

# Navdanya Community Seed Banks

**Extract**

*of*

## **Seed Freedom A Global Citizens' Report**

October 2012

### Seed Freedom



A Global Citizens' Report

Co-ordinated by Navdanya



[http://www.navdanya.org/attachments/Seed%20Freedom\\_Revised\\_8-10-2012.pdf](http://www.navdanya.org/attachments/Seed%20Freedom_Revised_8-10-2012.pdf)

## Keepers of The Seed

The Navdanya philosophy of conservation of agricultural biodiversity is through a network of community seed banks in different ecozones of the country. Such conservation through a network of community seed banks, as envisaged by us, facilitates four rejuvenations:

1. Rejuvenation of agricultural biodiversity as a common property resource;
2. Rejuvenation of farmers' self reliance in seed locally and nationally;
3. Rejuvenation of sustainable agriculture as the foundation for food security, both locally and nationally;
4. Rejuvenation of farmers' rights as common intellectual rights of agricultural communities.

*In situ* strategies of agricultural biodiversity conservations need the participation of four kinds of farmers.

1. Farmers who continue to use and conserve diverse varieties. In general these are small peasants in marginal or remote areas, which were left out of the green revolution because of not having the necessary resources to shift into resource-capital- and chemical-intensive agriculture. Marginal farmers in marginal regions are therefore the source of rejuvenation in biodiversity in agriculture. They are the seed savers or *beej rakshaks*.
2. Farmers whose agricultural biodiversity has been eroded but who feel the ecological, economic and political imperative to reintroduce diverse species and crop varieties for ecological and food security. They can become *beej rakshaks* by introducing diversity from farmers who have conserved seed through community seed banks and exchange networks.
3. With industrialization of agriculture, many farmers have stopped producing seed for their own requirements. If biodiversity has to be rejuvenated in agriculture and farmers' seed supply has to be strengthened, some farmers need to become seed producers for farming communities. Such farmers who multiply and produce more seed than they require in order to meet the needs of other farmers are seed producers or *beej utpadaks*. Seed multiplication can also be undertaken by farmers' organizations and NGOs involved in seed conservation activities.
4. Given the rapid erosion of biodiversity and the acceleration of forces of destruction through the spread of monocultures and export oriented agriculture, some initiatives will also be needed to conserve biodiversity that is disappearing and cannot be conserved through immediate introduction in production systems. Farmers who grow species and varieties that have lost their utilization value due to market forces need to be encouraged to grow diversity for *in situ* conservation for future use and ecological security.

No matter what the level of conservation activity, free exchange of agricultural biodiversity and knowledge of its utilization among farming communities is essential for both conservation and sustainable production. There is no static or deep division between the four kinds of *in-situ* activity. Different farmers will function in different roles according to the socio – economic context, their own capacities and the larger support system.

Free exchange between farming communities becomes vital in the light of the present erosion of agricultural biodiversity and future erosion in farmers' rights due to IPRs in biodiversity. The community seed bank network facilitates farmers' seed exchange and supply systems.

## Bringing the Lab to the Field

In Navdanya's *living seed banks* the contributions of farmers to identifying, studying, modifying and cultivating varieties to suit their ecological, economic and other needs are recognized. Farmers are the experts, situated at the centre of conservation activity. Conservation starts and ends in the fields—it is carried on within the environment where the diversity grows. While corporate agriculture does not acknowledge farmers' skill in agriculture and contributions to breeding, and therefore awards breeders' rights only to the seed industry and researchers, Navdanya'



*Seed Keepers of the Ganga Valley*



*Seed Keepers of the Yamuna Valley*

partnership model of conservation recognizes that farmers and scientists are equals. This partnership model is committed to creative solutions that fall far from the mainstream and question the dominant model of food production and distribution.

The work of Dr. R.H. Richharia, eminent Indian rice scientist and pioneer in the area of conservation of diverse varieties through farmers' participation, served as an inspiration and guide. Daniel Querol, an expert in genetic resources who helped set up conservation programs in Mexico, Peru, and Nicaragua, came to Navdanya in 1987 to help design the program. Dr. Oscar Zamorra of the Agricultural University in Los Banos, Philippines, who along with a group of Filipino farmers established a farmer-run seed conservation program, visited the Navdanya



*Dr Vandana Shiva and late Dr Nikhil Chakravarti honouring late Dr R H Richharia*

program and held training workshops with local farmers. The Keeper of the National Herbarium of Ethiopia, Dr. Tewolde Berhan G. Egziabher, provided valuable technical information. In addition, for several years Navdanya staff interacted with and received training from experts at the Plant Genetic Resources Centre of Ethiopia. This gathering of farmers and scientists as equal partners has been a key to the great strength of the Navdanya program.

In February 2010 **Dr. Salvatore Ceccarelli** of the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas, Syria (ICARDA) flew to the Indian subcontinent to meet with the Navdanya Seed Keepers Network and share his findings from his work with farmers in North Africa and the Middle East. Ceccarelli, a former scientist for a major seed distributor in Europe, began his talk by stating that hybrid seeds are failing farmers and describing the principles of **participatory breeding** to the assembled group. Participatory breeding refers to the method whereby small farmers work in conjunction with scientists to breed plants that meet the specific needs of the farmers—not the financial needs of global seed corporations. Using this collaborative method farmers actively participate in and direct the ongoing process of crossbreeding plants possessing exactly the kind of desirable traits they require—such as drought and disease resistance, yield, or taste. But, stressed Ceccarelli, while this work may be done in cooperation with scientists, farmers can just as effectively do this work themselves.

## Navdanya's Community Seed banks

**Dr. Vinod Bhatt**

Navdanya has set up 111 community seed banks in 17 states of India in the last 25 years. Many seed banks are now running independent. Since the first seed banks were created in the Garhwal Himalayas of Uttar Pradesh, the Deccan in Karnataka, and the Western Ghats, also in Karnataka, Navdanya has started new seed banks in Ladakh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Navdanya's partners in this work include Bija Bachao Andolan in Northern Uttar Pradesh now Uttarakhand; Green Foundation, Navdarshanam, and Centre for Tropical Ecosystems, in Karnataka; Rishi Valley in Andhra Pradesh; Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems in Tamil Nadu; Vrihi in West Bengal; Vidharbha Organic Farming Association, and Vidharbha, Prakruti Paramparika Bihana Sangarakhna Abhijan in Orissa; Kisan Samvardhan Kendra in Madhya Pradesh; Kisan Vigyan Kendra in Uttar Pradesh; Manvi, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage in Kerala; Hazaribagh, in Jharkhand; and the Women's Alliance and Ladakh Ecology Group in Jammu and Kashmir.



*Matsunobou Fukuoka with Dr Vandana Shiva at Navdanya's seedbank*

Navdanya has also established conservation and training centers at village Ramgarh / Sheeshambara in Doon Valley, in Bulandshahar in west U.P. and Balasore in Orissa. More than 3800 rice varieties have been collected, saved and conserved. Hundreds of varieties of crops such as millets, pseudo-cereals and pulses have been conserved and promoted which were pushed out by the green revolution and growing monocultures.

Navdanya's Biodiversity Farm in the Doon Valley was started on land that had been desertified with more than two decades of eucalyptus plantation and is now home to a rich variety of crops. Presently it is spread



over 45 acres of land. Navdanya conserves more than 1600 different species of crops and multipurpose plants, which include 600 paddy varieties, 15 pulses, 159 varieties of wheat, 11 varieties of Barley, 10 varieties of Oats, 7 varieties of mustard and several millets, vegetables, green manure, pulses, spices, vegetables and medicinal plant varieties. The farm's register serves as a record of these local indigenous varieties and of indigenous knowledge. It also serves as a document for assertion of common intellectual rights and as a seed catalogue from which interested individuals and groups can get access to organic seeds.

Some of our community seed banks are described below:

### Sor/Sankri

Sor/Sankri village of district Uttarkashi, in the famous Har Ki Doon valley is situated at about 2000m amsl. The village in the valley represents subtropical to alpine climate. The villages are situated in between the range of altitude varying from 1500m to 2800 m amsl. The region is now a part of the Govind Ballbh Pant Wild Life Sanctuary since 1952. It is also declared a National park for Musk deer. About 80 % of the land in the area is covered with the forest.

Due to the fact that the village is situated inside the wild life sanctuary and national park, farmers are deprived of the rights of not only collecting the minor forest produce (MFP), but also from rearing their cattle in the forest. As a consequence population of sheep's and goats has come down to 20 % in last 10 years. People have entirely shifted from animal rearing to Agriculture, which is now the main source of livelihoods in the region. Farmers grow kidney beans, amaranth, potatoes, buckwheat and chenopodium.

In recent years people have also started planting apple orchards as an alternative to the sheep's and goats in tune of the neighbouring state of Himachal Pradesh. But still the plants are very small, which will take atleast few more years to get income from the orchard.

Cultivation of medicinal plants and Hippopy (Seabuckthorn) is also gaining popularity after people were banned from collecting MFPs from the reserve forest. Navdanya also played a vital role in popularizing the cultivation of medicinal plants and Hippopy as a health drink for people of different ages.

Other than this, inaccessibility is another hampering factor for the development of this region. Majority of villages in the region are still more than 20 kms away from the road head. However, in the monsoon season, because of excessive rains area remains cut-off from the other part of the country.

The community seed bank in the region not only provides farmers with the different varieties of quality seeds of different crops within their area, but also, access to different options like cultivation of medicinal plants which are of immense importance, and can not be grown elsewhere in other climatic conditions.

About 5329 people of 18 villages in the region are benefitting directly from this seed bank. Of these about half are women farmers. The people in the region belong to the local tribe, popularly known as *Pahari*.



*Seed Bank at Sor/Sankri*

### Chandipur, Orissa

*Dr Ashok Panigrahi and Kusam Misra*

Odisha, a predominantly rice growing state is considered to be the home of the tall indica rice diversity. It is speculated that at one point of time in the remote past there were some ten to fifteen thousand of tall indica rice diversity being widely cultivated in varied eco-climatic conditions existing the state. These were strongly photoperiodic and many of them were really high yielders. Dr.R.H. Richaria, an Internationally renowned Indian rice scientist was known to have documented some such high yielding natives, selected and improved through local peasants which could outmatch and outweigh the best yielding rice HYVs. This was done by Dr. Richaria at least 15 years before the launch of the Green Revolution. Richaria's highest yield was 54 quintals per acre or 13.6 tons per hectare achieved in Salem and the lowest yield was 24 quintals per acre or 6 tons per hectare achieved in West Bengal from his indigenous improved rice varieties. The presenter himself achieved 28 quintals per acre organically in the fields of a peasant at Mayurbhanj in kharif of 2004-05, using internal inputs only. Some of them had the lodging character in them, but their straw was used as roofing material and cattle feed. Some of them were known to be climate adapted and others met varied food specific necessities of the rice cultivators and consumers. A few of them were therapeutic as well having the tissue

rejuvenating potentialities as required in the traditional Indian medication. The aromatic rice diversity carried diverse aroma in them; some smelling like fried green gram and others like cumin seed. Both the consumer and the producer had ample scope to pick and chose the variety of rice of choice. The contribution of the 1st green revolution is elimination of this natural rice diversity. The widely cultivated HYV rice, now limited to just a few, fail to sustain extreme eco-climatic conditions like saline inundations, flood and drought and meet the consumers food preferences. Aromatic rices have vanished from the local markets. Existence of therapeutic rice is now believed to be a myth in Odisha.

The trend was perceivable more than a decade ago. Navdanya decided to save these vanishing rice diversities of Odisha through a system of germ-plasm-conservation employing both in situ and ex situ methods and at the same time carry out experiments on their sustainability in varied eco-climatic conditions in view of rapid climate change and yield potentials under various soil amendments. Their behaviours and responses are being recorded. This came handy while selecting the seeds of specific rice diversities for empowering the local communities in rehabilitating agriculture in disaster areas like Erasama in Odisha after the Orissa super cyclone in 2000, Nagapattinam in Tamilnadu after the boxing day tsunami in 2005 and Nandigram in Bengal in 2007. Navdanya Odisha as of now maintains 4 seed banks, 3 village level and 1 central level, where seeds of diverse rice varieties are conserved and renewed every year. Climate resilience factor is given importance in the village level seed banks when all available rice land races are conserved in the central seed bank. Navdanya also encourages individual cultivators to save, exchange and increase diversities in his/ her own fields. The village level seed banks are located in different and varied eco-climatic zones, like salt prone, flood prone and drought prone areas. The central seed bank has 700 rice varieties in its accession out of which 119 varieties are climate resilient. 33 of these are salt and flood tolerant including 1 aromatic variety, 47 are flood tolerant and 39 are drought tolerant including 3 aromatic and 2 therapeutic rice varieties. The rest 581 varieties belong to the general category. There are 56 aromatic rice varieties of which 2 have unique and diverse aroma, 1 smelling like fried green gram and the other, like cumin seed not available anywhere in the world. The therapeutic rices are used in old age tissue rejuvenation.



Photo courtesy: Dr. Ashok Panigrahi

Seed Bank in Orissa

### Diversity, seed exchange and yield potentials

Seed exchange has been the back bone of paddy cultivation until the green revolution. Native paddy plants have diverse basal sheath colours, with about 9 shades of 5 colours, ranging from green, yellow, purple, violet to black. Reappearance of wild variety is an inherent character of paddy cultivation. Cultivators, hence, replace the variety with a different basal sheath colour next season just to be able to distinguish the weeds which are then manually removed. All the green revolution varieties have the same basal sheath colour, making it difficult to distinguish the wild weed which is never removed. A particular variety cultivated in a given field for more than 3 years lose yield, hence, is replaced. This replacement used to be procured through seed exchange, a part of the barter system that was in place till a few decades ago. Thus the cultivators used to gain twice, a new variety and an ensured more yield as the new variety always yielded more. The green revolution proponents do not contribute to this gospel truth. It has been further found out that seeds exchanged over a long distance for growing in the same type of micro-climate not only yielded much more but often even changed its potentials. Two examples will suffice to put all doubts at rest.

1. Udasiali, an indigenous photosensitive kharif paddy variety transported over 500 kilometers from Balasore to Erasama in Jagatsingpur as part of post 1999 super cyclone disaster agricultural rehabilitation yielded at par in rabi.
2. Three select Odisha salt tolerant paddy varieties transported over a distance of over 1500 kilometers from Balasore to Nagapattinam in Tamilnadu under the 'seeds of hope' programme following 2004 tsunami yielded three times more and far better than any known high yielders. The same varieties behaved even better when cultivated in Indonesia, another 1000 or more kilometers away, in 2006 by Professor Friedhelm Goltenboth of Hohenheim University, Germany.

Paddy cultivated under green revolution may have better yield potentials, but it never benefit the cultivators. More grains come to the market but only after making a hole in the cultivator's pocket. Several dozen field experiments

conducted to find out the cost-benefit ratios of modern subsidized farming compared to organic farming in order to show a path to the distressed paddy cultivators, yielded a truth that the said ratio can never go beyond 1.5 for the former (msf) and never less than 2 for the later (of). In few instances the B:C ratio achieved under organic farming exceeded 4.5 which is unthinkable in green revolution farming. When all subsidies are withdrawn from the farming sector, the current type of agriculture for sure will cease to operate.

## Rice Diversity at Navdanya Seed Bank, Orissa

S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety
1.	Abhimanyu	59.	Baraf	117.	Chakadubi	175.	Dhalakalama	233.	Gobindabhog
2.	Acharmoti	60.	Barapanka	118.	Chakramala	176.	Dhalakhuda	234.	Gola
3.	Agnijhal	61.	Baripada	119.	Champa	177.	Dhalamutura	235.	Gopalabhog
4.	Agnisal	62.	Barsa	120.	Champasola	178.	Dhalapatini	236.	Gaurisankar
5.	Agnisara	63.	Barshadhan	121.	Champeisali	179.	Dhalapuntia	237.	Gautam
6.	Ahirman	64.	Basa chandrakanti	122.	Chandrakanti	180.	Dhalaraigadi	238.	Gouri
7.	Ahiramohan	65.	Basanapusa	123.	Chandrama	181.	Dhalasree	239.	Gudamathia
8.	Andhrapatini	66.	Basuabhog	124.	Chauli	182.	Dhalasola	240.	Hadagada
9.	Andhraswarna	67.	Basumati	125.	Chhancha	183.	Dhalasungi	241.	Hadasanra
10.	Anjali	68.	Basumati D	126.	Chhatakitara	184.	Dhalaswarna	242.	Haduakaya
11.	Annada	69.	Basumati J	127.	Chhatisha	185.	Dhalatulasi	243.	Hajirmal
12.	Annapurna	70.	Basumati M	128.	Chhotachampa	186.	Dhanaphula	244.	Haladigundi
13.	Aparajita	71.	Baula	129.	Chhotara	187.	Dhaniaphali	245.	Haladirangi
14.	Asubhajana	72.	Baulapentha	130.	Chilaladihari	188.	Dhanraj	246.	Haradjhati
15.	Asibam	73.	Baunsagaja	131.	Chinamali	189.	Dhansiri	247.	Harimalli
16.	Asina	74.	Baunsamuli	132.	Chingudibhusa	190.	Dhinkia	248.	Harisankar
17.	Askani	75.	Baya	133.	Chinikamini	191.	Dhirendra	249.	Harkoli
18.	Asmipisi	76.	Bayabhanda	134.	Chinisankar	192.	Dhosarasungi	250.	Hatipanjari
19.	Assamchudi	77.	Bayamundi	135.	Chinnor	193.	Dhosora	251.	Henna
20.	Asu	78.	Bedamalata	136.	Chitramani	194.	Dhosrakhuda	252.	Hichrangi
21.	Asudhan	79.	Bedaswarna	137.	Chitra	195.	Dhubakarttika	253.	Hirakani
22.	Asukakharua	80.	Belamanji	138.	Charu	196.	Dhubaasina	254.	Hiramoti
23.	Athagadia	81.	Belamanjia	139.	Chirag	197.	Dhubachhotara	255.	Hiranya
24.	Atia	82.	Benachera	140.	Champati	198.	Dimiriphula	256.	Hirapatini
25.	Atisaru	83.	Benumberi	141.	Chhanda	199.	Dubiraj	257.	Himani
26.	Bedi	84.	Benasali	142.	Chandrika	200.	Dubraj	258.	Hybrid
27.	Baijayanti	85.	Bengaldhan	143.	Chitanya	201.	Dubraj S	259.	Indrabati
28.	Babaganesh	86.	Benibhog	144.	Champabati	202.	Dudhasali	260.	Inkiri
29.	Baba rakshyakar	87.	Betana	145.	Chhapana	203.	Dudhasara	261.	Irabanjhi
30.	Baberphuli	88.	Betanasi	146.	Chanhala	204.	Dudheswar	262.	Jagabalia
31.	Badadhan	89.	Bhajana	147.	Chaitali	205.	Dula	263.	Jagannath
32.	Badakalamula	90.	Bhajanadhan	148.	Chhanaka	206.	Dumabakuri	264.	Jagannath S
33.	Badalatachaunri	91.	Bhaliki	149.	Charulata	207.	Durga	265.	Jaiphula
34.	Badiluche	92.	Bhartsendha	150.	Chandan	208.	Ekchori	266.	Jaladhan
35.	Badshabhog	93.	Bhasamani	151.	Chandralekha	209.	Eksuan	267.	Jaladubi
36.	Badsahbhog K	94.	Bhojana	152.	Chakori	210.	Farakka	268.	Jalachingar
37.	Bagada	95.	Bhuguniukhuda	153.	Chaintamani	211.	Gaguadulei	269.	Jaldi
38.	Baghamanda	96.	Bhundi	154.	Chhabi	212.	Gahiradhulia	270.	Jamainadu
39.	Baiganmanji	97.	Bhuskunda	155.	Culture	213.	Gajapati	271.	Janani
40.	Baikani	98.	Bhuta	156.	Culture K	214.	Gamri	272.	Jangalijata
41.	Baikoli	99.	Bhutamundi	157.	Dagarkaya	215.	Gangabali	273.	Jatia
42.	Baisnabi	100.	Bhutia	158.	Dahiasa	216.	Gangamgiri	274.	Jiban
43.	Balabhadrapakhia	101.	Bibhuti	159.	Dahikera	217.	Gargada	275.	Jhalakseni
44.	Balaji	102.	Bikram	160.	Dahikeshari	218.	Garubhuta	276.	Jhatakalei
45.	Bali	103.	Bilandi	161.	Dasarageti	219.	Garumoti	277.	Jhulamkaya
46.	Baliadadha	104.	Bilualanja	162.	Daya	220.	Gayabhog	278.	Jhuli
47.	Balianisa	105.	Binodpateli	163.	Debadutta	221.	Gayatri	279.	Jhulpalli
48.	Balibhuta	106.	Birendra	164.	Debasis	222.	Ganga	280.	Jhumurijata
49.	Balidan	107.	Bimala	165.	Dengaswarna	223.	Gedaswarna	281.	Jirasankar
50.	Banalata	108.	Bobailachha	166.	Desibasumati	224.	Gedikalama	282.	Jamuna
51.	Bandana	109.	Bridol	167.	Desimasura	225.	Gedimalata	283.	Kaberi
52.	Bangalipatini	110.	Brundabana	168.	Desiminiget	226.	Gelhei K	284.	Kabutakanta
53.	Bangalya	111.	Brundabati	169.	Desiswarnachampa	227.	Gelhei M	285.	Kadalipheni
54.	Bangaraasina	112.	Budhikakudi	170.	Dhabaleswar	228.	Gelheigeti	286.	Kaincha
55.	Bangaramadhei	113.	Bunde	171.	Dhalabakuri	229.	Ghanteswari	287.	Kajalkanthi
56.	Banki	114.	Bungi	172.	Dhalabhuta	230.	Gitalahari	288.	Kakharua
57.	Banshadhara	115.	Buxijagabandhu	173.	Dhalajhingsal	231.	Gitanjali	289.	Kakudibichha
58.	Bankichula	116.	Chakaakhi	174.	Dhalakakiri	232.	Gitanjali basumati	290.	Kakudimanji

S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety
291.	Kalamali	361.	Kathia	431.	Mahupheni	501.	Nalinadiya	571.	Puriasina
292.	Kala akhi	362.	Kathinandan	432.	Makara	502.	Nalipakhia	572.	Purichampa
293.	Kalabagada	363.	Katkal	433.	Malabati	503.	Nalipatini B	573.	Purnima
294.	Kalabakuri 1	364.	Kaya	434.	Malata	504.	Naliatini M	574.	Puspa
295.	Kalabakuri 2	365.	Kedargouri	435.	Malati	505.	Nalirasi	575.	Rabana
296.	Kalabasa	366.	Kerali	436.	Mangala	506.	Nalipatti	576.	Raibhog
297.	Kalabasumati	367.	Kesundera	437.	Mangalpuria	507.	Nalisitabhog	577.	Raigadi
298.	Kalabetanasi	368.	Katakijowa	438.	Montosh	508.	Nalisola	578.	Raigarh
299.	Kalabhuta	369.	Khadiasola	439.	Mardaraj	509.	Nalisunakhadi	579.	Rajendra
300.	Kalabhigina	370.	Khajuria	440.	Masala	510.	Nalisungi	580.	Rajeswari
301.	Kala brahmanbai	371.	Khandagiri	441.	Masura	511.	Namalkathi	581.	Raktabijuli
302.	Kalachampa	372.	Khandarangi	442.	Mathabeni	512.	Nandi	582.	Ramjata
303.	Kalajira	373.	Kharabela	443.	Mathura	513.	Nandini	583.	Ramsai
304.	Kalajira (K)	374.	Khatia	444.	Matia	514.	Nandiparbatkalia	584.	Rangaballav
305.	Kalajiri	375.	Khejurkandhi	445.	Matiasalei	515.	Nanu	585.	Rangabanjhi
306.	Kalakaincha	376.	Khirasara	446.	Matiasungi	516.	Narda	586.	Rangalata
307.	Kalakakiri	377.	Khosakani	447.	Mayurakantha	517.	Natakalama	587.	Ranganisungi
308.	Kalakalama	378.	Krishna	448.	Medi	518.	Nausal	588.	Rangasiuli
309.	Kalakanthi	379.	Koilibai	449.	Meghadambaru	519.	Nenka	589.	Rangi
310.	Kalakataki	380.	Konark	450.	Meghamala	520.	Nilagiri	590.	Rani
311.	Kalakaya	381.	Kranti	451.	Meghisal	521.	Nimain	591.	Ranidhan-2
312.	Kalaketaki	382.	Krushnakesi	452.	Meher	522.	Niranjana	592.	Ranidhan-3
313.	Kalama	383.	Kubera	453.	Methimahipal	523.	Nitai	593.	Ranisev
314.	Kalamara	384.	Kujidhulia	454.	Mitkabhajana	524.	Nitaigour	594.	Ranjeikhuda
315.	Kalambank	385.	Kujipatini	455.	Mohanbhog	525.	Nuhachur	595.	Ranjitpatini
316.	Kalameghi	386.	Kukuda akhi	456.	Motmachhakanta	526.	Omkar	596.	Raspanjar
317.	Kalamkathi	387.	Kulari	457.	Motamakarkanda	527.	Padarua	597.	Rastrapati
318.	Kalamulia	388.	Kumbhakarna	458.	Motasamili	528.	Padasendha	598.	Ratamalli
319.	Kalamutura	389.	Kumbharasala	459.	Motaswarna	529.	Padhuatanka	599.	Ratna
320.	Kalansu	390.	Kundabhuski	460.	Moti	530.	Padmabati	601.	Ratnachudi
321.	Kalapahada	391.	Kundabhusundi	461.	Motichur	531.	Padmajira	602.	Rupam (mota)
322.	Kalapatini	392.	Kurguri	462.	Madhaba	532.	Padmakeshari	603.	Rupam (saru)
323.	Kaklapuntia	393.	Kusumakunda	463.	Mugajai	533.	Padmarai	604.	Sabita
324.	Kalasree	394.	Kusumamanji	464.	Mugei	534.	Padmini	605.	Sabitapatini
325.	Kalasungi	395.	Ladu	465.	Mugeisal	535.	Pahadabhangi	606.	Safari
326.	Kalasura	396.	Lagubhutia	466.	Mugraphul	536.	Pahadiaminiget	607.	Sagadiabangi
327.	Kalatulasi	397.	Lajakulibadan	467.	Mugudhi	537.	Palaya	608.	Sagdiabhangi
328.	Kalaukhuda	398.	Lakshyahira	468.	Muktakiari	538.	Pandursuan	609.	Sagiri
329.	Kaliaansu	399.	Lalata	469.	Mundakathi	539.	Panibighina	610.	Saharchampa
330.	Kaliabhajana	400.	Lalboric	470.	Mundakaya	540.	Panichakiri	611.	Saharchampa S
331.	Kaliajhinga	401.	Lal basumati-1	471.	Mundidhan (dhala)	541.	Panidubi	612.	Saini
332.	Kalikati	402.	Lalbasumati-2	472.	Mundidhan (nail)	542.	Paniduliki	613.	Shaktiman
333.	Kalikhadsi	403.	Lal Dhan	473.	Musakani	543.	Panirohi	614.	Salajhati
334.	Kalikuji	404.	Lalu	474.	Nabasali	544.	Panisanla	615.	Shalaphula
335.	Kalinga 2	405.	Langalamunda	475.	Nabina	545.	Panisanra	616.	Sambalpuri
336.	Kalsi	406.	Lat	476.	Nadanchhatia	546.	Panisendha	617.	Sambhu
337.	Kamaleswar	407.	Latachaunri	477.	Nadiaphula	547.	Pankaj	618.	Samudra
338.	Kamini	408.	Latasal	478.	Nadiya	548.	Pankhei	619.	Samuka
339.	Kanchan	409.	Laxmidhan	479.	Nagara	549.	Pandaba	620.	Sanakalamula
340.	Kankadabichha	410.	Laxmikajal	480.	Nagarjun	550.	Paraja	621.	Sanalatachaunri
341.	Kankadamali	411.	Laxmikanta	481.	Nagupateli	551.	Parbani	622.	Sankar
342.	Kankidia	412.	Laxmiswang	482.	Najaka	552.	Parijat	623.	Sankarchin
343.	Kansiri	413.	Lilabati	483.	Nala	553.	Pariropa	624.	Sankargouri
344.	Kantha asina	414.	Luna	484.	Nalibakuri 1	554.	Pasakathi	625.	Sankari
345.	Kanthakakiri	415.	Lunabakada	485.	Nalibakuri 2	555.	Patakhuda	626.	Sankarsiali
346.	Kanthakarpura	416.	Lunifaram	486.	Nalibasa	556.	Patalagi	627.	Sankhamahuri
347.	Kanthakathia	417.	Lunisree	487.	Nalibetanasi	557.	Pauli	628.	Sanra
348.	Kanthanarda	418.	Machhakanta	488.	Nalibhuin	558.	Pimpudibasa B	629.	Sanrapateli
349.	Kantra	419.	Madhia	489.	Nalibrahmanbai	559.	Pimpudibasa M	630.	Sapuri
350.	Karandikatha	420.	Madhupuri	490.	Nalichaunri	560.	Pinhagali	631.	Saragchhinda
351.	Kirti	421.	Magura	491.	Nalichina	561.	Pitambari	632.	Sarala
352.	Karnasal	422.	Mahadi(mota)	492.	Nalidhulia	562.	Prakruti	633.	Saraswati
353.	Karni	423.	Mahadi (saru)	493.	Nalihajari	563.	Parasara	634.	Sargiphula
354.	Karpurakeli	424.	Mahalabeli	494.	Nalijhingasal	564.	Panchali	635.	Sarita
355.	Kartikanali	425.	Mahalaxmi	495.	Nalikakiri	565.	Phalguni	636.	Sarubhajana
356.	Kartikapatini	426.	Mahanadi	496.	Nalikalama	566.	Pasani	637.	Saruchina
357.	Kasbai	427.	Maharaja	497.	Nalikalambank	567.	Pratikshya	638.	Sarukhandagiri
358.	Kashiphula	428.	Mahipal	498.	Nalikhuda	568.	Puja	639.	Sarumadhi
359.	Kasturi	429.	Mahuchampa	499.	Nalimakarkand	569.	Pujaphula	640.	Sarumakarkanda
360.	Kasturi basumati	430.	Mahulakasi	500.	Nalimandu	570.	Puncture	641.	Sarusamili



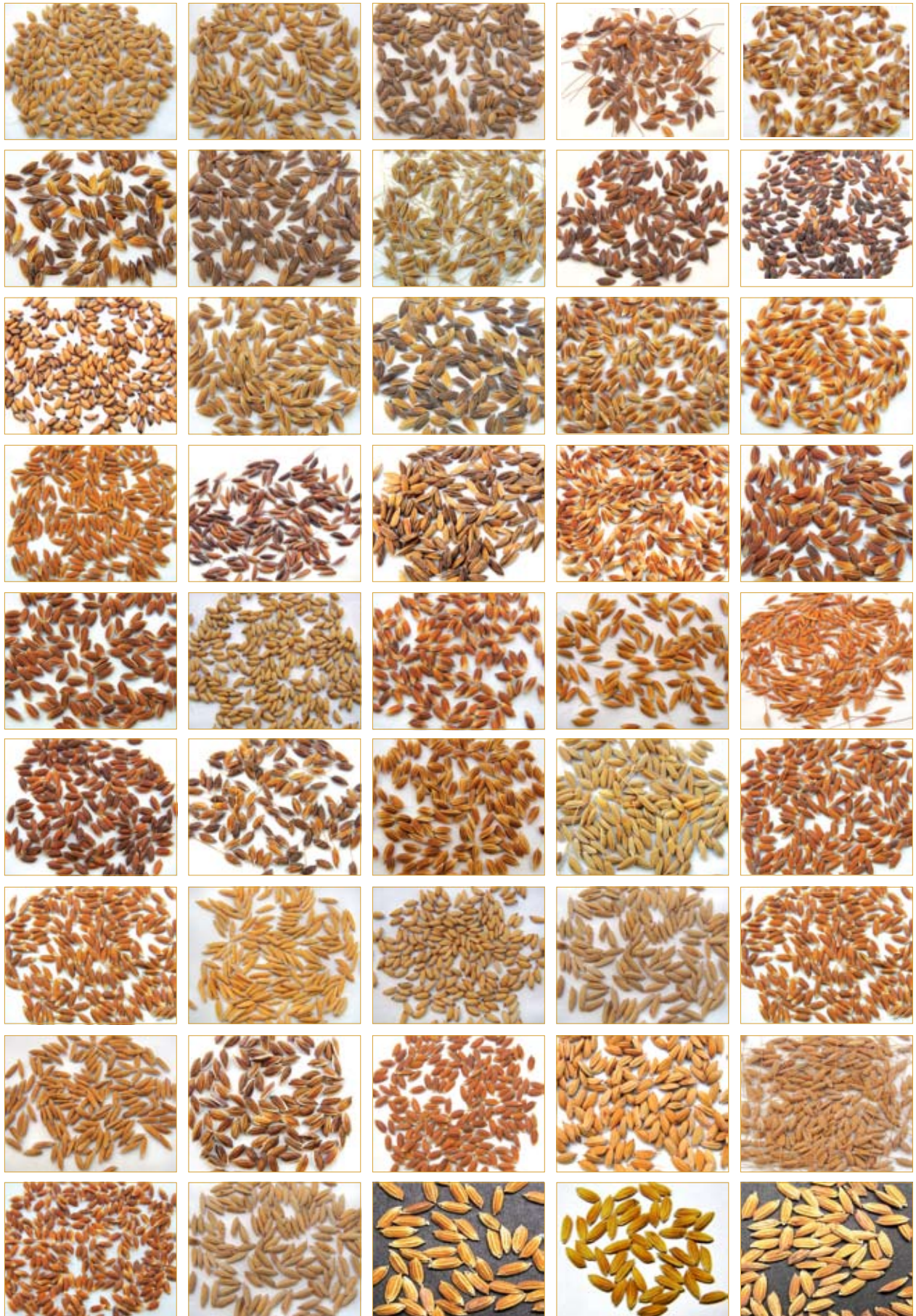
S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety	S.N.	Name of the Variety
642.	Sashi	657.	Sitasali	673.	Swarnadhan	688.	Thakurabhog
643.	Sathia	658.	Society	674.	Swarnatikili	689.	Thakurasuna
644.	Sautuni	659.	Soda	675.	Tulika	690.	Thengu
645.	Sebati	660.	Solo	676.	Tambala	691.	Thunka
646.	Sefali	661.	Sankhi	677.	Trupti	692.	Tikapatini
647.	Setka	662.	Sreeram	678.	Tofan	693.	Tinka
648.	Seulapuni	663.	Subasini	679.	Triveni	694.	Tipaharisankar
649.	Shalimar	664.	Sugandhi	680.	Triranga	695.	Tulasi
650.	Sharbati	665.	Sujata	681.	Talachera	697.	Tulasibasa
651.	Shree	666.	Sunasalita	682.	Tambrasungi	698.	Udasiali
652.	Simbamanjia	667.	Sundarbhajana	683.	Tamdial	699.	Udayagiri
653.	Singpura	668.	Sundarsali	684.	Tamkudai	700.	Ujawla asha
654.	Sisabir	669.	Surendra670. Suryakanti	685.	Tapaswini	701.	Upahar
655.	Sitabhog	671.	Suryamukhi	686.	Telosing	702.	Utkalprava
656.	Sitasal	672.	Swarnachampa	687.	Tentulimanji		

## Vegetable Diversity at Navdanya Seed Bank, Orissa

S.N.	Name of Winter vegetables	Variety Name & Type	S.N.	Name of Summer vegetables	Variety Name & Type
1.	Bitter gourd (Thusi)	Small size	14.	Cucumber	Chaitali
2.	Bitter gourd (Nakhara)	Big size	15.	Lady's finger	Medium size
3.	Bottle gourd	Round shape	16.	Ribbed gourd	Long type
4.	Bottle gourd	long	17.	Ribbed gourd	Medium size
5.	Sweet gourd (Baidabati)	Big size	18.	Country bean	Plant Type
6.	---do--- (Guamala)	Small	19.	Indian spinach	Leafy/stem veg.
7.	Cucumber	Medium size	20.	Amaranth	White stem veg.
8.	Brinjal	White long (bunchy)	21.	Amaranth	Red stem veg
9.	---do---	White round	22.	Amaranth	Leafy veg.
10.	---do---	Red (Hazari)	23.	Musk melon	Fruit
11.	---do---	Black long			
12.	---do---	Black round(Blue star)			
13.	---do---	Green Long			
14.	Tomato	Pusa Rabi			
15.	---do---	Punjab Keshari			
16.	---do---	Panjab Suanra			
17.	Ribbed gourd	Medium			
18.	Cauliflower	Early (45 days)			
19.	Lady's finger	Native			
20.	Radish	White Chetaki			
21.	---do---	Red Chetaki			
22.	---do---	Rebini (Native Large)			
23.	---do---	White small			
24.	Indian spinach	-----			
25.	Amaranth	(seasonal leafy veg.)			
26.	Country bean	Plant type			
27.	Cow pea	creeper			
28.	---do---	erect plants			
29.	Guanra	erect plant			
30.	Green chili	Yellow erect			
31.	---do---	white/green			
32.	Cabbage	Early (45 Days)			
33.	Water bind weed	Land variety			
34.	Coriander	Native herb			
35.	Spinach (Palak)	(seasonal leafy veg.)			
36.	Knol-khol	45 days variety			
S.N.	Name of Summer vegetables	Variety Name & Type	S.N.	Name of Rainy vegetables	Variety Name & Type
1.	Cow pea	Plant Type	1.	Bitter gourd (Thusi)	Small size
2.	Cow pea	Creeper Type	2.	Bitter gourd (Nakhara)	Big size
3.	Sweet gourd	Large size	3.	Bottle gourd	Round shape
4.	Sweet gourd(Guamala)	Small size	4.	Bottle gourd	long
5.	Bottle gourd	Long type	5.	Sweet gourd (Baidabati)	Big size
6.	Bitter gourd	Big Type	6.	---do--- (Guamala)	Small
7.	Bitter gourd	Small type	7.	Sweet gourd (Bhudeii)	Small
8.	Brinjal	white long	8.	Cucumber(Lahari)	Small
9.	Brinjal	Black bunchy	9.	Cucumber(Mancha)	Big
10.	Brinjal	Black round	10.	Cucumber (Barpata)	Medium
11.	Brinjal	white bunchy	11.	Cucumber (Sohalpatha)	Medium
12.	Brinjal	Black long	12.	Brinjal	White long (bunchy)
13.	Cucumber	Big type	13.	---do---	White round
			14.	---do---	Red (Hazari)
			15.	---do---	Black long
			16.	---do---	Black round(Blue star)
			17.	---do---	Green Long
			18.	Tomato	Pusa Rabi
			19.	---do---	Punjab Keshari
			20.	---do---	Panjab Suanra
			21.	Tomato	Chepti
			22.	Ribbed gourd	Medium
			23.	Cauliflowr	Early (45 days)
			24.	Lady's finger	Native
			25.	Radish	White Chetaki
			26.	---do---	Red Chetaki
			27.	---do---	Rebini (Native Large)
			28.	---do---	White small
					-----
			29.	Indian spinach	(seasonal leafy veg.)
			30.	Amaranth	Plant type
			31.	Country bean	creeper
			32.	Cow pea	erect plants
			33.	---do---	erect plant
			34.	Guanra	Yellow erect
			35.	Green chili	white/green
			36.	---do---	Early (45 Days)
			37.	Cabbage	Land variety
			38.	Water bind weed	Native herb
			39.	Coriander	(seasonal leafy veg.)
			40.	Spinach (Palak)	45 days variety
			41.	Knol-khol	

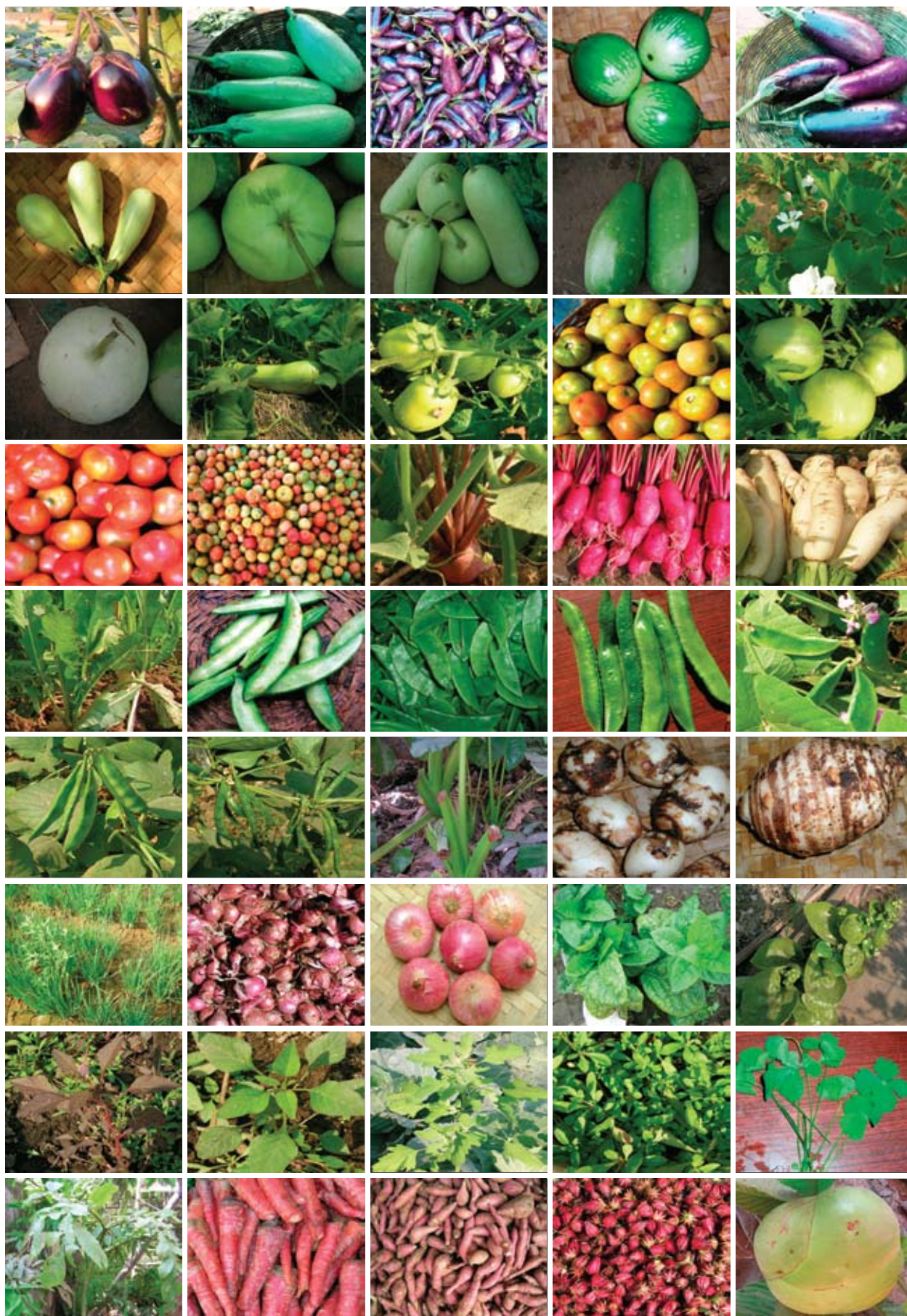


## RICE DIVERSITY





## VEGETABLE DIVERSITY





## Vrihi seed bank in West Bengal

*Vrihi*, in partnership with NAVDANYA, the national movement for agro biodiversity conservation started a seed bank in West Bengal under the stewardship of Debal Deb. Some of the varieties conserved in the seed bank are listed below. This has been taken from the *SEEDS OF TRADITION, SEEDS OF FUTURE* published by Navdanya and written by Debal Deb, which elucidates the Folk rice varieties of eastern India.

S.No	Name	S.No	Name	S.No	Name	S.No	Name	S.No	Name
1	AAsh	59	Bochi Con Dri	116	Fr-13a	173	Ka Dalika	232	La L Pesha Ri
2	Ag Niba N	60	Bodr Es H	117	Cada Ba	174	Kajal Dheki	233	Ma Rich Muk Hi
3	Ag N I-Sa L	61	Bok R A	118	Gandha Malati	175	Kajal Kathi	234	Marich Mukul
4	A Jirm A N	62	Bombaimugi	119	Ga Ndhes Wa Ri	176	Kajal Sundari	235	Ma Rich-Sa L
5	Akshay Rani	63	Born	120	Ga Nc A Ja Li	177	Jata Kalm A	236	Mayurkantha
6	A M Ar-Sa L	64	Bou Bhog	121	Ganga-Sal	178	Ja Ta Leta -Sal	237	Medi
7	Annapurna	65	Bou Dulali	122	Garam Masala	179	Jhanti-Sal	238	Meghnad-Sal
8	Asa N I. Eya	66	Budbud•Sa L	123	Ga Ria	180	A Nt!	239	Meg1
9	Ash Ph Al	67	Bullet	124	Ga Rib-Sal	181	Jh In Ga	240	Najirma
10	Ash U	68	Cha Itanya	125	G A Yasu R	182	Jhin Ga-Sal	241	Nalpai
11	Ash Win Dhu Lea	69	Chakramala	126	Geti-Sal	183	Jh It1 Piti	242	Narahasoi
12	Ashw1n Jharia	70	Chamarmani	127	Getoi	184	Jh U Li	243	Na Rasingha Ja Ta
13	Asi-Twin Jharia	71	Champa	128	Gheos	185	Jhu Loor	244	Narkel Chhari
14	A Sit K A Lm A	72	Chandrak Anta	129	Ghora -Sal	186	Jhu Loor -16	245	Nata
15	Ausha Bonk Ata	73	Chapa Khushi	130	Gita	187	Jira•Sal	246	Niroja
16	Ba Bu Ila Ta	74	Cheena Ka Mini	131	Ita N Ja L	188	Jirk U Di	247	Sateen
17	Bad A Bona	75	Cheena Pa Kr!	132	Gitashree	189	Jiten Dr A	248	S Ek A Ra
18	Bag H Jh A Pta	76	Dakshina Laghu	133	Gobinda Bhog	190	Ju Ga I	249	Shal Keleh
19	Ba Id Dh Usu Ri	77	Danaguri	134	Gochari Patnai	191	Ju Ng Li	250	Shati
20	Said Dulah	78	Danger Bar.Uah	135	Gorah	192	Ja Ta K A Biraj-SaL	251	Shatia
21	Said K A La M K Athi	79	Dangri Patna!	136	Go R -N Ita I	193	Ka Dalika	252	Shatia Bha Doi
22	Ba Id R As	80	Da Rk A-Sa L	137	Gun Ri Bhog	194	Kajal Dheki	253	Shim Ul K Uri
23	Baja L	81	Da R-Sal	138	Gu Ru Ji	195	Kajal Kathi	254	Shisha Phal
24	Ba K Ul Phool	82	Da Ya L M A Dina	139	Ha (Jam	196	Ketaki	255	Shiuli
25	Ba La Ram -Sal	83	Dehra Dun	140	Halud Gathi	197	Has Dhan	256	Shiyal Bhomra
26	Ba Li Bha A	84	Dehra Dun Bas	141	Hamai	198	Iichaskani	257	Shiyal Raj
27	Bank ChR (Big)	85	Dehra Dun	S.No	Names	199	Ic Hat1a T1ka	258	Sholeh
28	Ba Nk A Ta	86	Gan Hes A	142	Ha Nsguji	200	Khater-Sal	259	Shotput
29	Bank Ui	87	Cheng A	143	Hanuman Jata	201	Kaialgourd	260	Shu Kalma
30	Ba Nsh Cajal	88	Cheng-Sal	144	Ha Rir Jhinga	202	Khejur Chhari	261	Silot
31	B.A Nsh Kanta	89	Cherk I Jhuloor	145	Hatichampa	203	Khira-Sal	262	Sindur-Sal
32	Bansh Ka Thi	90	Cherk I Raj	146	Hatipanjar	204	Khira Bichi	263	Sindurmukhi
33	Sa Nshm Oti	91	Chhoto	147	He Era	205	Kholam Kuchi	264	Sitabhog
34	Ba Nsh Mugur	92	Nuniya Chila	148	Heera Moti	206	Khudi Kha Sa	265	Sita-Sal
35	Bansh Pate	93	Patna,	149	Hinche Sa Roo	207	K Ina Ri	266	Sona Dhusuri
36	Bansh Tara	94	Chiniatap	150	Ichhamati	208	Komal	267	Sona Jhuli
37	Banya-Sal	95	Chitra Kanhai	151	Indra-Sal	209	K Ubja	268	Sonam
38	Bardhaman Nagra	96	Dahar Nagra	152	Ja G A Nnath Bhog	210	Kuro Rogorh	269	Sona Puri
39	Bardhaman Panloi	97	Churno Kath	153	Jal Kamin1	211	Kusumgenda	270	Srabani
40	Ba S M Alt	98	Deputy-Sal	154	Jamaiadl	212	Lakshman-Sal	271	Srabanti-Sal
41	Basta R	99	Deshi Masuri	155	Jamai-Sal	213	La Kshnichura	272	Sriram
42	Begana Manjia	100	Deshi Patna'	156	Ja Shu A	214	Lakshi Dighal	273	Subasita
43	Ben A Jhu Ri	101	Deula Bhog	157	Ja Ta	215	La K Shmi Ja Ta	274	Sumitra
44	Benaphool	102	Dhaka!	158	Jata Kalm A	216	Lal Aush	275	Sundari
45	Begun Bechi	103	Kalam	159	Ja Ta Leta -Sal	217	Lal Badshabhog	276	Sundar Mukhi
46	Bh A Lk I	104	Dhanashree	160	Jhanti-Sal	218	La L DhePa	277	Swarna Kanti
47	Bha Samanik	105	Dhula	161	A Nt!	219	Ma Had!	278	Talmugur
48	Bhim -Sal	106	Dhusuri	162	Jh In Ga	220	Mahamaya	279	Tangra Patnai
49	Bhu Ri	107	Dhusuri	163	Jhin Ga-Sal	221	Ma Ji-Ii Jhuloor	280	Tetke
50	Bhu Ri-Sal	108	Dora Ng	164	Jh It1 Piti	222	Mala	281	Thakur-Sal
51	Bhu Rishu La H	109	Dudh Ka Lma	165	Jhu Loor -16	223	Ma La Ba Ti	282	Thupi-Sal
52	Bhut1a	110	Dudhe Mator	166	Jira•Sal	224	Ora Meteh	283	Tikar Nadi
53	Bhut Moor!	111	Dudheswar	167	Jirk U Di	225	Ma Lgudia Kalam	284	Tulai Panji
54	Bira La	112	Dudh-Sa Ri	168	Jiten Dr A	226	Ma Llik-Sa L	285	Tulsa
55	Biro I	113	Dukhi Darba R	169	Ju Ga I	227	Manik Kalma	286	Tulsibhog
56	B Ir Pa Na	114	Dumur Kano!	170	Ju Ng Li	228	Manik-Sal	287	Tulsi Manjari
57	Bis H Mon1	115	Durga-Sal	171	Ja Ta K A Biraj-SaL	229	Manik Kalma	288	Tulsi Mukul
58	Bochi			172		230	Manik Kalma	289	Utkal Prabha
						231	Manik-Sal	290	Velchi
								291	Zeeni

## Tamil Nadu seed bank

Navdanya initiated a seed bank in Tamil Nadu with The Center for Indian Knowledge Systems. The list below is taken from the book on indigenous rice varieties.

S.N.	Name	S.N.	Name	S.N.	Name
1.	Thanga Samba	12.	Muttakar	23.	Kallimadiyan
2.	Neelan Samba	13.	Kullakar	24.	Pisini
3.	Kappa Samba	14.	Kappakar	25.	Koomvalai
4.	Vadan Samba	15.	Perungar	26.	Kudaivazhai
5.	Kudiraival Samba	16.	Sigappu Kuruvikar	27.	Pitchavari
6.	Kaliyan Samba	17.	Vaigunda	28.	Chengalapttu Sirumani
7.	Kurangu Samba	18.	Jiljil Vaigunda	29.	Kadaikazhuthan
8.	Seeraga Samba	19.	Thooyamallee	30.	Arubatham Kodai
9.	Samba	20.	G.E.B.24	31.	Kattu kuthalam
10.	Samba Mosanam	21.	Sempalai	32.	Periyavari
11.	Kitchili Samba	22.	Kuzhiyadichan	33.	Sadakar

## Chota Udaipur, Rajasthan

Rajasthan is known for its desert as well as hot and dry climate throughout the world. Navdanya started a seed bank for such an agro-climate in the village Chota Udaipur in district Ajmer of Rajasthan. Due to the increasing use of hybrid and high yielding seeds of millets, vegetables and other crops, indigenous seeds are disappearing very fast. This seed bank in Rajasthan will help conserve the traditional seeds of millets, oil seeds, spices, vegetables and pulses in the state. About 500 farmer families are being benefitted directly from the present seed bank. Over the next 5 years, we hope to cover a population of 15000 farmers across 10 villages.



*Inauguration of the seed bank in Rajasthan in 2009*

## Kotari Seed Bank, Jharkhand

Jharkhand is another newly formed state of India, which was carved out of Bihar. The community seed bank in the village Kotari of Ranchi district benefits 500 families across 10 villages.



*Seed Bank in Jharkhand*

## Seed banks in the National Capital Region

A seed bank was established in a village near Meerut in western Uttar Pradesh. After receiving proper training, farmers kept and multiplied these seeds. Now farmers have 52 varieties of vegetable seeds, 6 varieties of fruits and 8 varieties of other grains in their seed bank. Group is very proud of seed bank now.

After farmers were empowered through training and they started getting better yields, farmers were linked to the market through procuring their vegetables from their doorsteps and distributing it to the Navdanya network. Navdanya's women

vegetable growers group in the year 2009 - 2010 grew and sold vegetables for Rs. 2 lac approximately. In 2010-11 the group was able to sell vegetables worth Rs. 5,20,389, whereas in 2011-12, their sales went upto Rs. 11,29,226. In just three years the sales of the women group went up by almost about 6 times.

Vegetable seeds were also sold by the group in addition to the vegetables. In the year 2009-2010 they could sell the seeds for Rs. 3000 and in the financial year of 2010, 2011 for Rs. 42,000 and in 2011-2012 for Rs. 60,000. These seeds were also distributed to the widows of farmers who have committed suicides in Punjab as 'Seeds of Hope'.



In Punjab about 3500 seed packets were distributed, whereas about 3000 seed packets were also distributed by Navdanya in Uttarakhand and Ladakh as well.

Navdanya in the year 2011 started vegetable production and a living seed bank in Bulandshahar, in NCR. Navdanya also created a seed bank at New Delhi office. From this seed bank seeds are being distributed to the students in different schools working on the project

### Rejuvenating Lost Gardens of Khajuraho

Navdanya started rejuvenating Lost Gardens of Khajuraho in association with the INTACH Belgium in the year 2008. The endeavor was started with the “Pateria Ka Bag”, 1.5 acres, situated on Rajnagar road towards the north. Plants of Mango, Guava, Amla, Jack Fruit and other local fruits were planted in the garden after restoring the old monuments in the gardens. Plant nursery was developed and vegetable

and tree plans were given to the farmers around free of cost to help local farmers to improve the diversity and also to conserve the crops and fruit trees grown in the region for centuries.

A seed bank was started in the year 2011. The seed bank was started with conserving the vegetable seeds. The seed bank is conserving about 45 vegetable seeds of the region.

Moreover, at the “Rani ka baug” a vegetable nursery is being developed along with fruit trees plantations.

Progress of the Navdanya intervention was witnessed by the participants of the conference on Sustainable Development of Khajuraho, organized by INTACH, India in association with INTACH Belgium and M.P. Government on from 16th -18th November 2010.



*Seed Bank in National Capital Region*



*Seed Bank in Khajuraho*



### Seeds of Hope, Seeds of Freedom

The Seeds of Hope (Asha Ke Bija) program aims at providing an emergency supply of indigenous varieties of seeds in those regions, which are worse effected, either by the natural calamities likes super cyclone in Orissa, Tsunami in Tamil Nadu or as result of the policies e.g. Punjab and Andhra Pradesh.

The saline resistant seeds conserved by Navdanya in Orissa have helped the victims of the super cyclone that hit Orissa in October 1999 to re-establish sustainable agriculture.

Navdanya has also given hope to the victims of tsunami. The tsunami waves affected the agricultural lands of the farmers due to intrusion of seawater and deposition of sea land. More than 5203.73 hectare of agricultural land in Nagapattinam was affected by the tsunami. The Navdanya team conducted a study in the affected villages to facilitate the agriculture recovery. The team, distributed 3 saline resistant varieties of paddy, which included Bhundi, Kalambank and Lunabakada, to the farmers of the worse affected areas. These varieties of native saline resistant kharif paddy seeds were collected from Navdanya farmers in Orissa amounting to a total of 100 quintals.

Navdanya through its Seeds of Hope program also provided farmers of Kashmir valley with seeds for next crop, which they lost during the 2005 earthquakes. The biodiversity program has started in Pulwama district in Jammu and Kashmir. The district was carved out of Anantnag district. Initially the biodiversity has started in five villages of Pulwana district, which are Sambura, Pampar, Batherhama, Zawoor and Hadu. In the long run, the biodiversity conservation program of Navdanya aims to cover whole of Kashmir and Ladakh.