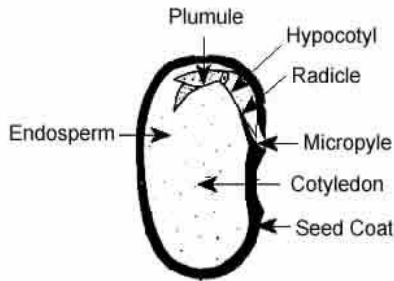


January 27 2020

Local Seed Adapts to Climate

Encourages Humans to Do Same



Phaseolus vulgaris
(green bean)

We've all memorized these parts, right?

Do we know what's inside?

What's in This Seed?

The greenhouse teams have been busy rooting cuttings and, more recently, planting seeds. What is the difference? Cuttings rootings, clones (asexual propagation, as labels on patented varieties will mention not to do) provide true genetic copies of the plant from which they are taken. A mother plant and her children. All identical twins (follow that one out.) Same color flowers, same size leaf and same size (so important is linear landscaping.)

As you know, seeds are produced by bloom pollination (sexual propagation) genetically saving little DNA snips of information from their parent(s). Sure. But the interesting part is seeing how the growing conditions of the mother plant affect certain qualities in the seed. Every seed is a unique set of qualities, not quite identical but moving toward the desired qualities. Science has proven what farmers have always known: save the best to give back to the earth. Every seed, although very similar, is a unique new product.

Phyllis Pugnetti, the mastermind and maintainer of our seed library says, "One of the many reasons to save seeds is how rapidly they adapt to the unique climate and soil in our region and



THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST

TUESDAY **Greenhouse 8-11 a.m.**

WEDNESDAY

12:15-1:15 **Hour One**

1:30-2:30 **Hour Two**

CHECK IN: Put an X by your name, pick up any handouts on that table

CHECK OUT: What is on the other tables .

RECORD: Your time at

<https://volunteers.cahnrs.wsu.edu/logon.aspx>

FRIDAY **Art Committee work day 9:00**

Greenhouse.

[Remember the MG Resources](#)

more specifically **your own** garden. An example from my own garden is the *Chinese Giant Sweet Red* pepper. Plant descriptions claim the peppers are blocky 4" long and wide. By the fourth year in my garden, they were 7" long and 5" wide, and truly stunning! Unfortunately, it's probably not due to my incredible garden skills."

She continues on that, "Sweet peppers are the leading agricultural export of Poland. Growers complained that peppers grown in different parts of the country often times had very unreliable crop yields. Research done at the University of Kra-

kow showed it takes only 3 years for pepper plants to become highly adapted to the locations where they were grown. By the third year, peppers were larger and sweeter if farmers grew and saved their own seed each year. As a result, in Poland it is becoming more common for commercial farmers to buy locally grown pepper seed rather than buying from a national, or international supplier. So consider saving seed from some of veggies and flowers that do particularly well in your garden."

Phyllis Pugnetti
Judith McDonald

Greenhouse Effect

It's the calm before the storm down here under glass at 1522 S 18th Avenue. This week, the Perennials team transplanted the first batch of seedlings into 4" pots. We sleep with one eye open, praying over the other 50 trays of seedlings that are not quite ready. We're learning something every day about the trials of germination. Starting a perennial with a seed is way more complicated than starting one with a plug, but it's also more interesting. Some of the hardier perennials have already been moved into the new greenhouse, where daylilies and hostas are beginning to send up fresh shoots. It won't be long before the place is bursting with green.

The Annuals team is making good use of every spare minute by labeling pots BEFORE their plugs arrive in early February. Hanging baskets are being filled with soil in preparation for planting. And these folks can sure teach you a thing or two about starting new plants from cuttings. Tables of healthy new plants are living proof that these Master Gardeners know what they're doing.

All the herbs Judith started look amazing. It's really beginning to look like spring.

Reading the evaluations, it's clear that we need to schedule some Saturday work days for all of you who work during the week. Stay tuned....we hear you!

The coffee is always on in the greenhouse on Tuesday from 8-11. Won't you join us?

Carol Barany



The Greenhouse , taken Jan 18, 2020, about 6:45 PM.

Photo: Darrell Monroe

CLODS

Call to the Veggie Team and those interested!



We will be having a Veggie work and planning meeting on Thursday, February 6 starting at 9 am in the south house. We will be sharing our growing plan for 2020 and creating weighted pots with holders for our signage at the plant sale. Time will go under program support. We could use someone knowledgeable in mixing small batches of concrete! Contact [Vickie](#)

Are we grateful for being well?



Request the master gardeners.

Happy Happy, Joy Joy. Great to see so many new people in the greenhouse. There is a bottleneck, though The back door has traffic in and out, plants on carts going out to the south greenhouse, people in the annual/vegetable side getting coffee and enjoying themselves. Now, none of that needs to change except getting out of "The Zone" as calmly and rapidly as you can—neither room is a mistake. If you have to figure out where you're going, pull off to the side of the freeway, just don't stand there and get run over. We aren't at rush hour traffic yet.

The [Weekly Dirt](#) welcomes submissions from all Master Gardeners. What is your interest, direction, specialty? I'd love to hear from you and it doesn't have to be *perfect*, I'm here to help! This is a great opportunity to improve your communication skills. Plus! Time spent can be added to your hours under either CE or Program Support. No, it's not always easy or fun meeting deadlines, but it *is* satisfying, knowing you are getting better at sharing your knowledge and skills with the community.

Stand and Deliver!



Yakima Master Gardeners



@mgyakima



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Yakima County Master Gardeners

January 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 8:00 Greenhouse	<i>29</i> 12:15 Hour One 1:30 Hour Two	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> 9:00 Art Team	<i>1</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 8:00 Greenhouse 9-11:00 Mints GH	<i>5</i> 10:30 Foundation 12:15 Hour One 1:30 Hour Two	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 9:00 Art Team	<i>8</i> 8:30 Seed Savers
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 8:00 Greenhouse 1:00 Clinic Team	<i>12</i> 12:15 Hour One 1:30 Hour Two	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> 9:00 Art Team	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> 8:00 Greenhouse	<i>19</i> 10:30 Foundation 12:15 Hour One 1:30 Hour Two	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> 8:00 Greenhouse	<i>26</i> 12:15 Hour One 1:30 Hour Two	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
NW Flower & Garden Show Feb 26—March 1						

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