



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ



## Inovace studijních programů AF a ZF MENDELU směřující k vytvoření mezioborové integrace CZ.1.07/2.2.00/28.0302

Tato prezentace je spolufinancovaná z Evropského sociálního fondu a státního rozpočtu České republiky

# Vegetable Seed

# Vegetable Seed

## Seed quality

- Biological value – genetic potential of the plant (variety)
- Seed value – laboratory tests:
  - **Purity** – weight %, + seeds of other species, weeds
  - **Germinating capacity** (%) – the capability of seeds to germinate  
(A minimum of 95% for propagation trays, 50-70% for bags)
  - **Moisture** (percentage of the weight) – significance for storage (12%)
  - **HTS** – the weight of 1,000 seeds
- Field rate of emergence – the percentage of healthy, regularly developed plants
  - The seeds that have germinated continue to vegetate

# Seed Treatment

- **Grading** – the sorting out according to the **size**
- **Fractionalisation** – the sorting out according to the **weight** (HTS)
- **Grinding** – the sowing of individual seeds (tomatoes, carrots)
- **Disinfection** – chemical protection (fungicides, insecticides)

## ***Pelleting***

### ***1. Pelleting:***

- A layer of inert material
- Allows precision seeding (carrots, onions, lettuce)
- Bulking agents (Bentonit) + binding agents

### ***2. Encrustation:***

- A thin layer – encrustation does not impact on the shape to a large extent
- A mix of polymers, additives, dyes + fungicides, insecticides
- Seeds are either immersed in the solution or the solution is sprayed on them

**1. Heating** – fruit bearing vegetables (30-60°C), not used

**2. Swelling** – seeds are immersed in water for about 12 hours, then

• **Technical vernalisation**

• Vernalisation takes place due to the impact of low temperatures

- Tomatoes: swollen seeds are kept at 12°C for 10 days

• The vernalisation accelerates the formation of flowers

• **Plants go to flower faster**; earlier harvesting

• The vernalisation heightens the yield – it extends the fertility period

## ***Germination***

- Favourable for celeriac – fine seeds
- Regular seeds germinate and come up unevenly
- ***Germination stimulation*** – growth substances, phytohormones
- *The stimulation is usually not conducted in the present day practice*
- *Seeds would have to be dried out to the original weight*
  - *Otherwise, the germinating capacity would deteriorate, fungal diseases would occur, the process is tedious*

# ***Biological Seed Treatment***

- An alternative besides the chemical treatment
- Use of fungi and bacteria
  - Leguminous plants: nodule bacteria

*Rhizobium, Bradyrhizobium*

*Nowadays, this treatment is scarcely used*

# Examples of Bio Agents Used for Biological Seed Treatment

Bio agent	Regulated pathogen (disease)
<b>Trichoderma harzianum</b>	Pythium spp. Damping-off
<b>Pseudomonas aureofaciens</b>	Pythium ultimum Damping-off
<b>Bacillus subtilis</b> <b>Pseudomonas putida</b>	Pythium aphanidermatum Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. cucurbitacearum Root rot
<b>Gliocladium catenulatum</b>	Pythium spp., Rhizoctonia spp. Damping-off

# Hot-water disinfection

Crop	Temperature (°C)	Exposure (minutes)	Disease
Savoy cabbage	52	30	Black rot of brassica vegetables, damping-off, bacterial spotting
Broccoli, Brussels sprouts	50	20	Bacterial ring spot
Cauliflower (cultivars)	52	25	
Tomatoes	56	30	Damping-off, bacterial wilt of tomatoes, bacterial spotting
Peppers	50	25	Bacterial spotting
Celeriac	50	30	Septoria leaf spot, damping-off
Carrots	50	20	Alternaria leaf spot

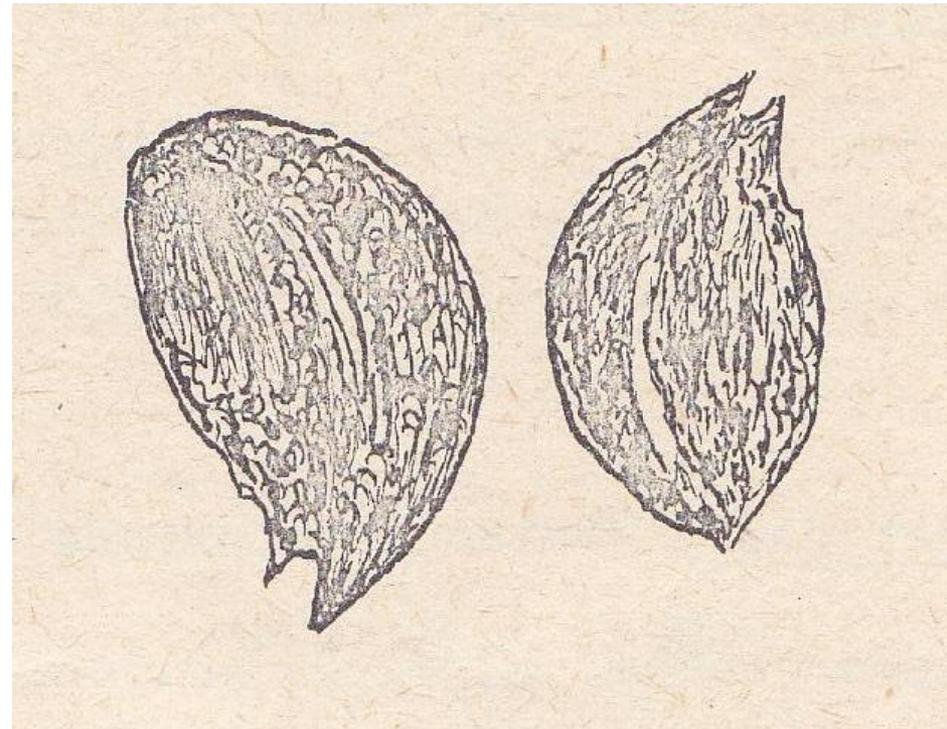
# Recognition of Vegetable Seeds

# Family: Liliaceae – The Lily Family

Onion, common chives, leek, asparagus

## Onion *Allium cepa* L.

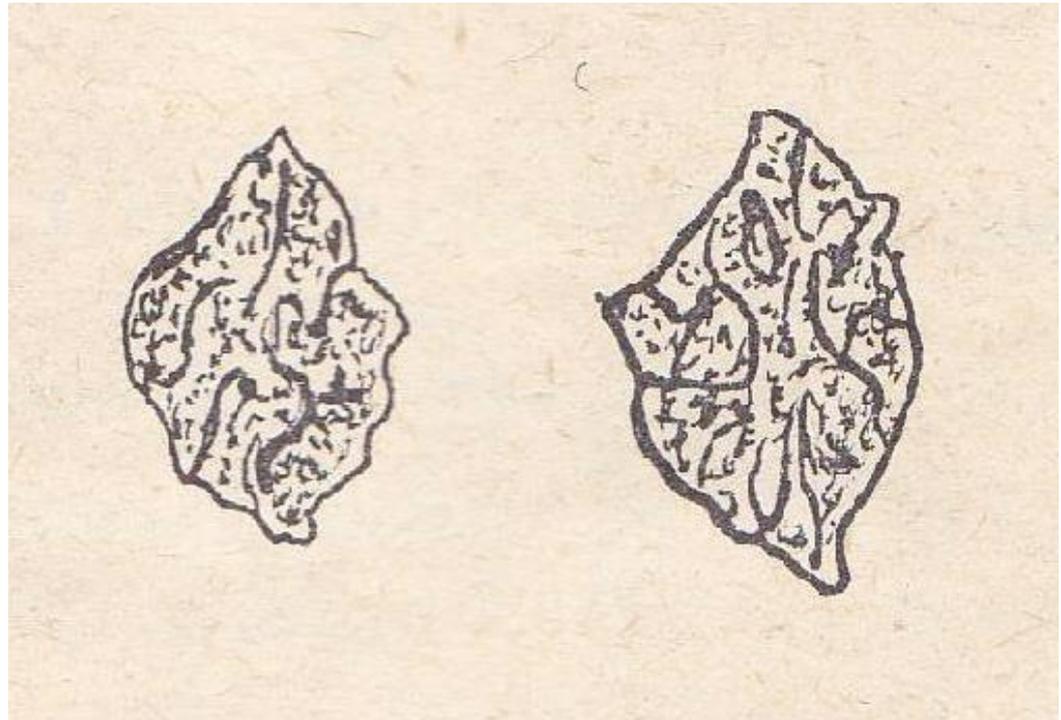
- A seed of an irregular **shape of a bowl, triangular**
- Pointed at the bottom
- **Of a black (grey-black) colour with a matt surface**
- **Bigger than the leek seed**



## Leek *Allium porum* Rgl.

The seed is very similar to the onion seed, but is smaller, more wrinkled

- The seed is not shiny, but **pruinose**



## Common Chives *Allium schoenoprasum* L.

The seed is smaller and thinner than the onion seed, is of the shape of  
Black-coloured, shiny



## Common Asparagus *Asparagus officinalis* L.

The asparagus fruit is a red berry with 3-5 black seeds

- A **global** seed, dented on one or two sides
- The surface is **finely reticulate**

There is a **noticeably light spot on the belly side**



# Family: Fabaceae LEGUMINOUS PLANTS

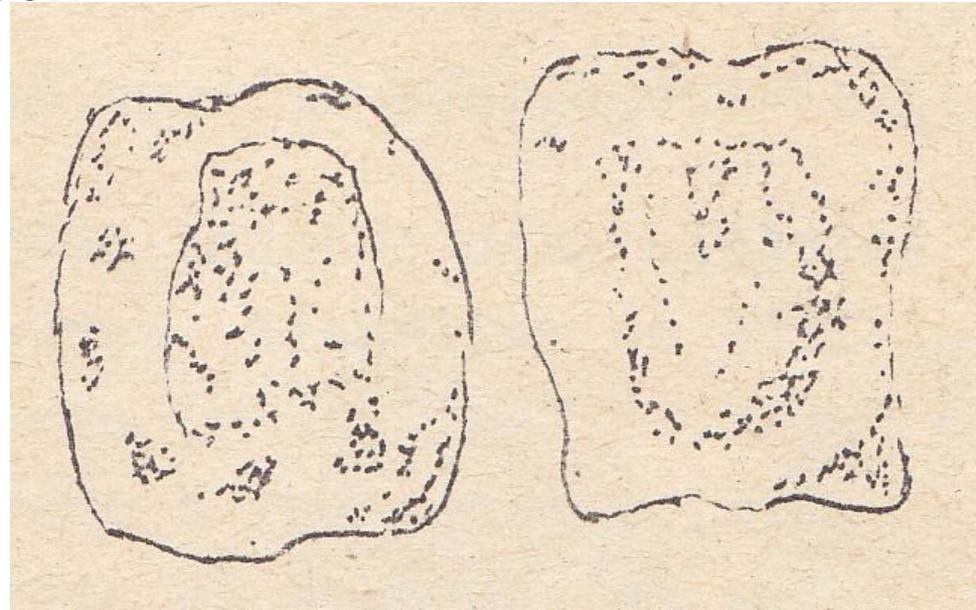
Pea, bean

## Garden Pea *Pisum sativum* L. ssp. *hortense*

- The seed:
- Round

### Wrinkled

- Frequently also of a quadrilateral shape
  - Colours:
  - Mostly **light green**
- Sometimes **beige** or **yellow-green**



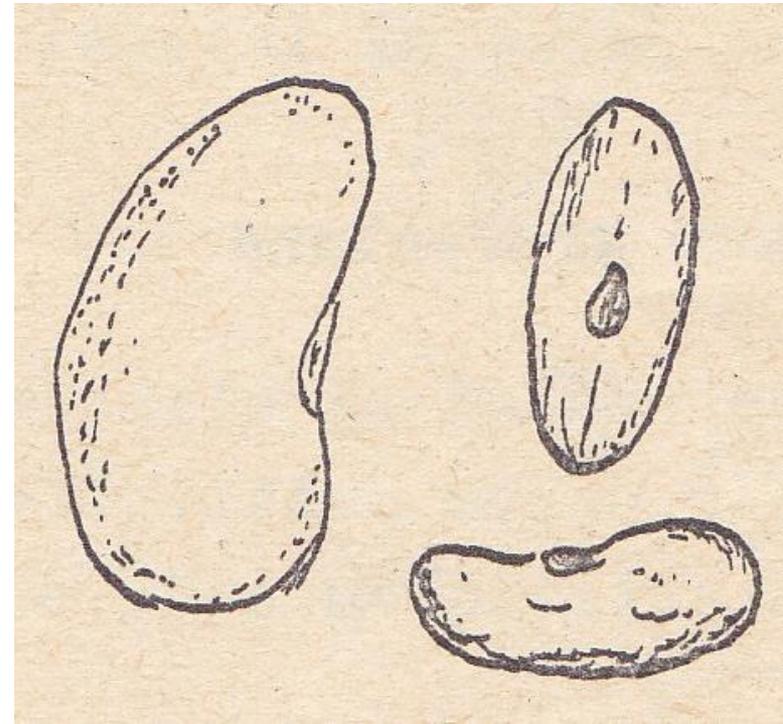
## Common Green Bean *Phaseolus vulgaris* L.

The seed of a characteristic reniform shape

- Colours:

- Czech cultivars are **white**

**Yellow, light brown, dark brown, black** as well as **multi-coloured**



## **Family: Apiaceae (Umbellifer)**

Celeriac, carrot, parsnip, parsley, dill, coriander, caraway, fennel

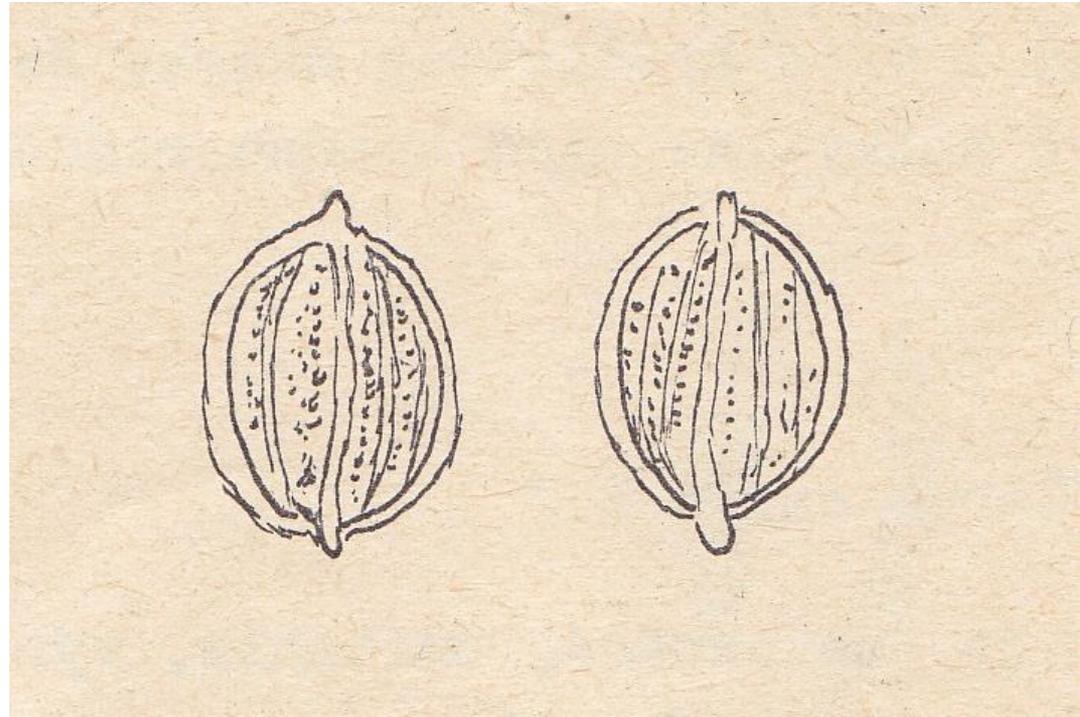
## Celeriac *Apium graveolens* L.

- Achenes, brown-coloured

Slightly inflated to flat on the belly side, considerably inflated with marked

- Characteristic taste, strong aroma

**The seed counts among the tiniest ones**

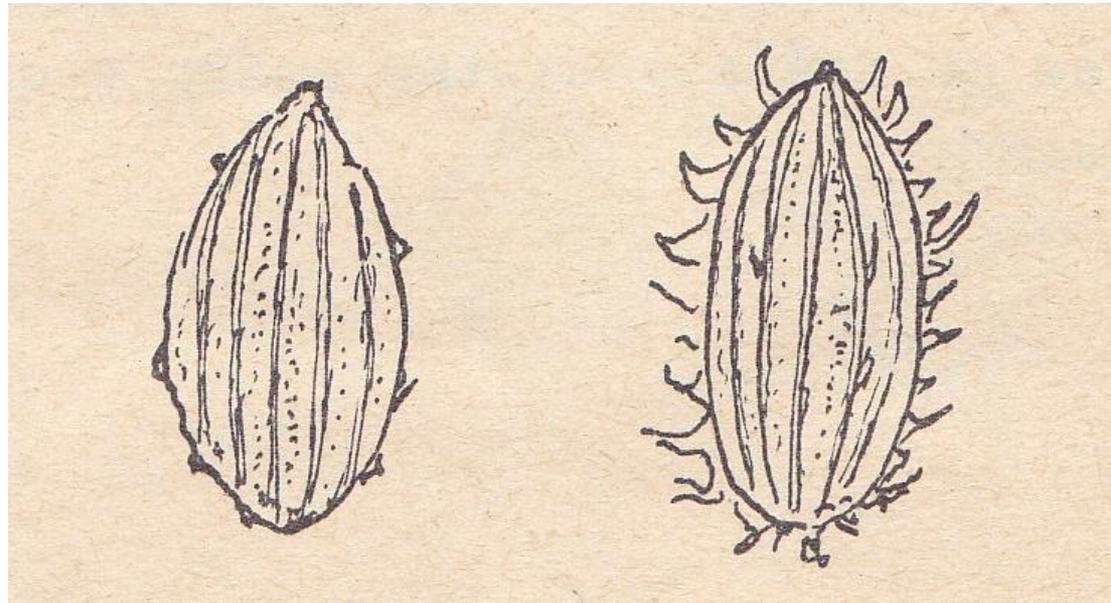


## Carrot *Daucus carota* L.

- The fruit is a diachenium which, at threshing, splits into two separate, c

### Light brown coloured

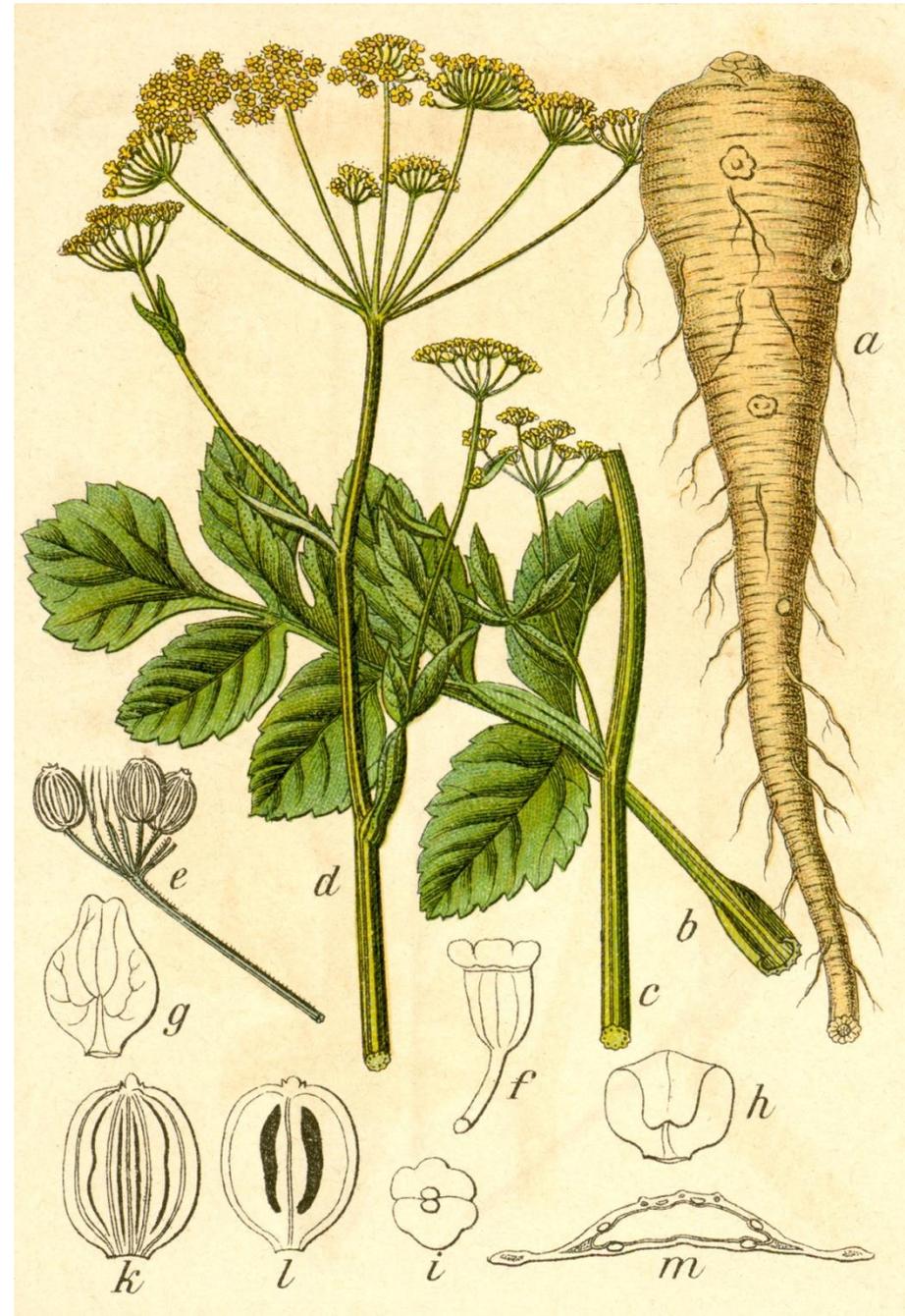
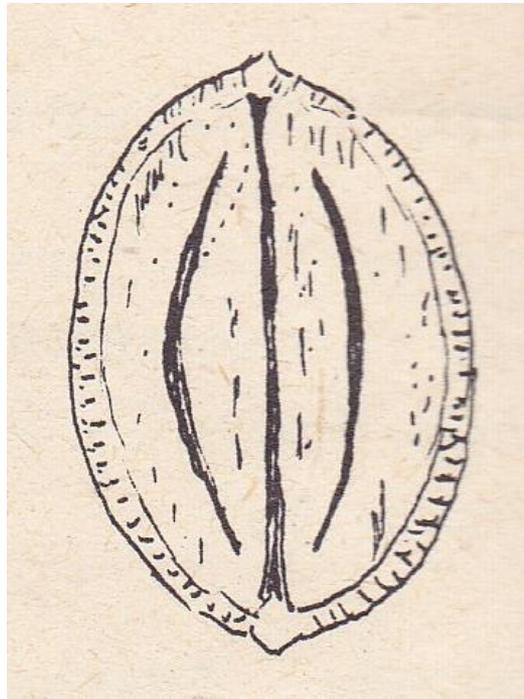
- Flat on the belly side, inflated on the back side, the whole surface has
- The seeds have an intense scent
- At threshing, achenes are scrubbed off on special shellers so that the seeds do not clu



# Parsnip *Pastinaca sativa* L.

The fruit is a double samara

- The seed is relatively big, widely oval, 6mm long
- Light-brown colour, **with a wide rim of a paler colour**

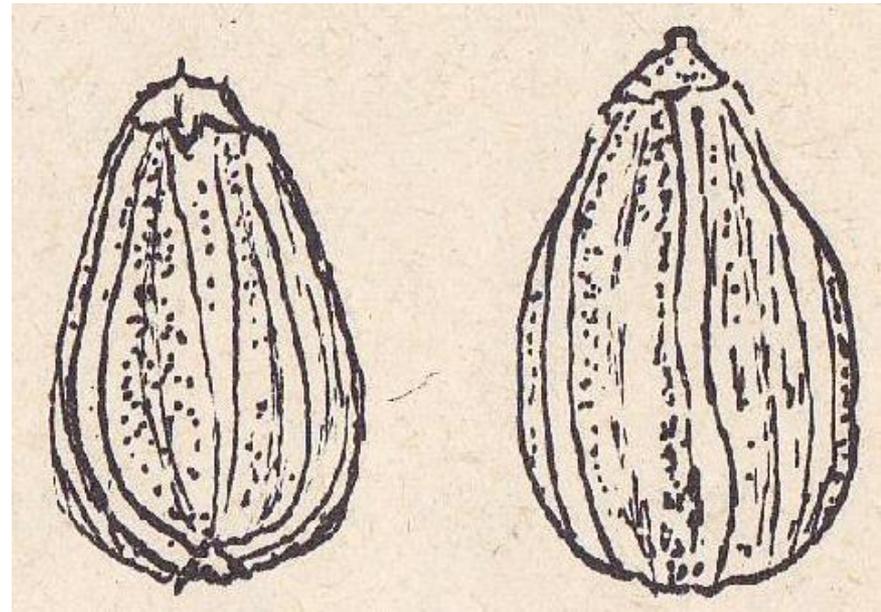


# Parsley *Petroselinum hortense*

The fruit is a double samara

- The seed is flat, widely oval, 5 mm in length

Light brown coloured, with a wide rim of a paler shade



## Fragrant Dill *Anethum graveolens* L.

The achenes are widely oval to elliptical

- Dark brown coloured, with a narrow rim of a paler shade

Characteristic scent and taste

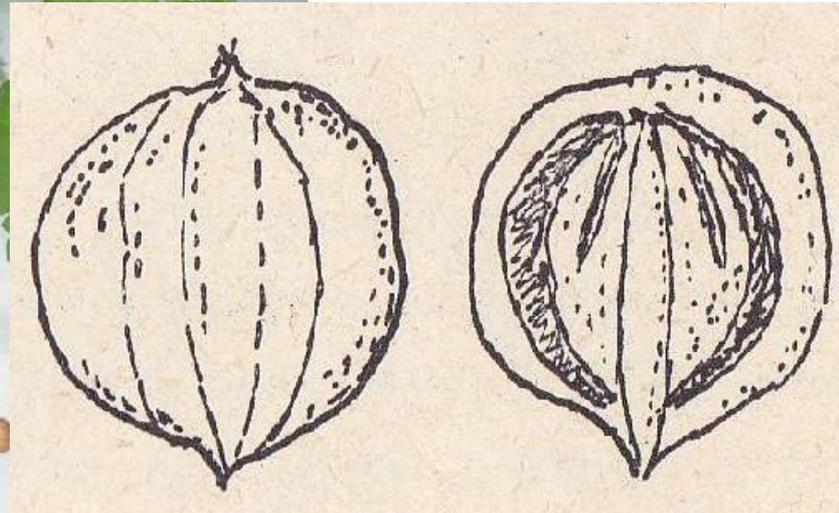


# Coriander *Coriandrum sativum* L.

Global fruits

- Yellow-brown
- The fruits consist of 2 or more samaras

The individual achenes of a fruit can be easily separated by a fingernail



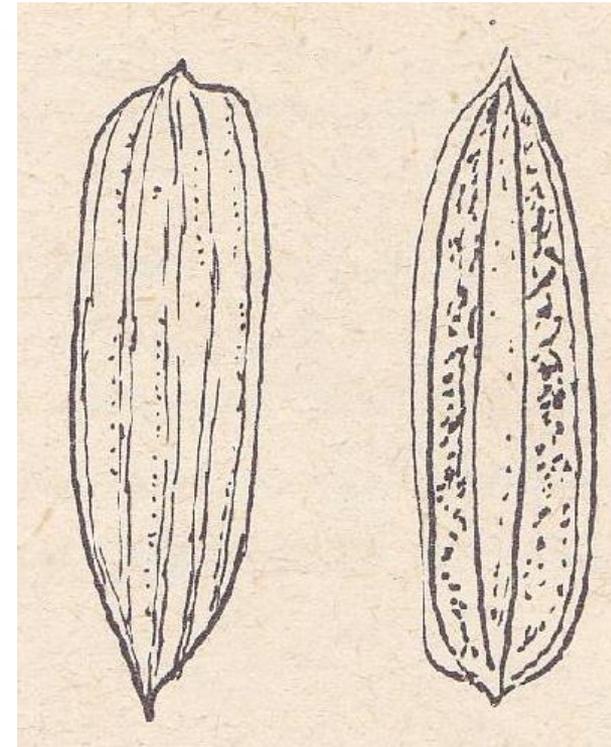
## *Carawa Carum carvi* L.

- An oblong, considerably costate achene, 3-5 mm long
- Dark-brown colour
- Typical **flavour and smell**
- The diachenium fragments into two separate achenes
- at the time of ripening



# Common Fennel *Foeniculum vulgare* L.

- The achene is narrow, oval, slightly curved, markedly costate
- green-brown colour
- Typical flavour and smell



## **Family: Solanaceae – The Nightshade Family**

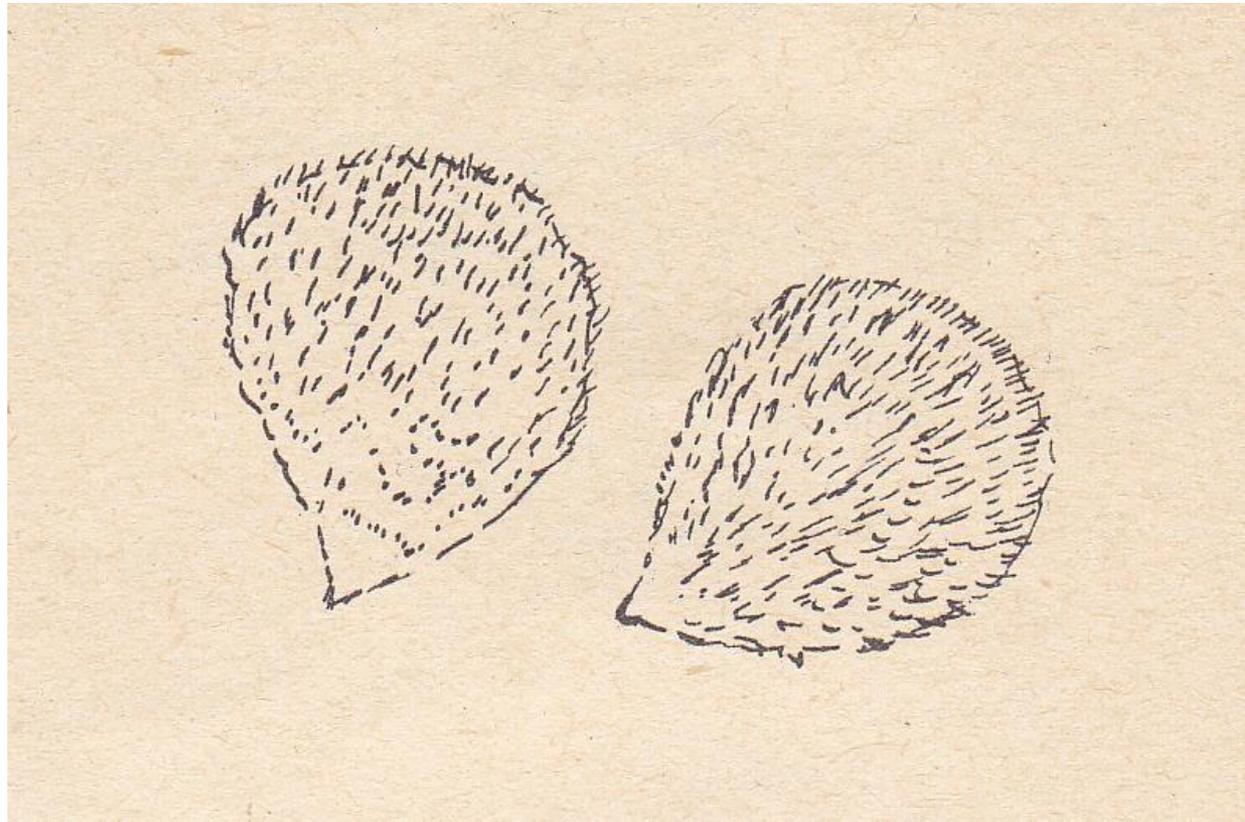
Tomato, pepper, aubergine

## Tomato *Lycopersicon esculentum* L.

A round, flat seed

- Light brown coloured

The whole surface of the seed is covered with **silver-grey hairs**,  
the seed feels like velvet



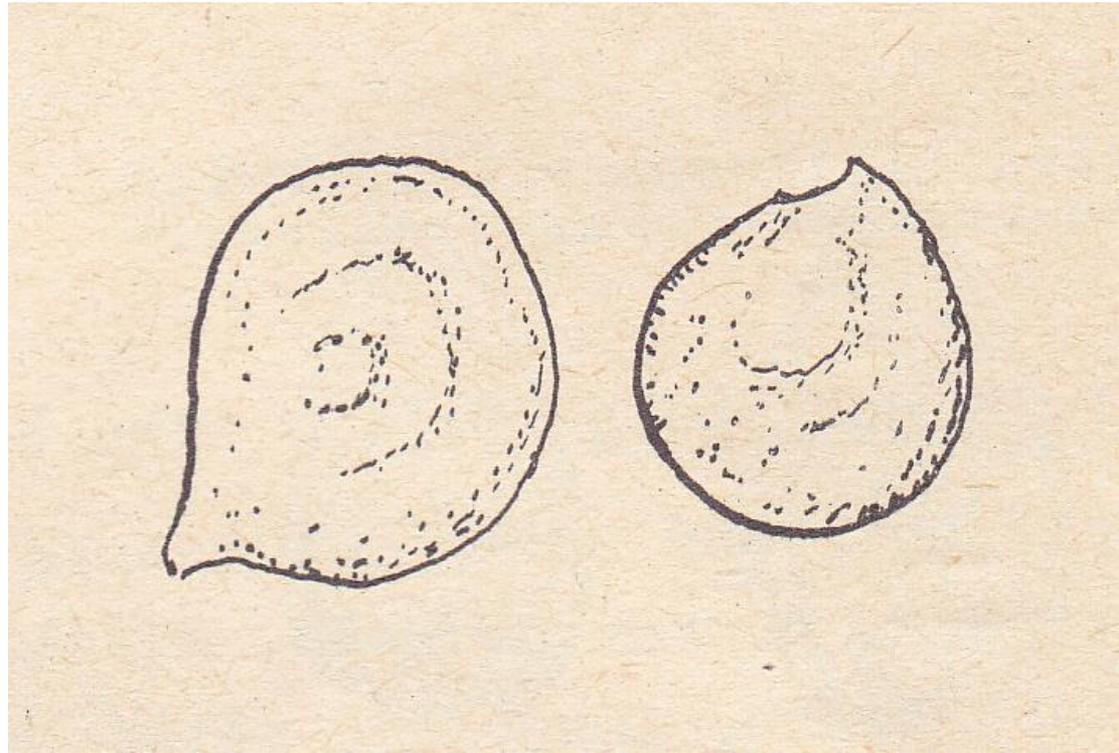
## Red Pepper *Capsicum annum* L.

- A round seed

With a small beak-shaped projection in the bottom part

- Coarse to touch
- Of a deep yellow to orange-yellow colour

Dark seeds do not germinate



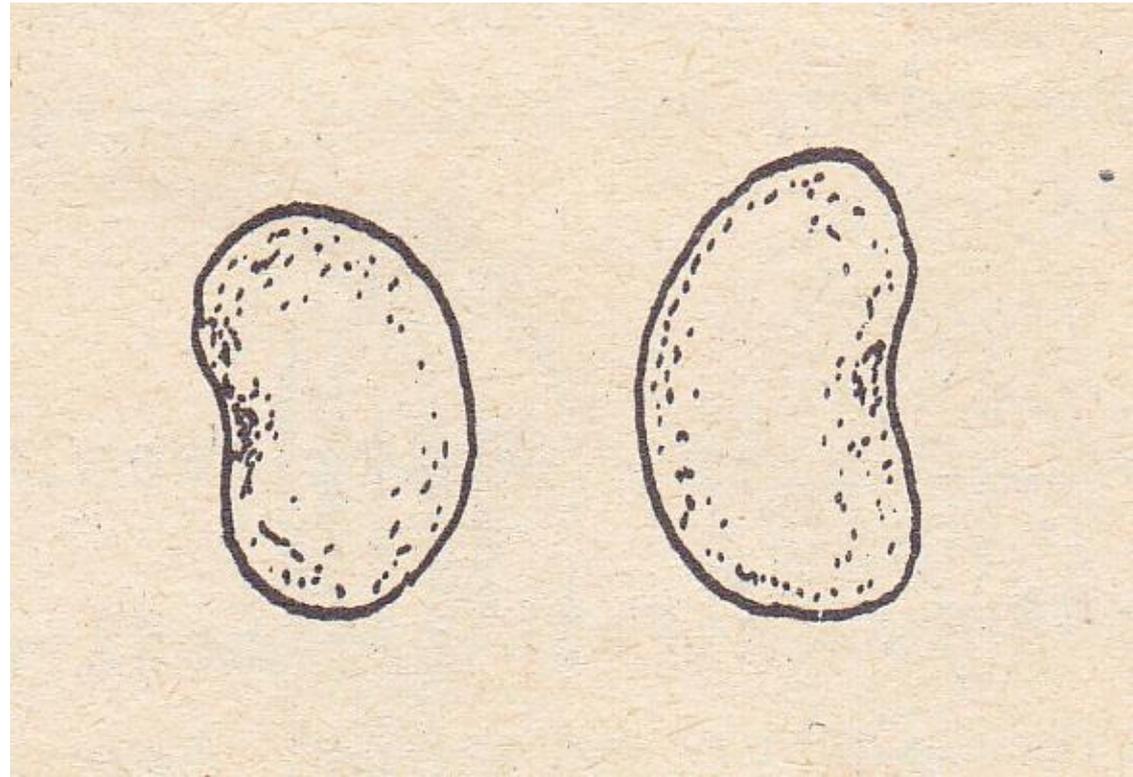
## Aubergine *Solanum melongena* L.

- The seed is flat, small, having a **smooth surface**

A kidney-like shape

- With a small nick in the middle

- Mostly of a **light brown, pinkish**, as well as **yellow**, or possibly **black colour**



# **Family: Cucurbitaceae – The Cucurbits Family**

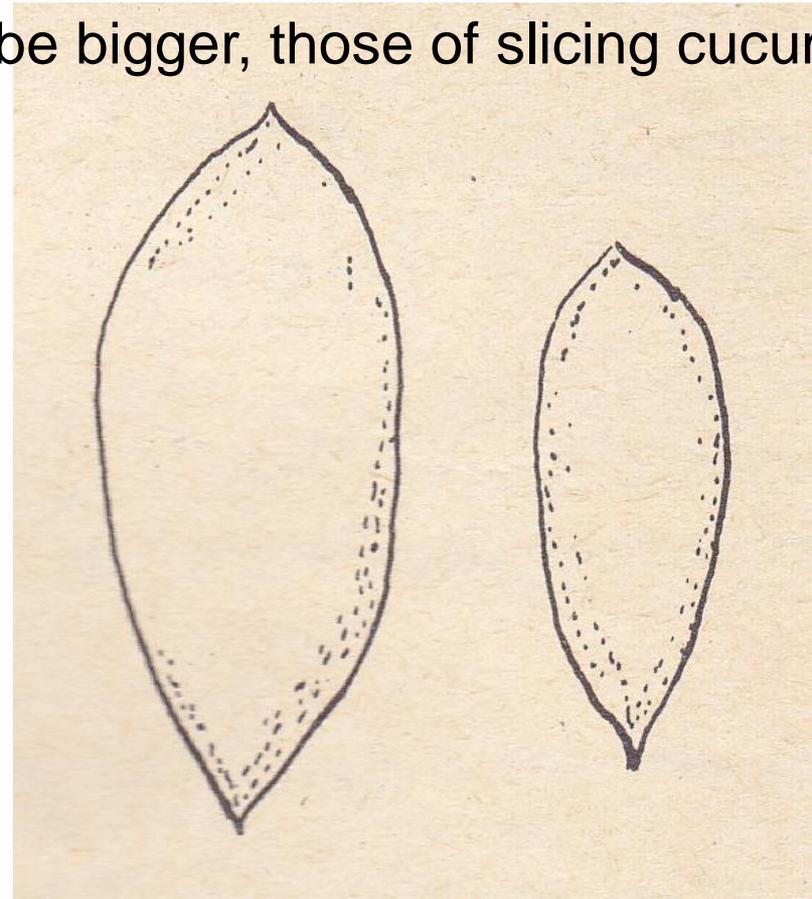
Cucumber, gourd, Siam pumpkin, muskmelon, watermelon

## Cucumber *Cucumis sativus* L.

- A seed of an oblong, ovoid shape
- Rounded at the base, pointed at the vertex

Right after harvesting, the seed develops a considerable point that often goes broad

- **A beige colour**
- The seeds of pickling cucumbers tend to be bigger, those of slicing cucumbers

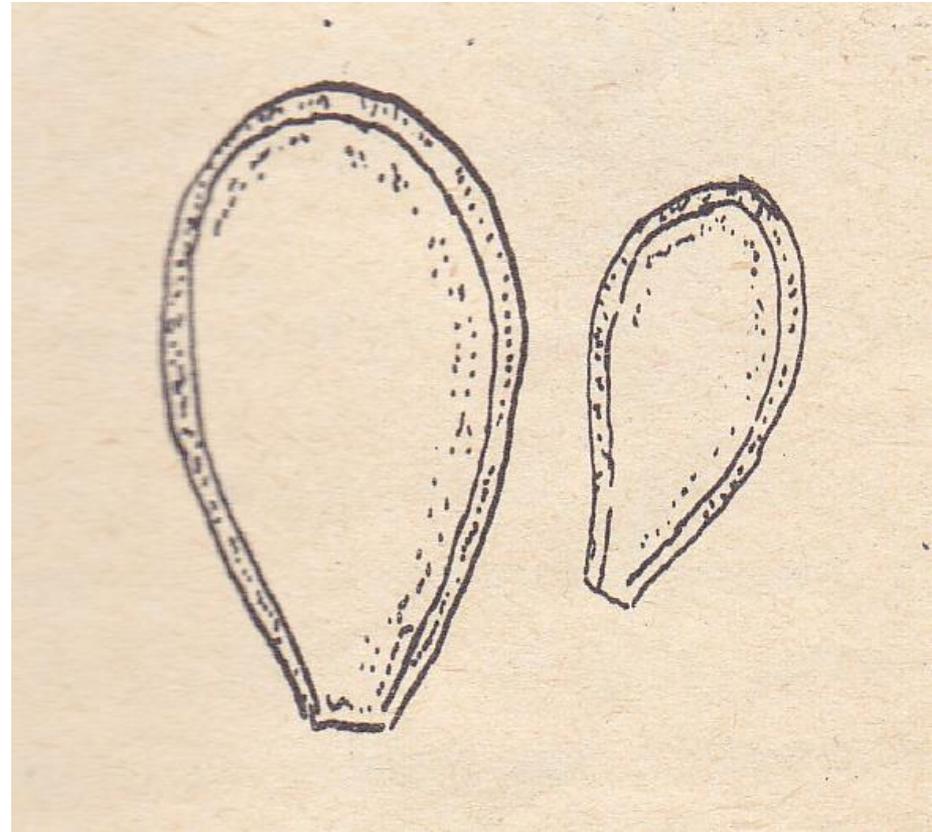


## Gourd *Cucurbita pepo* L.

The seed can be of 1 cm or more and has a **blunt end**

- Of an ovoid shape, flat, with a considerable seam along the whole circumference
- A white or a beige colour

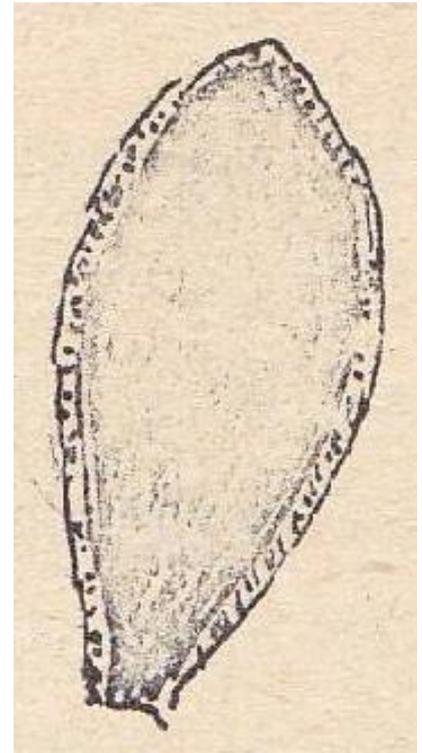
The seed of the pattypan squash is smaller



# Siam Pumpkin *Cucurbita ficifolia* L.

Used as rootstock for the grafting of slicing cucumbers

The seed is of the same shape as that of the gourd, but this seed is of

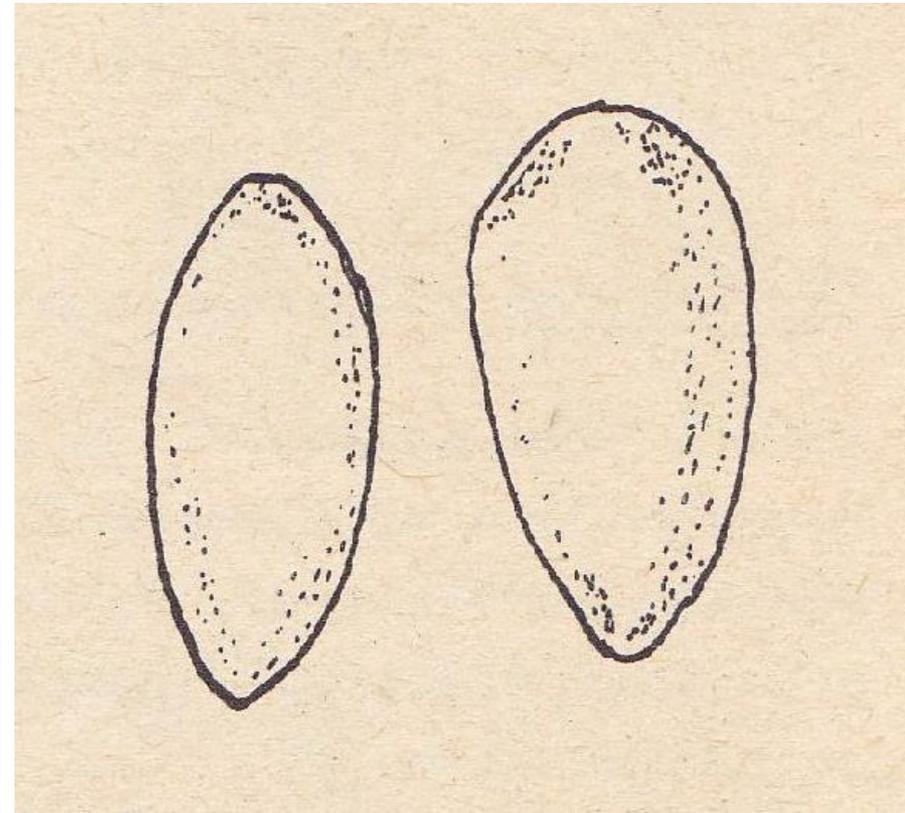


## Muskmelon *Cucumis melo* L.

An ovoid seed, being almost identical in shape with the seed of the cucumber

• Of rather intense colours, mostly yellow-orange

• The seed is usually bigger and thicker than that of the cucumber



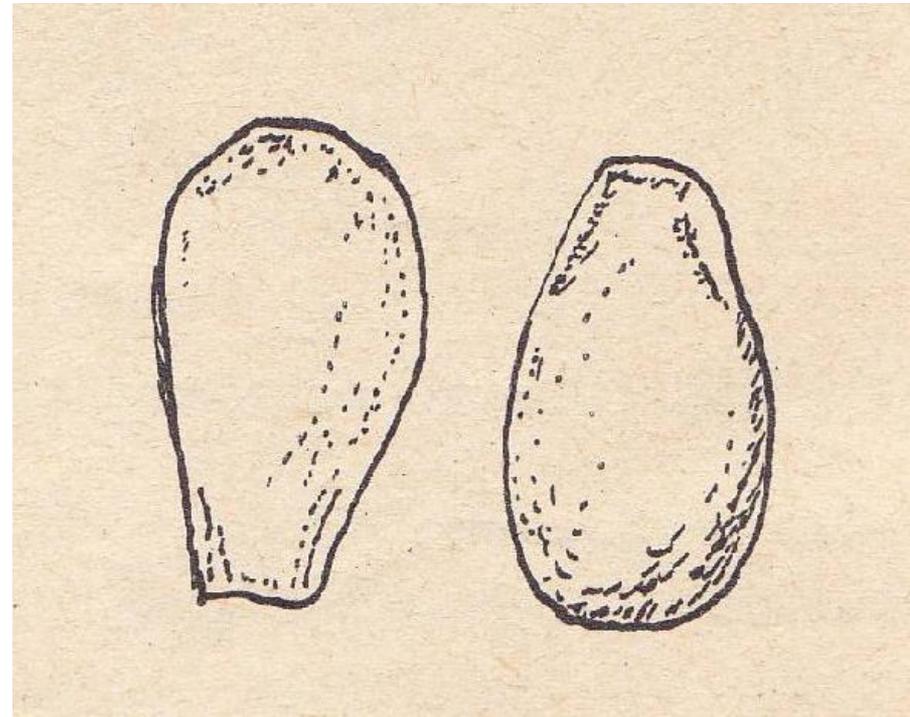
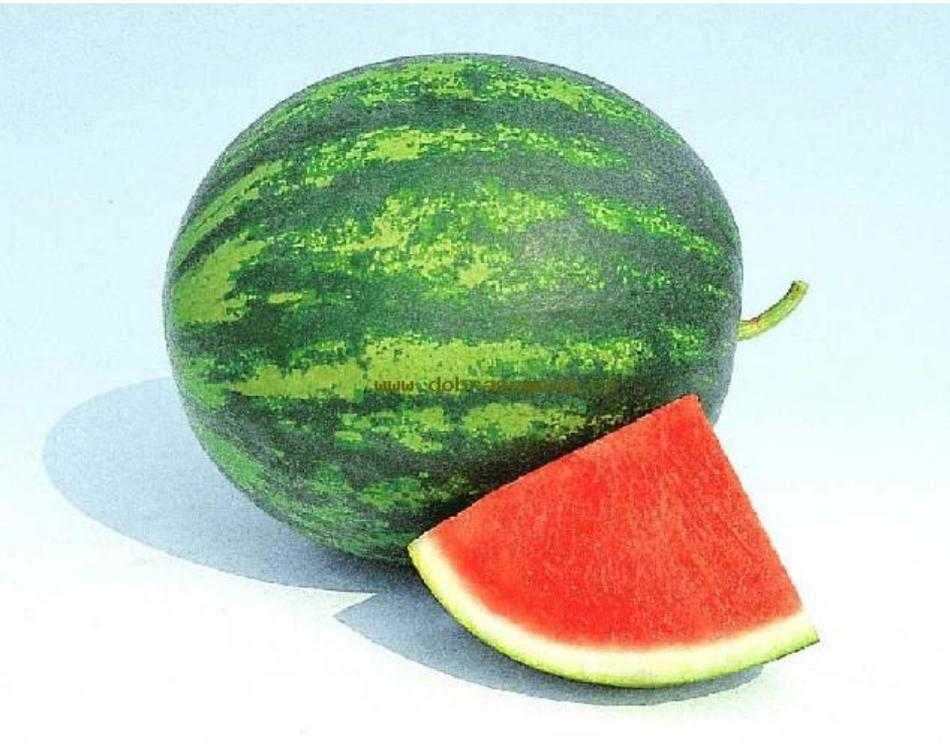
## Watermelon *Citrulus vulgaris* L.

- The seed is the same size as the muskmelon seed or bigger

The seed is rather thick with a trace of a seam in the bottom part

- The seed colour is a cultivar characteristic – from a **light brown**, to a **red**

**The seed has a blunt end and is dented in the bottom part**



## **Family: Asteraceae – The Aster Family**

Cabbage lettuce, endive, witloof chicory, black salsify,  
artichoke

## Cabbage Lettuce *Lactuca sativa* L.

The fruit is an oblong, costate achene with a blunt tip

- **The colour is a cultivar characteristic** – dark brown or silver-grey
- Smooth to touch and shiny
- When touched, the seeds give a nice feeling of cold (the spaces between the ribs filled



## Witloof Chicory *Cichorium intybus* L.

- Light brown achenes of an angular shape
- Markedly costate in the entire length

The colour of the achenes is deeper and brighter than that of the endive

- The achenes of the endive and the witloof chicory are identical in shape
- At the vertex of the chicory seed, the **brush is usually missing** and it

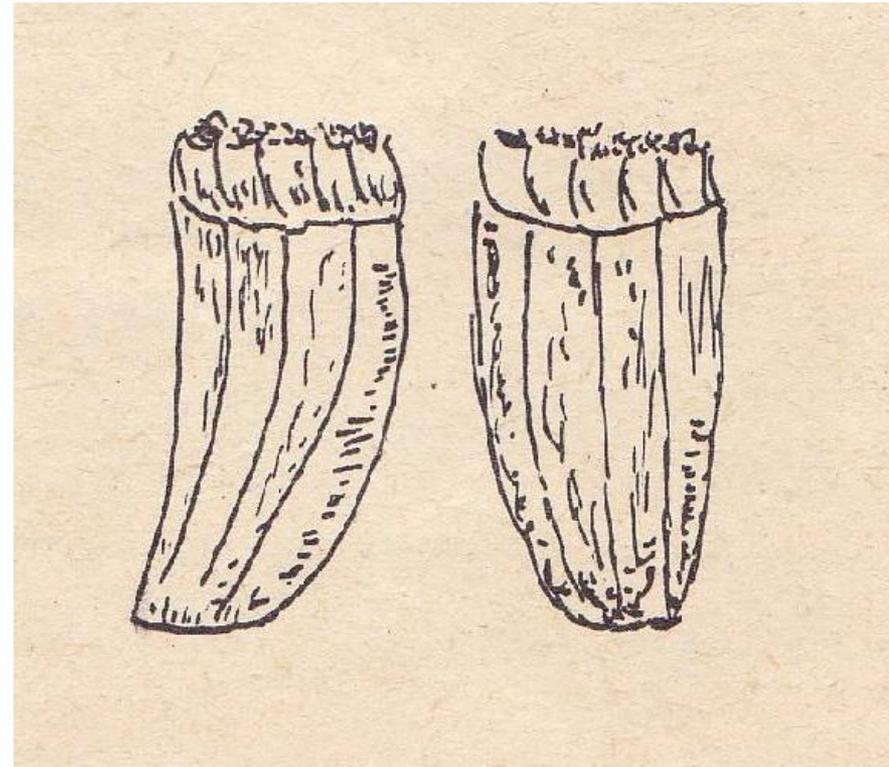


## Endive *Cichorium endivia* L.

The fruit is a light brown or beige achene

- Rather wide at the vertex

Often **with a sessile, short brush**



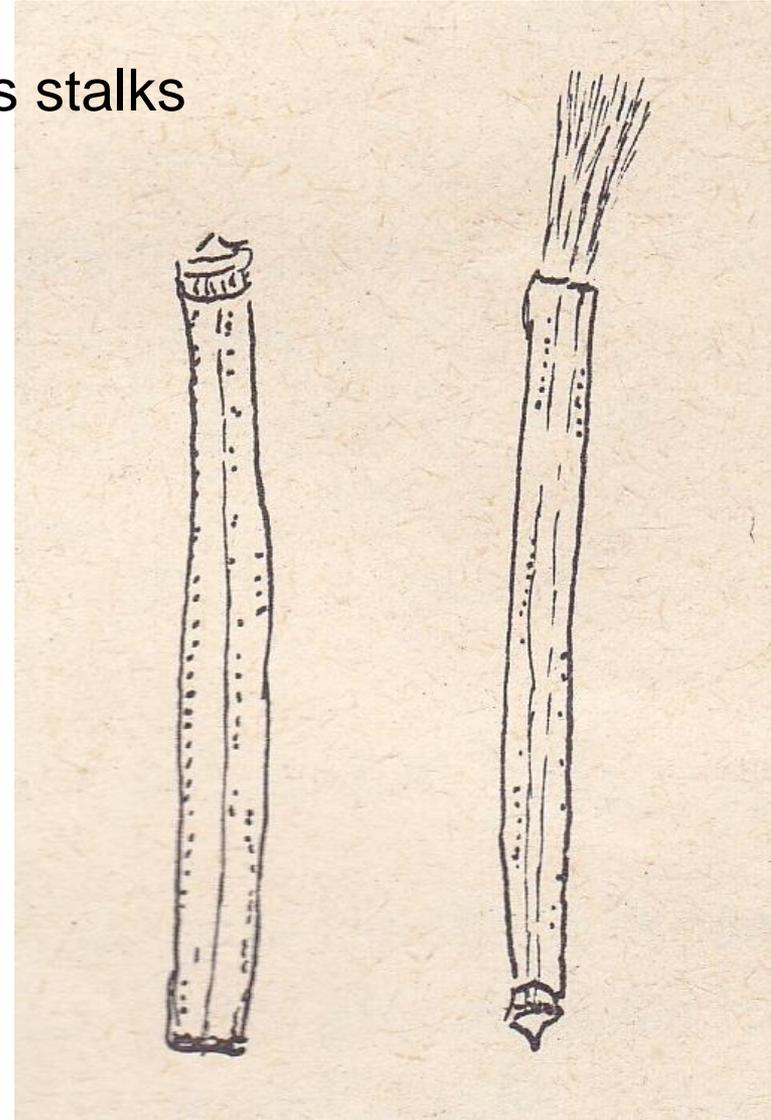
## **Black Salsify** *Scorzonera hispanica* L.

- A long, narrow achene of around 2 cm in length

A beige to straw yellow

colour

- The achene resembles fragments of grass stalks
- There is often a fluffy brush at the vertex
  - A parachute (comes off easily)



## **Family: Chenopodiaceae – The Chenopod Family**

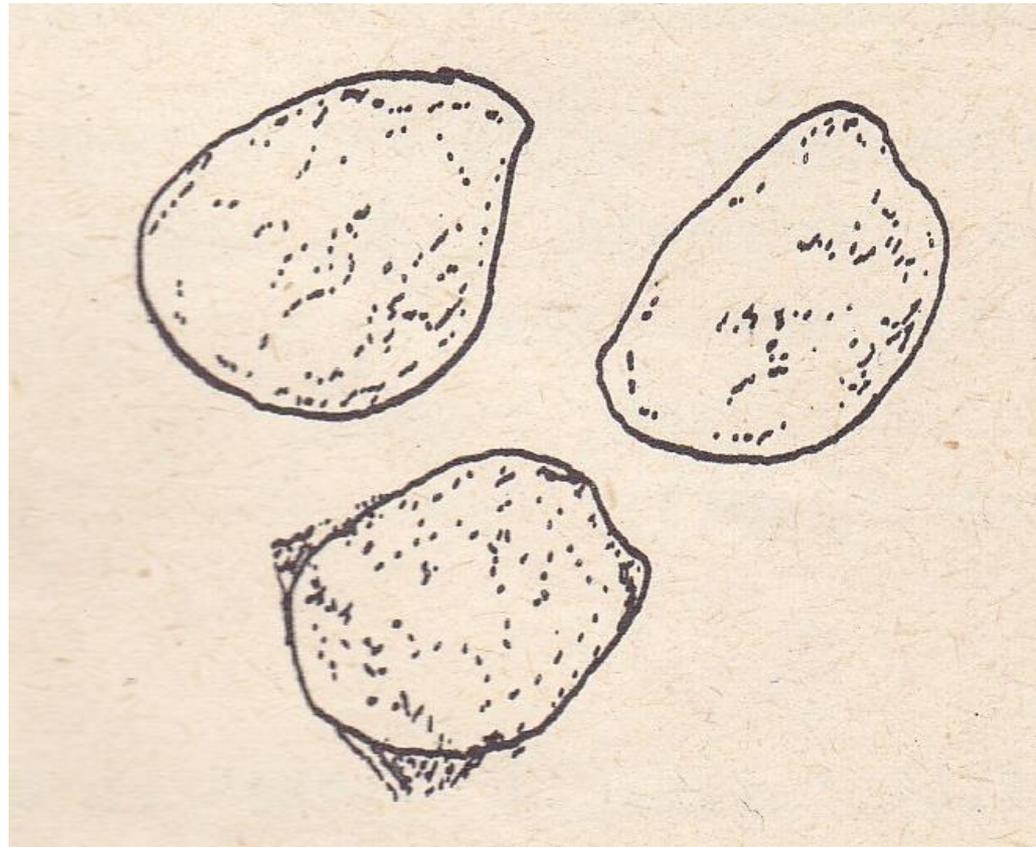
Spinach, red beet, Swiss chard

## Spinach *Spinacia oleracea* L.

Spinach seeds are of an irregular globular shape

- Slightly wrinkled, coarse to touch
- **Green-brown**, but also **beige** and **dark brown**

Not unified to a high degree as to the shape, size or colour

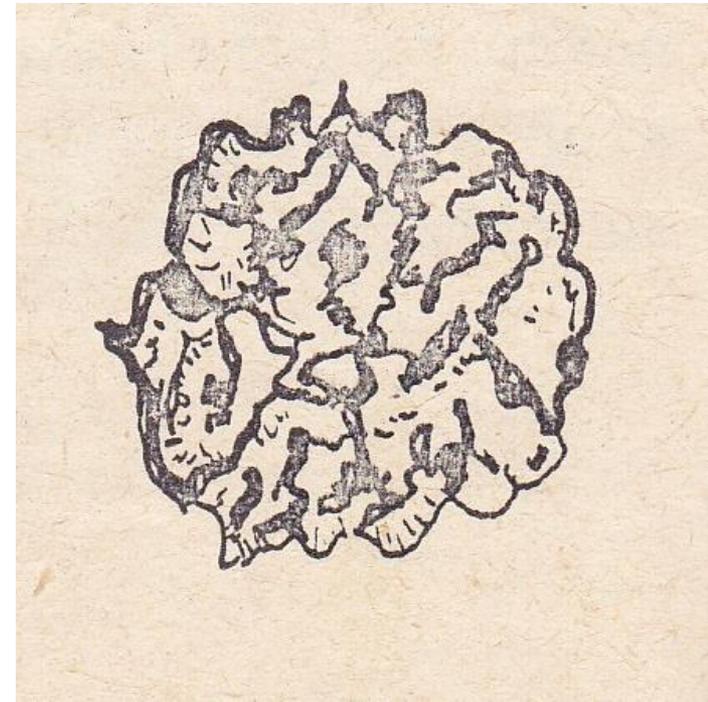


## Beetroot *Beta vulgaris* var. *conditiva*

Similarly to the sugar beet, the red beet forms seed balls containing several

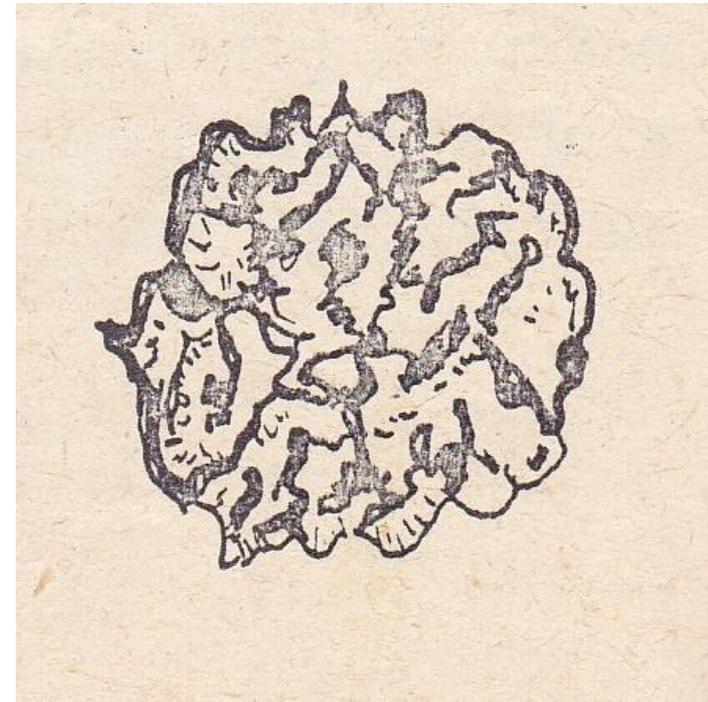
- The seed balls are smaller than those of the sugar beet

The seeds can be infallibly recognised only by the red-purple colour of the



## Swiss Chard *Beta vulgaris* var. *flavescens*

Tiny seed balls of the same shape as the beet seed balls

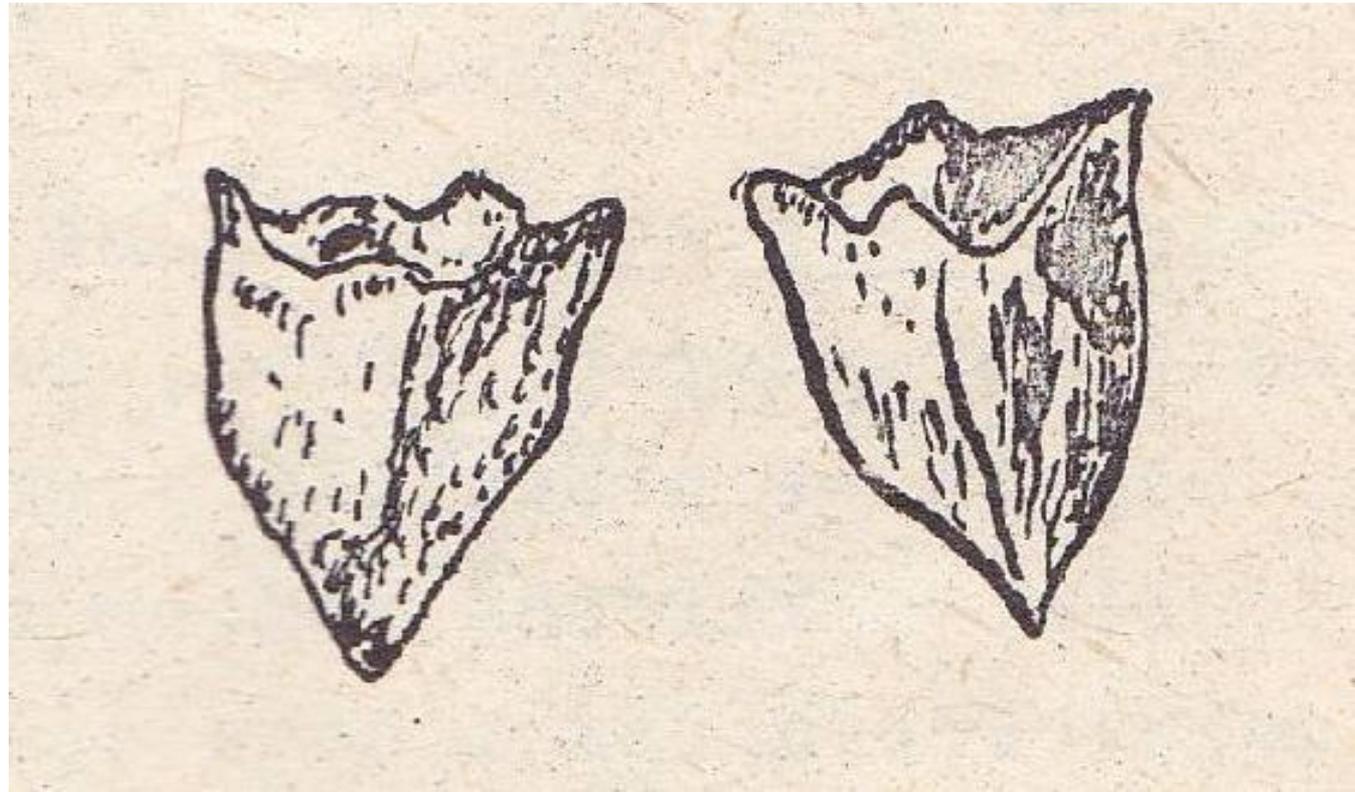


# **Family: Mezembryathemaceae – The Ice Plant Family**

New Zealand spinach

## New Zealand Spinach *Tetragonia expansa* L.

- The seed is of a relatively **big size of 1 cm** and of a dark brown to a greenish brown
  - Heavily encrusted and asymmetrical
- Noticable **four pointed tips**

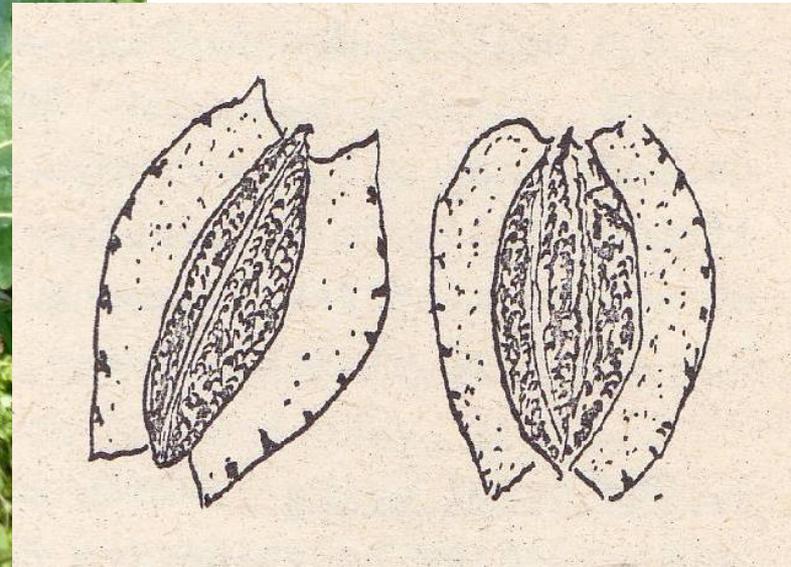


# **Family: Polygonaceae – The Persicary Family**

Rhubarb

## Rhubarb *Rheum rabarbarum* L.

- Triple-achenes of around 1 cm and of a chocolate to red-brown colour
- Bitterish taste



## Family: Brassicaceae – The Crucifer Family

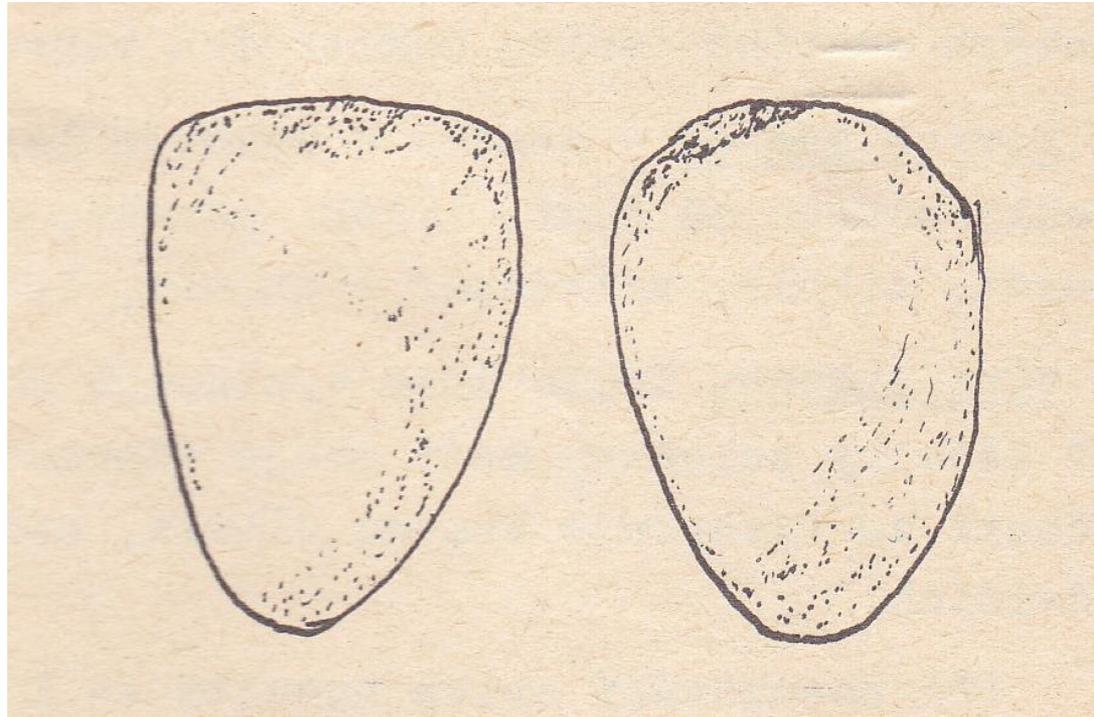
### COLE CROPS

Head cabbage, Peking cabbage, Chinese cabbage, savoy cabbage, Brussels sprouts, savoy, cauliflower, broccoli

- The seeds are very similar to each other and cannot be infallibly distinguished from each other
- Differentiation possible by the shape and pappus of the seed leaves, a reliable differentiation only by the first true leaf

## Radish *Raphanus sativus* L. var. *niger*

- The fruit is a silique – a dry dehiscent fruit containing 4-5 seeds
  - The seed of a light brown to red-brown colour
  - An ovoid to global shape
  - Irregularly dented
  - Bigger than the small radish seed
- The colour of the hypocotyl is always green

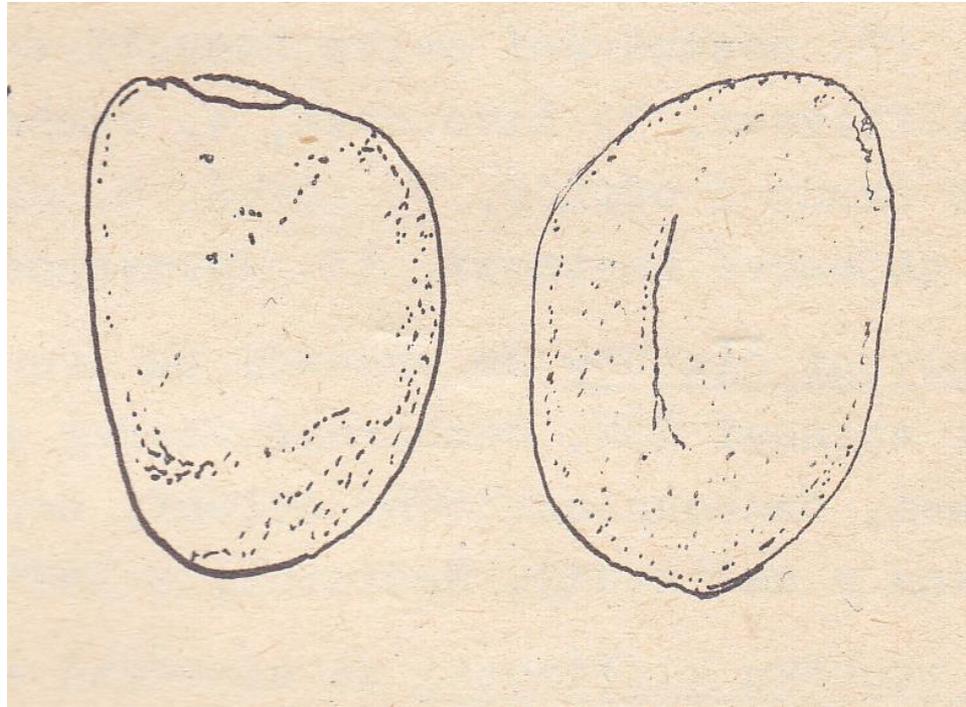


## **Small Radish** *Raphanus sativus* L. var. *radicula*

The fruit is a silique

- The seed of a light brown to pink-red colour, pruinose
- An irregular global shape

By a quarter smaller than in radishes

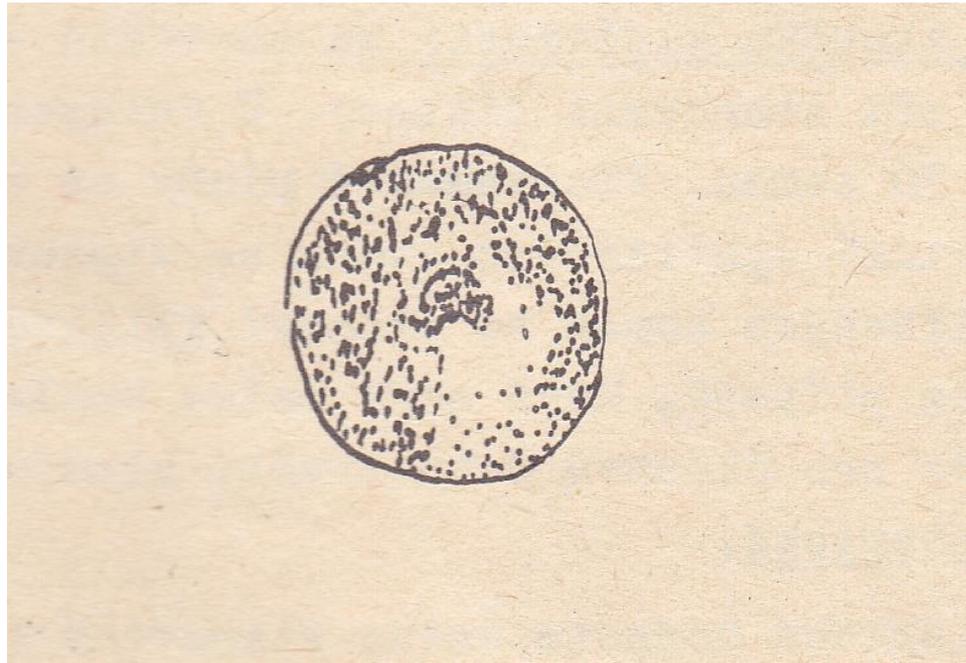


## Turnip *Brassica rapa* L. var. *rapifera*

The seed of a global shape, being around 1 mm in diameter

•Brown-red, dark

The superficial cells do not contain any mucilage,  
due to which the seed – when moistened – can be distinguished  
from the seeds of cole crops



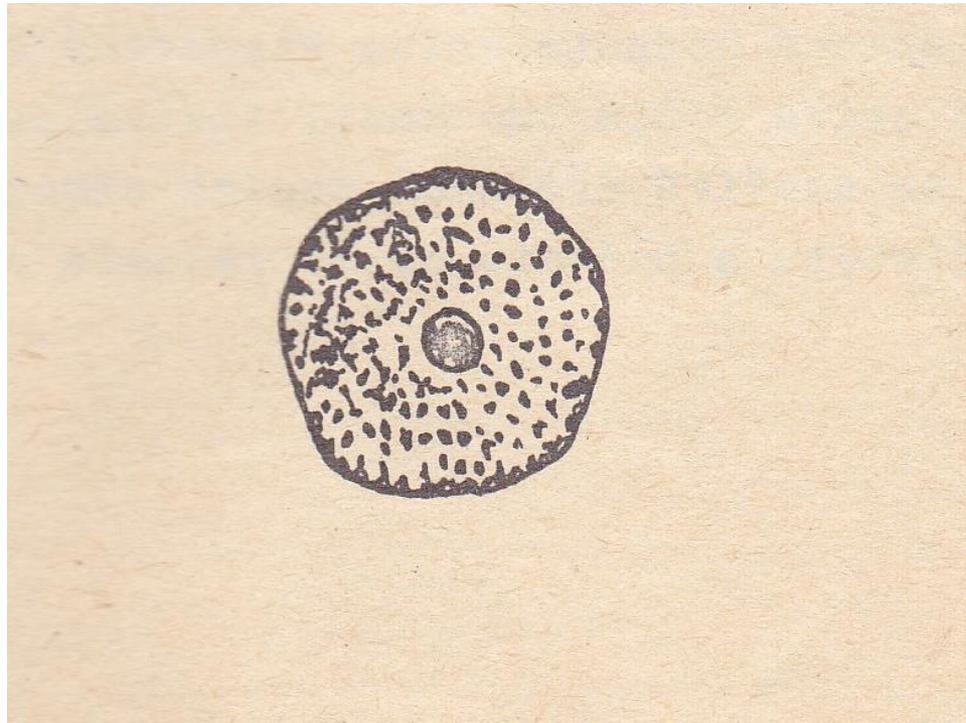
## Swedish Turnip *Brassica napus* L. var. napobrassica

The seed of a global shape, 1.5-2 mm in size

- A dark brown to brown-red colour

- The superficial cells do not contain any mucilage

A reliable differentiation only by a vegetation test



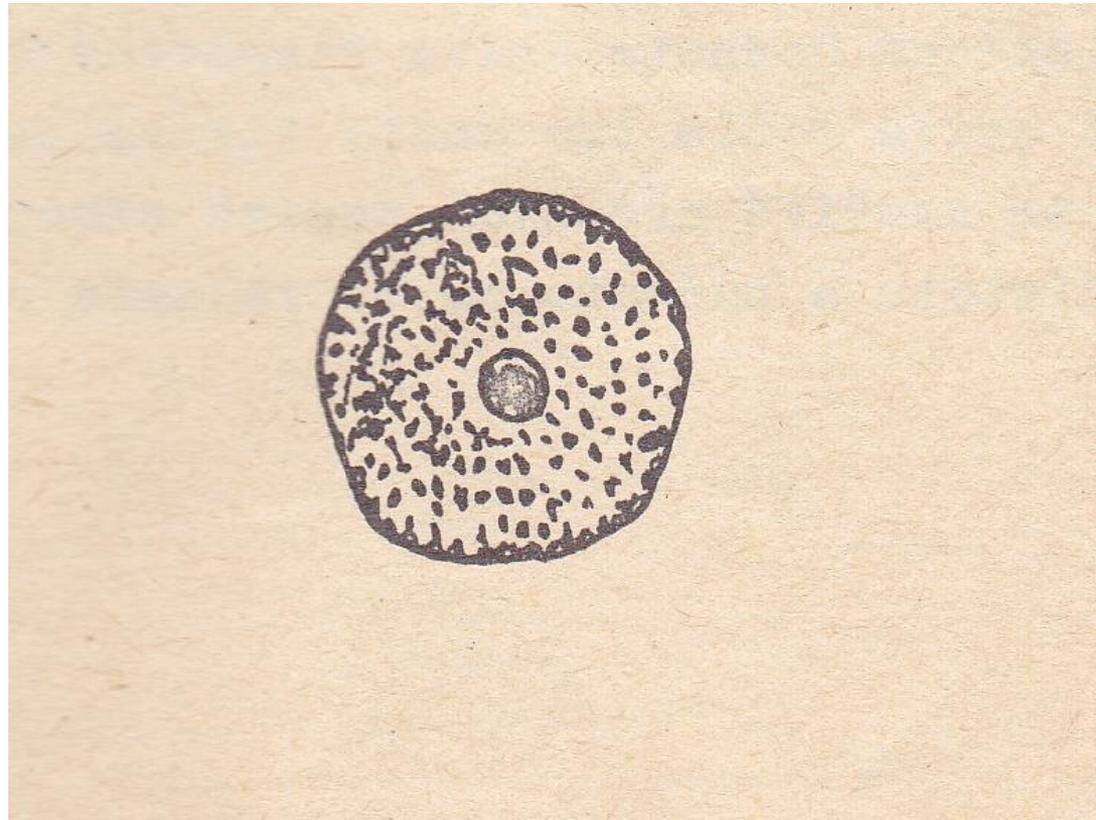
# Cabbage, Kale, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Kohlrabi

*Brassica oleracea* .....

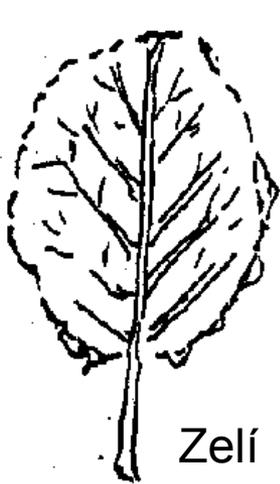
- The seed of a global shape, 1.5-2 mm in size

- The superficial cells contain mucilage

A reliable differentiation only by a vegetation test



# Differentiation of Seedlings of Cole Crops by the **First True Leaf**



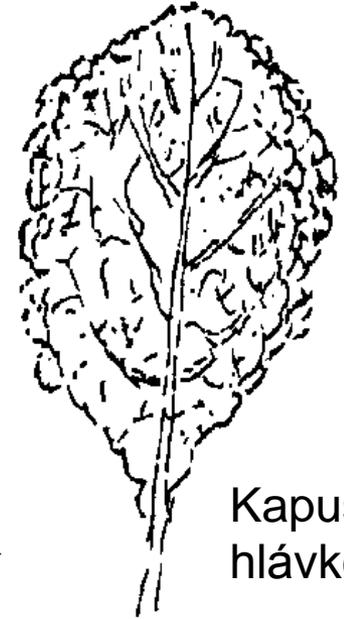
Zelí



Zelí  
červené



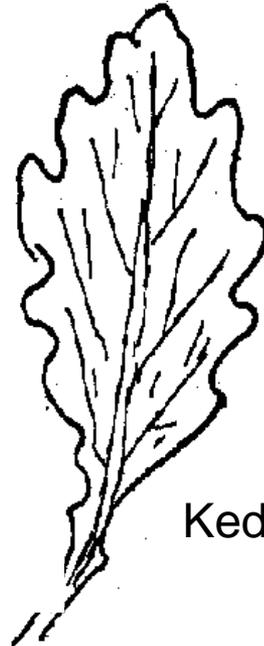
Květák



Kapusta  
hlávková



Kapusta  
růžičková



Kedlubna

**Family: Gramineae – Grasses**

Sweet corn

## Sweet Corn *Zea Mays* L. ssp. *sacharata*

- Seeds of a yellowish, beige, or yellow colour, **with a glassy, shiny surface, wrinkled**, coarse to touch

