

# Heritage Seed Library

Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry, UK



Wageningen, 19/11/2014

Neil Munro



# Location



Ryton Organic Gardens,  
Coventry, UK



HSL Grow out Area

# History & Aims

Response to EC Directives 1972

Lawrence Hills, Founder of HDRA began collecting seed

- Conserve threatened and disappearing varieties
- Collect 'heirlooms'
- Make them available to people
- Encourage people to 'save their own seed'



Lawrence Hills

# Accession Policy

<u>Information about your seeds</u>	
<p>Please fill in as much of this form as you can, giving as much detail as possible. Send one form for each variety. Don't worry if you can't answer all the questions, we are still pleased to receive your seeds. If there is not enough space for your information, please continue on a separate sheet. We would appreciate as much seed as you can spare.</p>	
Your name: Mr/Ms/Ms _____	
Your address: _____ _____	
Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____	
If you are sending seeds on behalf of someone else, please give details: _____ _____	
1. Type of vegetable (e.g. tomato, French bean etc):	
2. Name of variety (commercial name or your own name for it, e.g. "Uncle Tom's Seat"):	
3. When was the seed you sent harvested (month and year)?	
4. History	
a) Where did you (or the seed donor) get the variety and when?	
b) Approximately how old is the variety?	
c) How did it get its name?	
d) Is it associated with any particular locality?	
e) Was it grown by anyone else in the locality?	
B.T.O.	
5. What is special about the variety? e.g.:	
a) What colour are the fruits (tomato) pods (beans and peas) leaves (lettuce) flowers/roots?	
b) What shape are the fruits/pods/roots etc?	
c) Describe its flavour, cooking and storage qualities.	
d) Does it have any other particular qualities?	
6. When do you normally sow and harvest it?	
7. Please add other information below that you consider important	
8. In the future, we may want to pass seed of your variety on to other members and organisations (which may be commercial in nature). Are there restrictions you would like to set regarding the distribution of the variety?	
Please return this form to: Rachel Crow Information Officer Heritage Seed Library Garden Organic Ryton Coventry CV5 3LG	

Vegetable Varieties  
(heritage/heirloom)

Orthodox Seed

Open-pollinated

Provenance

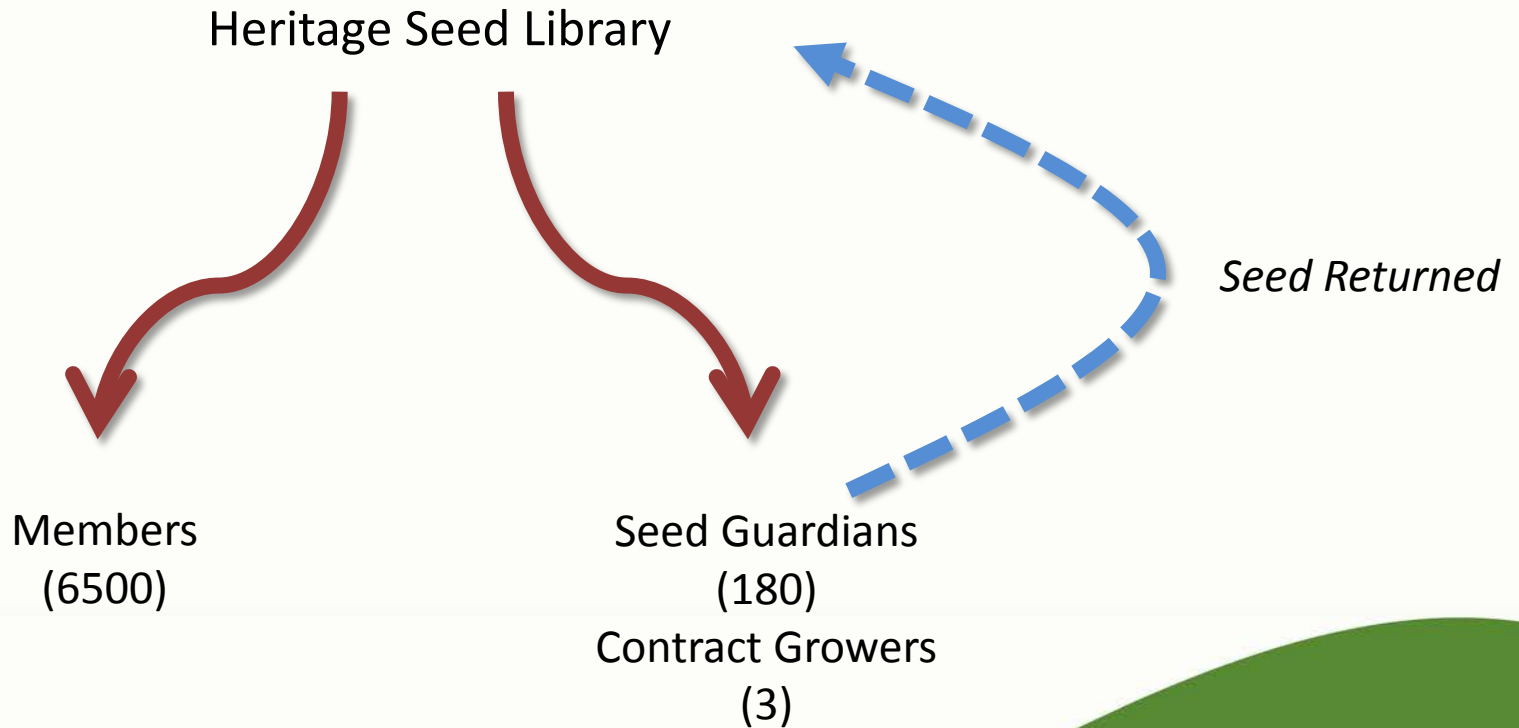
Trial

# The Collection

- Vegetables
- 800 Varieties
  - 36 Genus, 48 Species
- ‘Sowing New Seeds’



# Seed Supply



30,000 packets each year (approx.)

# Funding

Heritage Seed Library

Membership : 6500 members  
£130,000

Donations: £20,000

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Trusts: Specific projects  
2013/14 = £25,000



# Information -Overview

## Variety

Characterisation

Photographs

Feedback



## Stock

Batches

Provenance



## Historical

Catalogues

Papers

Books





# Passport Data

## Edit HSL Varieties Book

Menu

<b>Var id</b>	74	<b>Location of collecting site</b>	
<b>Vegetable</b>	Cabbage	<b>Latitude</b>	
<b>Variety</b>	Webbs' Kinver Globe	<b>Longitude</b>	
<b>Donor id</b>	(1053) HRI Wellesbourne	<b>Elevation</b>	
<b>Packet size</b>	30	<b>Collection date</b>	
<b>Packet weight</b>		<b>Breeders code</b>	
<b>Genus</b>	Brassica	<b>Sample status</b>	
<b>Species</b>	oleracea	<b>Other numbers</b>	
<b>Species authority</b>		<b>Duplication site</b>	
<b>Subtaxa</b>		<b>Storage</b>	
<b>Subtaxa authority</b>		<b>Availability</b>	
<b>Acquisition date</b>	28 / 11 / 1996	<b>Pre acc or aacc</b>	Accession
<b>Country of origin</b>		<b>Characterized</b>	
<b>County/State/Region</b>		<b>Adopt a veg</b>	Yes
<b>Seed search</b>	No	<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Other information</b>			

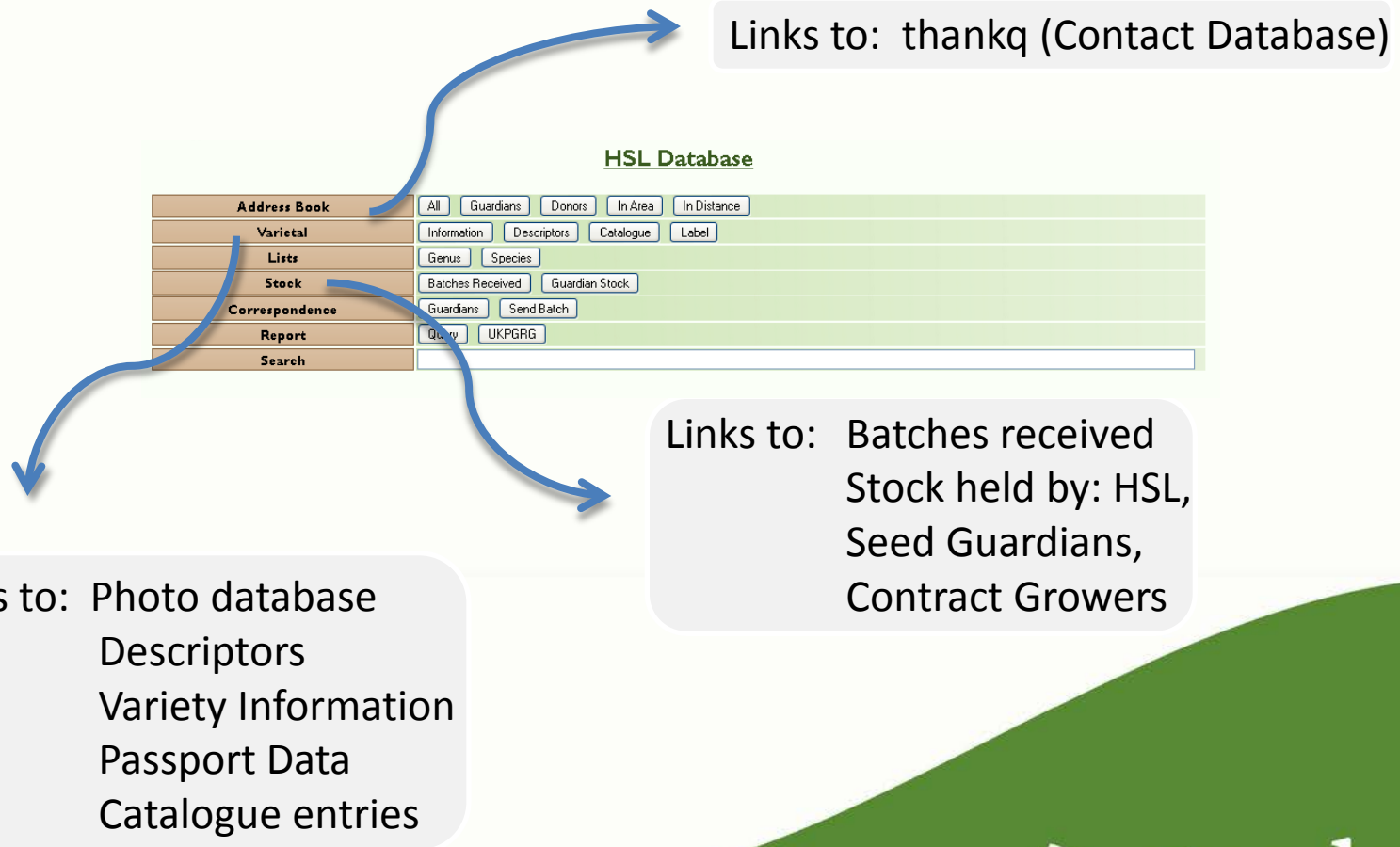
Seed Guardians: 0

[Close](#) [Delete](#) [Save](#) [Information](#) [PR](#) [Catalogue](#)

# Characterisation

HSL Brassica Descriptor	Menu
ID	8
Var id	(64) Cabbage Paddy
Blistering	Low
Bloom on leaves	Absent (glossy leaves)
Colour of inside of head	White
Colour of Leaf Stalk (Petiole)	Light Green
Colour of seedling leaf	Green
Head Covering	Intermediate
Head Length	22 1/2 cms.
Head Size in relation	Large
Head Solidity	Firm,hard
Head Type	Transverse Elliptic
Head Width	30 cms.
Height of mature plant in cms.	33 cms.
Leaf Blade Shape	Orbicular
Leaf Colour- fully grown	Dark Green

# Database



# Grow-out Area

at Ryton Organic Gardens

1 acre/0.4 hectare

9 tunnels &  
3 hobby tunnels

Glasshouse



Area in 5 acre field  
For larger populations  
(out-breeders)

# Display Garden

at Ryton Organic Gardens

Display varieties

Show vegetables in flower



# Other Distribution

Seed swaps

Schools

Community Groups

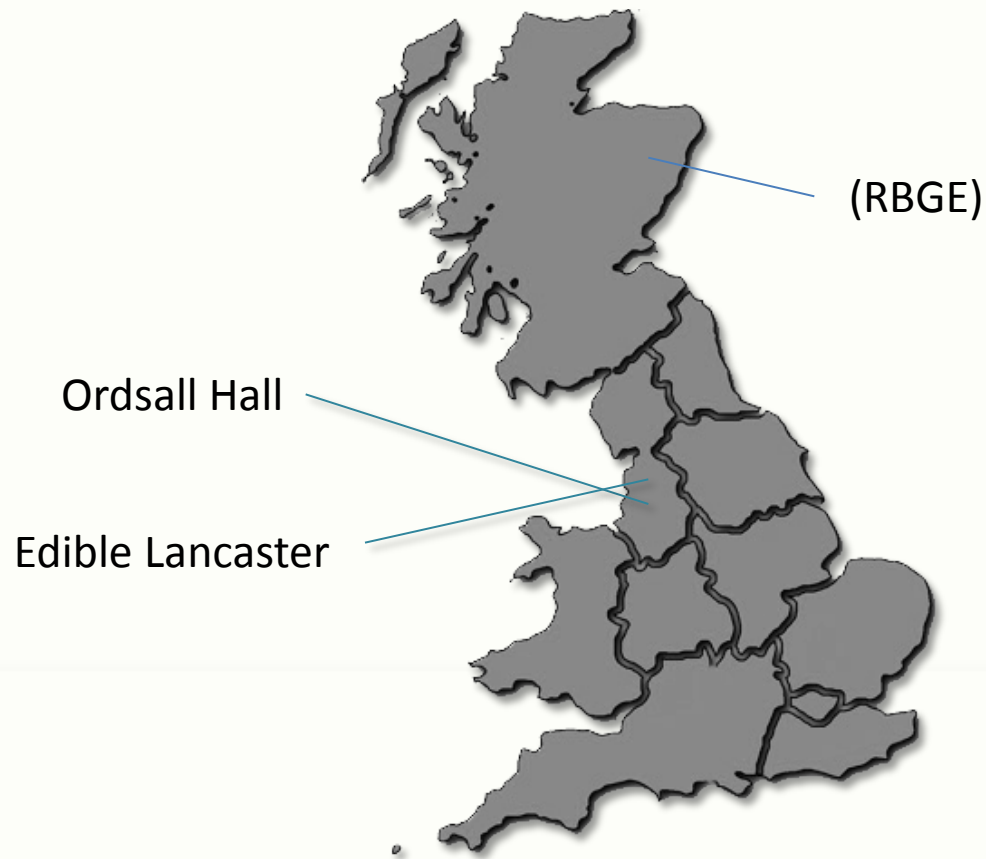


# Sales

- Plants
  - Modules and multipacks
- Seeds
  - Through wholesalers

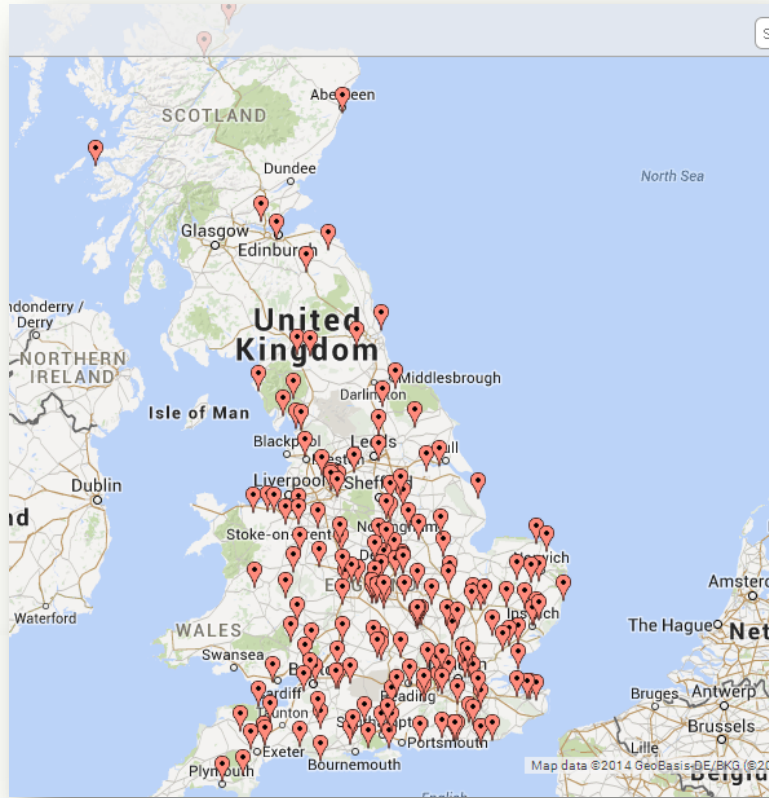


# Future – Local Affiliated Hubs





# Future - Database



- Location
  - Soil type
  - Rainfall/Sunlight
  - Altitude
  - Agronomic information

# Thank You

Garden Organic

Ryton Organic Gardens, Wolston Lane

Coventry, CV8 3LG

UK

[www.gardenorganic.org.uk/hsl](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/hsl)

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