

# A Guide To Long-Term Seed Storage



*This article was contributed by [Humble Seed](#)*

Seeds are living things. For that reason, you have to treat them as such. Just like any living creature – exposure to too much cold, heat, sunlight - even moisture - can kill their essence. In fact, as a general rule, any 1% increase in moisture can mean seed life is cut in half. Knowing more about long term seed storage will ensure their viability when you need them most, and can guarantee a never-ending food supply.

Remember that the only seed that can produce another fertile seed are non gmo seeds, non-hybrid, and heirloom seeds, so be sure your pick has these qualities before you start preparing for long-term seed storage.

## **Why Try Long Term Seed Storage**

For one thing, having a continuous supply of fresh produce is one best investments you can make for your health. Additionally, people from all over the country are making efforts to prepare for the worst. Can you blame them? In an unsteady global economy and food market, and considering the impact of natural and manmade disasters – it's

vital to consider your food supply in an emergency situation. You may want to consider, what you would do if our food supply were cut off? Or if the price of food became unaffordable? Stockpiling cans and dried goods can be lifesaving, but what happens if it runs out?

Here's how to get started for long term seed storage.

## **The Three Most Effective Ways To Store Seeds Long-Term**

**Refrigerating Seeds:** This method can prolong seed lifespans. Many seed savers simply place seeds in zip lock bags with another fabric or brown paper bag over it to prevent light seeping in and penetrating the seeds. Do keep in mind that depending on the availability of refrigeration in an emergency situation, this method isn't always dependable. Also, refrigeration exposes seeds to some moisture and can decrease viability. If you do have access to a refrigerator, vacuum sealing seeds and refrigerating combined was found to have one highest rates of germination after 12 months.

**Vacuum Sealing Seeds:** As we mentioned above, moisture is one of leading reasons seeds deteriorate quickly. Vacuum-sealing ensures seed humidity levels are low and can keep seeds dormant for years. While there is an initial investment in purchasing a vacuum seal-packaging machine, the end result is a reliable method to seed storage, even without refrigeration.

**Water Proof Storage Containers And Bags:** Traditional seed packets just won't cut it in terms of long term seed storage. There is too much risk of exposure to sunlight, humidity, and temperature fluctuation. Re-sealable Mylar® bags and other FDA food safe containers that are air-tight and waterproof can be very reliable in terms of seed storage. Because seeds are dormant and you do not want to activate the seed, store seeds in a dark, cool location.

**The Problem With Freezing Seeds:** While some seed savers swear by seed storage in a freezer, many are on the fence about freezing seeds. The argument: since seeds absorb and expel moisture in the air, there's a chance a seed's moisture level will shift. Freezing seeds can even force seeds to expand, causing the fibers to deteriorate. What do

you all think about freezing seeds? Have you tried freezing seeds with success?

\*\*\*Friends, what are your favorite methods for long term seed storage? What have you tried that worked? What didn't work\*\*\*

### **About Us:**

[Humble Seed](#) specializes in premium garden seed kits that are packaged and themed for convenience and ease. We are dedicated to providing the highest quality heirloom, non-GMO, non-hybrid, and organic seed varieties to those who choose to start from seed.

*Do you have enough Non-GMO seeds in case of economic collapse? Seeds are the OTHER alternative currency, and if you aren't stocked, then you aren't prepared. To buy top quality non-GMO seeds at a special 10% discount, visit [Humble Seed](#), and use the code **Alt10***

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