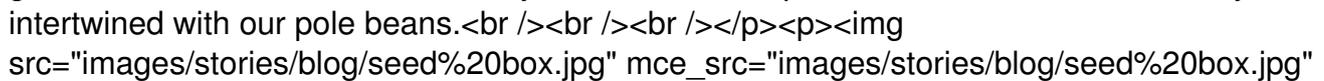
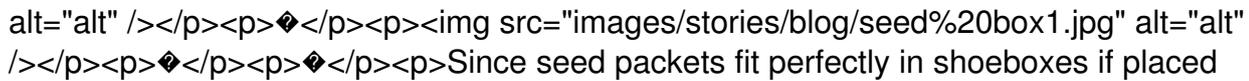


Last month Sonia and I took an inventory of our seed packets, ordered what we still needed, and sketched out our design for this year's planting, while the boys busily finished constructing our new coldframes (a posting of the cold frames will follow soon). I personally do not rush the seasons, but when it comes to spring planting, we have to be ready, for time waits for no one. This week we will be direct sowing our snap peas, snow peas, broccoli, radishes and lettuce with Brussels sprouts, carrots, and onions following. Other things that can be sown early are beets, cabbages, cauliflower, celery, collards, kale, parsnips, spinach, turnips, and potatoes. Therefore, if you have not already prepared for this year's planting, take the time to peruse your garden books and seed catalogs and make your final purchases.

Do not neglect to inventory your flower seeds as well. We always sow hyacinth beans, cosmos, morning glories, nasturtiums, and sunflowers in our vegetable garden, as well. Please note that hyacinth beans are poisonous to eat but look lovely intertwined with our pole beans.





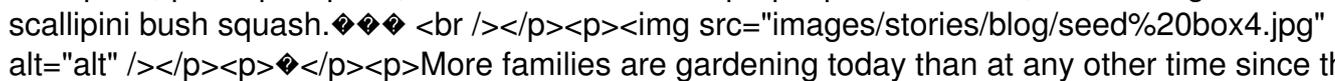
Since seed packets fit perfectly in shoeboxes if placed horizontally, we use them for storing our seeds. We just utilize large index cards for our dividers, write the name of each vegetable and fruit category at the top, and organize alphabetically. It's inexpensive and easy for searching out the exact seed packets needed.



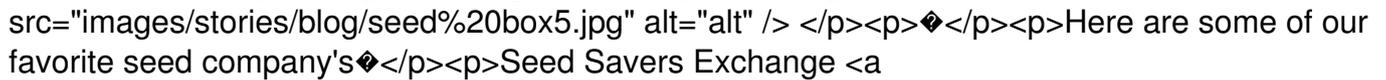


Following is a list of some of our favorite garden picks:

**BEANS** provider snap bush bean, blue lake bush bean, black seeded blue lake pole bean, royal burgundy bush bean; **BEETS** scarlet supreme beets; **BROCCOLI** di Cicco broccoli, Waltham broccoli; **BRUSSELS SPROUTS** Long Island Brussels sprouts; **CARROTS** oxheart carrots; **CHARD** rhubarb Swiss chard; **CUCMBERS** Japanese climbing cucumbers; **LETTUCE** mesculin, red oak, red deer tongue, cracoviensis, lollo rossa, Yugoslavian red, red coral, early pale rose radicchio, sucrine, sweet valentine, oscarde, simpson black, garden sorrell; **OKRA** mammoth spineless okra; **PEAS** Amish snap peas, Oregon Trail bush shell peas, petite pois peas; **RADISHES** purple plum radishes; **SQUASH** golden scallipini bush squash.



More families are gardening today than at any other time since the Great Depression. It is good to know that Americans realize the significance of our economic situation and are planning accordingly.



Here are some of our favorite seed company's

Seed Savers Exchange <http://www.seedsavers.com/>

[www.seedsavers.org/](http://www.seedsavers.org/)

Seeds of Change <http://www.seedofghange.com/>

[www.seedsofchange.com/](http://www.seedsofchange.com/)

John Scheepers <http://www.kitchengardenseeds.com/>

[www.kitchengardenseeds.com/](http://www.kitchengardenseeds.com/)

Baker Creek Heirloom <http://www.rareseeds.com/>

[www.rareseeds.com/](http://www.rareseeds.com/)