



What's a GMO?

A GMO (genetically modified organism) is the result of a laboratory process of taking genes from one type and inserting them into another in an attempt to obtain a desired trait or characteristic. Plants have been modified to produce faster and in more quantity.

GMO plants can't be saved and replanted. These modified plants require certain chemical herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers to help them grow.

GMO is a product of man made intentional **GE (Genetic Engineering)** but other unintentional risks can occur when other Non Hopi Seeds are planted near Hopi field areas.

For more information please visit www.responsibletechnology.org

"Working toward preserving and strengthening the healthy food system and agricultural traditions of the Hopi & Tewa People."

-Natwani Coalition Vision



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Hopi Heirloom Seed Education & Awareness



A project of The Hopi Foundation

Encouraging and supporting the protection & preservation of Hopi Heirloom Seeds.

Hopi Heirloom Seeds

HEIRLOOM: *an object of value that belongs to a family or peoples for several generations and has been passed down from one generation to the next. **Hopi seeds** are Heirloom Seeds.*



There are 3 main seeds, **poshumi**, Hopi have been given and have cultivated for time immemorial.

They are:

- **Qaa'ö**, corn
- **Mori/Hatiko**, bean
- **Patnga**, squash



"It is in our stories that blue corn, beans, and squash were the three main food crops for Hopi. Hopi developed other varieties from these 3 over hundreds of years through Hopi knowledge (navoti)."
– Hopi farmer

Characteristics of Hopi Heirloom Seeds



A Hopi Seed:

- Has sustained many generations of Hopi. The same corn that has fed our elders will continue to feed us and our children.
- Is drought tolerant and has the ability to grow in an arid environment.
- Is naturally dense with nutrition. Hopi seeds grow into plants that are nutritious, flavorful crops and are healthy for us.
- Is very resilient, it can keep for a long time in storage. Hopi traditionally keep 4 seasons of storage as part of our value of good planning.

Why is it important to protect Hopi Heirloom Seeds?

- It is a gift to help us survive in this world and one we must learn to protect.
- It is what will sustain us through our farming practices, our traditions, our culture, our ceremonies, our way of life, and our future.
- Modern farming technology (i.e. fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, machinery) influenced by the industrial food system threatens the purity of Hopi Heirloom Seeds and Hopi traditional farming practices.
- Hopi farming is in decline. Less than 1/3 of Hopi said they still farmed or gardened and only 1 in 4 Hopi consume a significant amount of local food. (2004 Hopi Community Food Assessment)



Industrial food system: farms, transportation networks, processing plants, food scientists, financial institutions, stores and advertising firms.