

Variety is Life

Biodiversity represents all the animals, plants, micro-organisms and ecosystems on our planet.

The breadth and range of all these forms of life should be protected - right from the seed. Stored in that seed is the plant that will feed us, clothe us, fuel us, and keep us healthy. The seed sector, represented by the International Seed Federation, supports efforts to protect biodiversity and works on a daily basis to ensure variety is life.

• How does the seed sector help biodiversity?

Seed is about diversity. Every new variety is distinct and adds to the diversity of life. The seed sector creates diversity, seeks diversity, and values diversity.

Breeding new plants. The seed sector is all about growing new things. Every plant breeder creates new plants with unique characteristics through careful research and development.

Supporting seed banks. For a century, seed companies have invested in seed banks, helping create a storehouse of the globe's plants. That is because there is power in those genes. The more diversity is protected, the more options to do a better job of growing our food.

• How do we help improve the footprint of agriculture?

Breeding to adapt to climate. Varieties are being bred based on new and old crops to overcome environmental hardships like:

- climate change
- drought
- salinity
- heat

Using less land. Every time new varieties help a crop grow better, it means more from the limited number of arable acres.

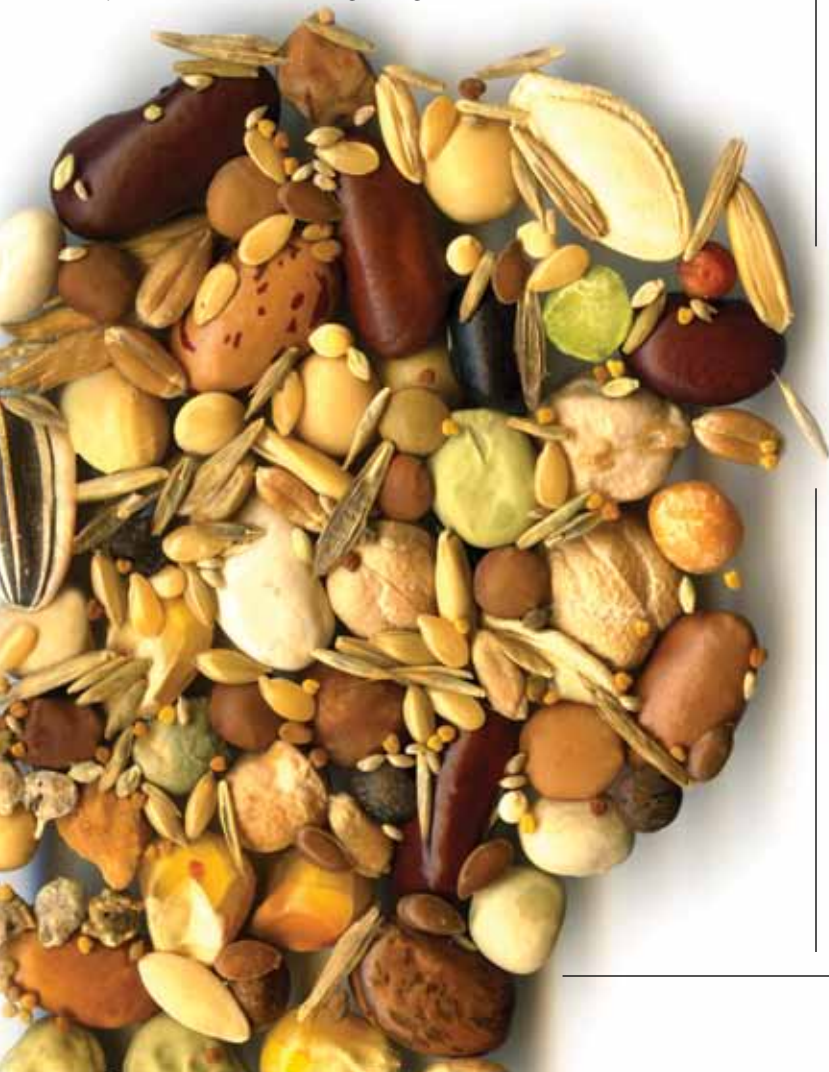
Using less water. Improved crops will require less water through special traits, improved resilience, and better yields.

• How does variety help the planet?

Saving habitat. The better agriculture gets at growing crops efficiently means more room for jungles, forests, and other ecosystems. This helps wildlife thrive.

Reclaiming green space. In areas where man has left his mark, like mines or roadways, special varieties of grasses, flowers, and other plants are sown to help reclaim the environment.

Growing greener. Seed makes the planet greener. Improved varieties are the best way to improve crop productivity and adaptability. The broadest possible range of crop kinds and varieties contributes to the diversity of the planet and creates a sustainable supply of the food we eat.



Seed is all about variety;
and variety is life.



Supporting the International Year of Biodiversity
www.worldseed.org