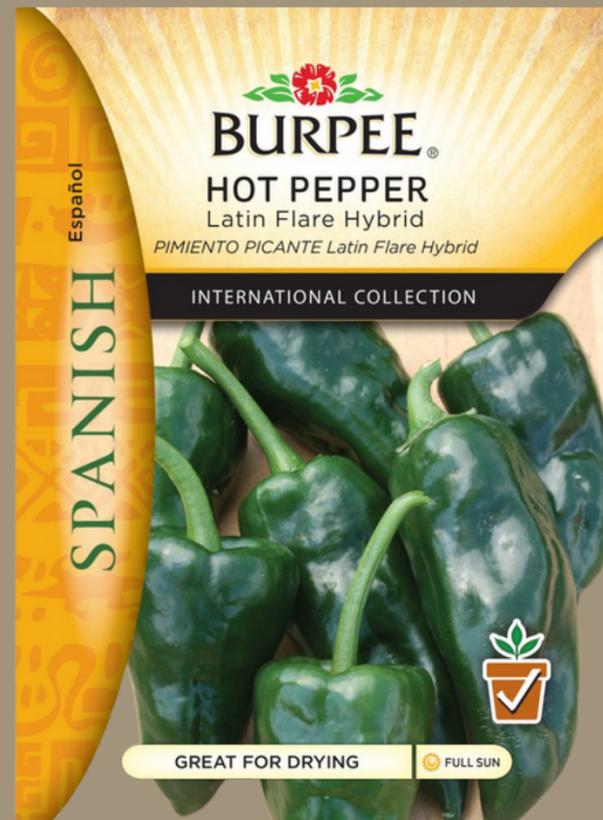
Heirloom Seeds

Seeds that have been passed down through generations



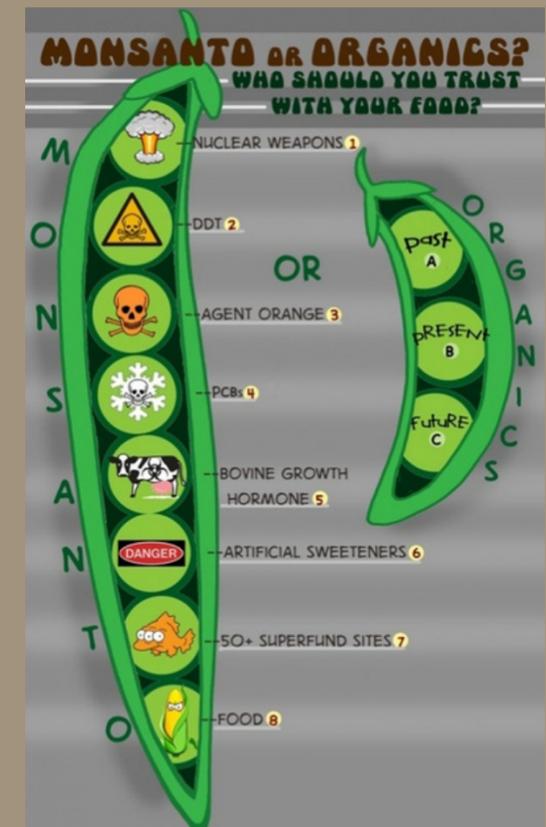
Hybrid Seeds

Hybrid seeds come from cross-pollinated plants



GMO Seeds

Genetically modified organisms



SEED SAVING

Hybrids are plants created by humans deliberately cross-breeding two different plant species to make a new type of plant that has certain desirable traits from both parent plants. They're not GMOs (they're not created in a lab and crossed with different species), but they're not completely natural, in the sense that they wouldn't necessarily cross-pollinate with each other without human intervention.



When you replant a hybrid seed, the plant that grows won't be the same as the plant that you saved the seed from. Instead, it will either revert back to one of the parent plants that were used to create the hybrid plant, or it will be a strange combination of the two that might be edible.



SEED SAVING

You only want to save seeds from open-pollinated plants because these plants will produce seeds that will reproduce true to their parent plant (meaning the seeds will regrow into the same type of plant as they came from).



Heirloom seeds are open-pollinated seeds that have been carefully selected from the healthiest, most productive plants and passed down through generations. All heirloom plants are open-pollinated plants, but not all open-pollinated plants are heirloom plants.

Still, either or will produce seeds that can be saved

SEED SAVING

"Seeds never lose their potential, not even in dirt."

Choose seeds from healthiest, most bountiful plants.

Let your produce completely ripen, even seeds from over-ripened produce works well



SEED SAVING

Dry your seeds indoors, with good air circulation and out of direct sunlight.

To see if your seeds are completely dry, press on it with your nail. If there is a dent, your seed needs to dry more, if not, your seed is ready to store.

"Show me your seed and I'll show you your harvest."

Make sure your seeds are completely dry before storing.

Most seeds are viable up to 4 years, germination rates drop each year.

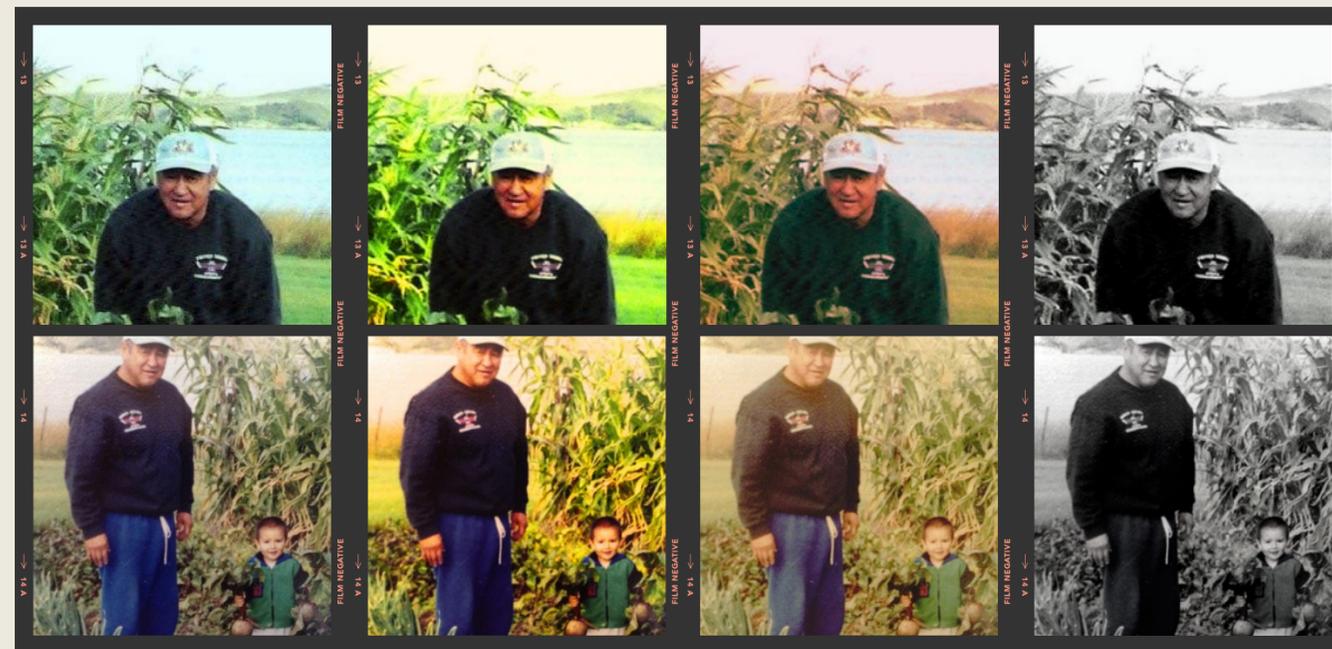
Label your seeds!



Connect with your Garden



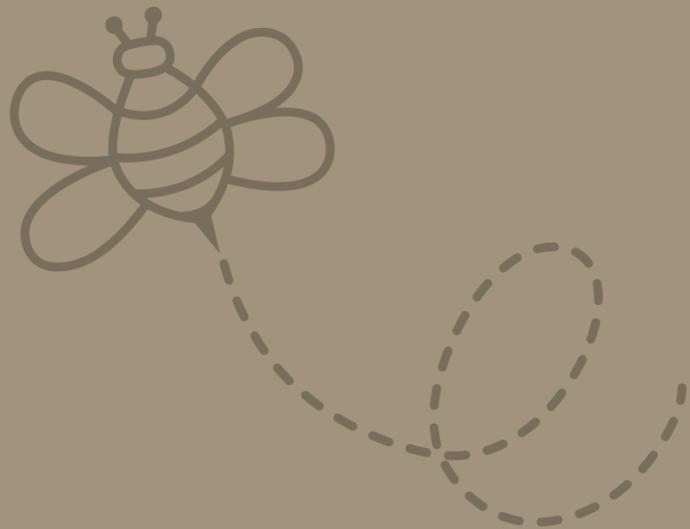
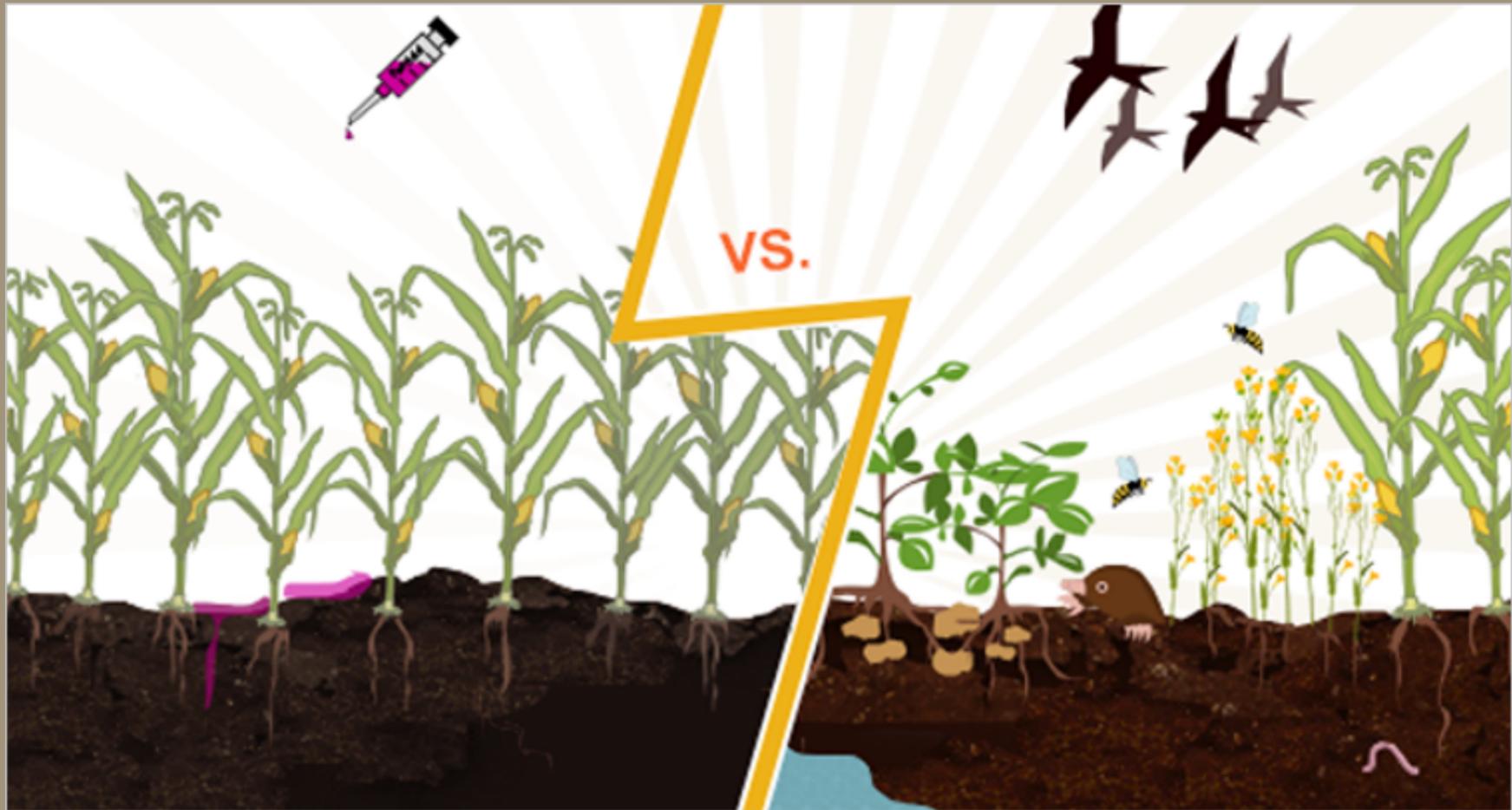
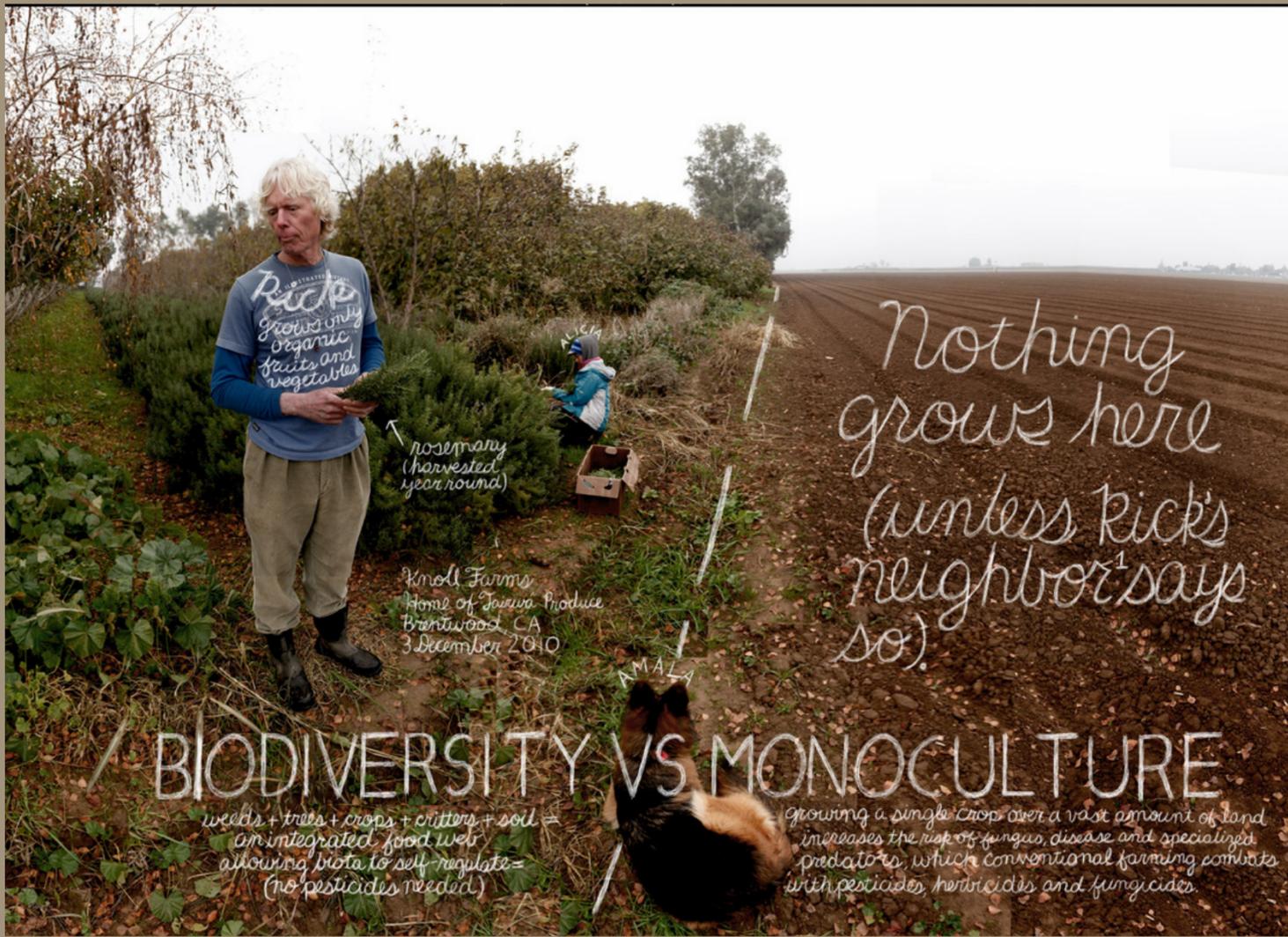
Every seed holds a connection to the future and the past. My Grandpa John was an avid gardener and I have never felt more connected to him than when I am in the garden. From bolted onions to the rogue tomato plant that you've saved seeds from and will pass on to your children, the stories of seeds connect us to our history, our culture, our family, and our sense of who we are.



A close-up photograph of a bee on a flower, serving as the background for the text. The bee is in the center, facing the viewer, with its wings and body clearly visible. The flower is light-colored and slightly out of focus. The background is a soft, natural setting with green foliage.

Help #savethebees

Insect pollinators perform a \$24 billion service each year in the United States alone. And many of these species are in decline. While you wait around for your flowers to produce seeds, they are providing invaluable food for bees, butterflies, and beetles.



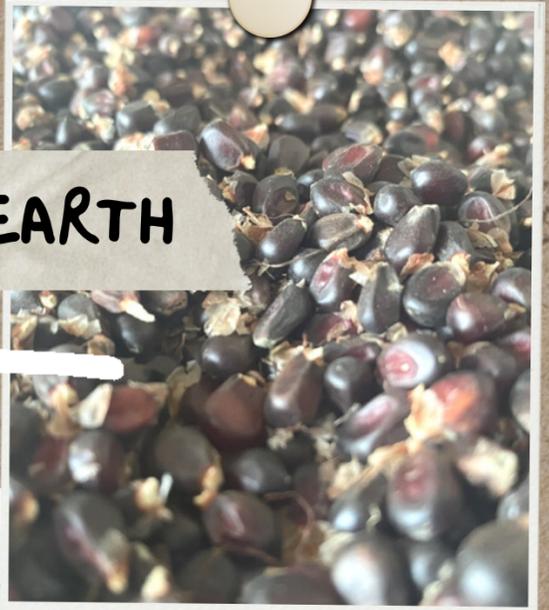
Build Community



Seed saving and seed sharing go hand-in-hand. Share with a neighbor, help a community garden become more self-sufficient, or take a new gardener under your wing and teach them how to save their own seeds.



CONNECTING WITH EARTH

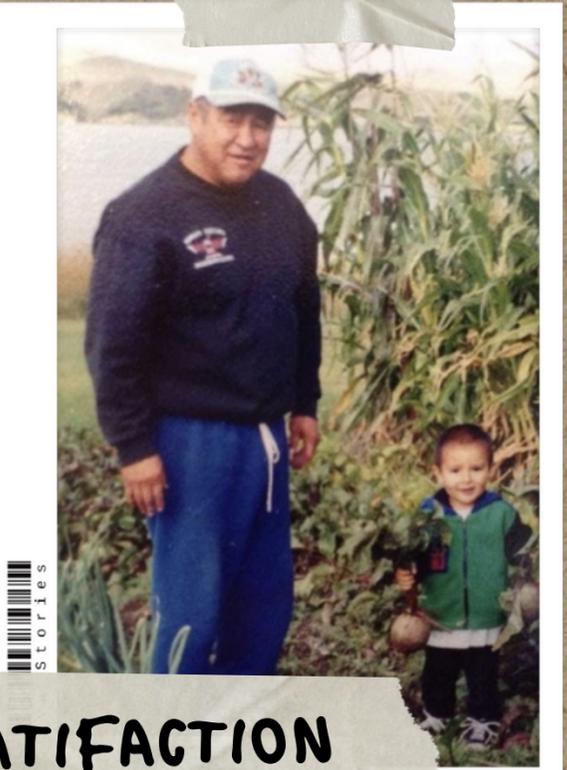


FILM NEGATIVE

CONNECTING GENERATIONS



JOY AND SATISFACTION



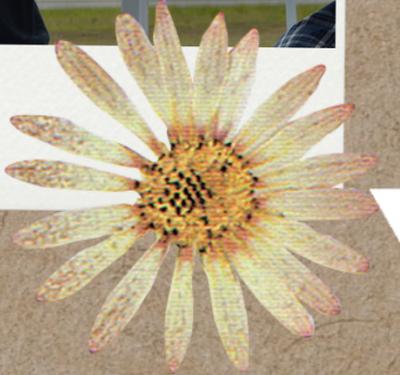
Stories



VE



Stories





Thank You

