

Don't Buy Seeds From Monsanto – Buy From These 10 Companies Instead



In recent years, there's been a growing movement among gardeners and small farmers to seek alternatives to seeds from large agribusinesses like Monsanto. Known for its genetically modified (GM) seeds and a business model that discourages seed saving, Monsanto has faced criticism from various sectors advocating for sustainable agriculture and biodiversity. If you're looking to buy seeds that support more ethical and environmentally friendly practices, here are ten companies that offer great alternatives. These companies emphasize organic, heirloom, and non-GM seeds, contributing to more diverse and sustainable gardening and farming practices.

1. Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds



Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds is a premier name in the world of non-GMO heirloom seed suppliers. Founded in 1998, this company has been a staunch opponent of genetically modified seeds. They offer one of the biggest selections of seeds from the 19th century, including many European and Asian varieties. Their extensive catalog is not only a testament to biodiversity but also an active commitment to promoting sustainable agriculture practices. Gardeners looking to diversify their crops can find an array of unique varieties that are not commonly available in commercial seed markets.

2. Seed Savers Exchange



Seed Savers Exchange is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to heirloom seeds. Since 1975, they have been at the forefront of the heirloom seed movement, working to preserve genetic diversity and sharing seeds with their members. They offer over 600 varieties of heirloom vegetables, flowers, herbs, and plants. Their catalog also provides extensive information on the history and cultivation of each seed, making it not just a purchase but an educational resource for sustainable gardening.

3. Southern Exposure Seed Exchange



Focusing on varieties that perform well in the Southern United States, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange offers a wide range of non-GMO, organic, and heirloom seeds. They are particularly noted for their selection of seeds that are adapted to the Mid-Atlantic region, providing resistance to local pests and diseases. By purchasing from Southern Exposure, gardeners and farmers support a company that actively participates in seed preservation and promotes ecological diversity.

4. Territorial Seed Company



Territorial Seed Company offers organic, heirloom, and hybrid seeds, all of which are non-GMO. They are known for their rigorous trial gardens, where they test seeds before adding them to their catalog, ensuring that their offerings are both high-quality and adaptable to various climates and soils. This dedication makes them a reliable source for both novice gardeners and experienced farmers who need seeds that lead to robust plants and bountiful yields.

5. Johnny's Selected Seeds



Johnny's Selected Seeds is a well-respected supplier among commercial and home gardeners alike, offering a wide array of organic, non-GMO, and heirloom seeds. What sets Johnny's apart is its employee-owned business model and commitment to providing research-based seed improvements. This scientific approach helps develop varieties that require fewer chemical inputs, promoting more natural growing practices.

6. High Mowing Organic Seeds



As a 100% organic seed company, High Mowing Organic Seeds is dedicated to supporting healthy food systems by offering only certified organic seeds. They are an excellent choice for those who want to ensure that their gardening or farming practices are entirely organic from seed to harvest. Their extensive selection includes everything from vegetable seeds to medicinal herbs, catering to all types of organic growers.

7. Renee's Garden



Renee's Garden sells heirloom and gourmet vegetable, flower, and herb seeds. They are unique in that they offer seeds chosen personally by Renee, a garden writer and tester who focuses on great-tasting easy-to-grow varieties. Each packet of seeds comes with detailed planting instructions and recipes, making Renee's Garden particularly appealing to culinary gardeners and those new to growing their own food.

8. Botanical Interests



Botanical Interests is known for its beautiful seed packets, which are filled with detailed seed information, including a full-color illustration, history, and planting instructions. Their commitment to organic gardening practices is evident in their extensive selection of organic and non-GMO seeds. By choosing Botanical Interests, gardeners support a company that values education and transparency in gardening.

9. Seeds of Change



Seeds of Change was founded in 1989 with the goal of making organic seeds more accessible to gardeners. They offer 100% certified organic seeds, which include both heirloom and traditional varieties. They are committed to promoting sustainable organic agricultural practices, and a portion of their sales is donated to support this cause.

10. Peaceful Valley Farm & Garden Supply



Known as Grow Organic, Peaceful Valley offers a broad range of organic farming and gardening supplies, including seeds. They provide a diverse array of heirloom, organic, and non-GMO seeds at reasonable prices, making it easier for gardeners to adopt sustainable practices. Their commitment to environmental stewardship and education makes them a top choice for eco-conscious growers.

Make Sure to Buy Seeds from These Companies Instead of Monsanto



Choosing where to buy seeds can be a powerful statement in support of biodiversity, sustainability, and ethical business practices. By opting for these companies over Monsanto, gardeners and farmers can contribute to a more sustainable future while enjoying a richer variety of plants in their gardens and farms. Each company listed here brings something unique to the table, from supporting organic farming practices to preserving heirloom varieties. When planning your next planting season, consider these alternatives for a garden that supports not just your needs but the health of the planet as well.

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[5 Compelling Reasons to Purchase Seeds Over Harvesting from Fruits](#)

[5 Fast Growing Seeds for Beginner Gardeners](#)

5 Fast Growing Seeds for Beginner Gardeners



In the world of gardening, the joy of planting a seed and watching it grow into a thriving plant is unparalleled. For beginner gardeners, this excitement is often tinged with impatience and the eagerness to see quick results. Fortunately, certain seeds grow at a rapid pace, offering almost immediate gratification and a sense of achievement. Here, we explore fast growing seeds ideal for beginner gardeners, ensuring a successful and rewarding gardening experience from the get-go.

1. Radishes: The Speedy Edibles



Radishes are the quintessential fast-growing crop, making them a top choice for beginner gardeners looking for quick results. These crisp, peppery vegetables can go from seed to harvest in as little as 20-30 days. Planting radish seeds in well-drained soil and ensuring they receive plenty of sunlight will yield a bountiful harvest in no time. Radishes are not only fast but also versatile, adding a fresh, zesty flavor to salads and dishes.

2. Sunflowers: Giants in the Garden



Sunflowers are not just fast growers; they're also capable of reaching towering heights, making them a spectacular addition to any garden. With some varieties growing several inches in a single day, sunflowers can reach full maturity in about 60 to 70 days. Their large, bright blooms bring a vibrant splash of color to the garden, and their seeds attract birds and wildlife, creating a bustling garden ecosystem. For beginner gardeners, sunflowers offer the added thrill of watching a tiny seed grow into a giant, sun-seeking flower.

3. Lettuce: The Leafy Quick Grower



Lettuce is another fast-growing vegetable, ideal for those looking to harvest their greens in a short amount of time. Depending on the variety, lettuce can be ready to pick in just 30 to 50 days. It's a cool-season crop, best planted in early spring or fall, and it thrives in cooler temperatures. Lettuce is perfect for beginner gardeners as it can be grown in containers or small spaces and offers a continuous harvest by picking outer leaves as the plant continues to grow.

4. Peas: The Climbers



Peas are not only some fast-growing seeds for beginner gardeners but also a delightful sight with their delicate tendrils and sweet flowers. From planting, peas take about 60 to 70 days to mature, but the shoots and tendrils can be harvested much earlier as a tasty addition to salads. Peas prefer cooler weather and can be one of the first seeds planted in the spring. Their climbing nature adds a vertical element to gardens, making them both beautiful and space-efficient.

5. Basil: The Aromatic Quickie



Basil is a must-have in any herb garden, especially for beginners looking for fast-growing, aromatic herbs. This versatile herb can go from seed to harvest in 30 to 60 days, adding a fresh, fragrant flavor to dishes. [Basil thrives in warm weather](#) and can be grown in pots or directly in the garden. Regular harvesting encourages more growth, providing a continuous supply of fresh basil throughout the season.

Growing Tips for Beginner Gardeners



To ensure the success of these fast growing seeds, here are a few tips tailored for beginner gardeners:

- **Start Simple:** Choose one or two types of seeds to start with. This will help you focus your attention and learn the specific needs of each plant.
- **Quality Seeds:** Invest in high-quality seeds from reputable suppliers to increase your chances of successful germination and healthy growth.
- **Follow Instructions:** Pay close attention to the planting instructions on seed packets. Depth, spacing, and watering guidelines are crucial for optimal growth.
- **Monitor and Maintain:** Regularly check your seedlings and plants for signs of pests or diseases. Early detection can save your crop.
- **Patience and Persistence:** While these seeds are fast-growing, gardening is a learning process. Mistakes are part of the journey, so keep experimenting and enjoy the process.

Try Out the Fast Growing Seeds for Beginner Gardeners Today!



Embarking on the gardening journey with these fast growing seeds offers beginner gardeners the perfect blend of ease and excitement. Watching seeds sprout and flourish in a matter of weeks is not only gratifying but also instills a deeper appreciation for the wonders of nature. Whether it's the towering presence of sunflowers, the crisp freshness of lettuce, or the aromatic delight of basil, these fast-growing plants promise a rewarding start to any gardening adventure. Remember, every successful gardener started as a beginner, and with these seeds, you're already on the path to a thriving green space.

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7 Plants You Can Direct Seed



7 PLANTS YOU CAN
Direct Seed

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Recently, I've mentioned that this year I just don't have the bandwidth to garden like I usually do. But that doesn't mean I'm completely abandoning my favorite hobby. Although I didn't

start seedlings indoors, I still have a vast collection of seeds at my disposal, and I've already started sketching a plan for what I want to plant. There are plenty of things I can direct seed and grow without much intervention. A bit of thinning here and there is all that's required.

Some plants are great for direct seeding because they grow quickly. Others do best direct-seeded because they don't transplant well. When I started gardening, I direct seeded *everything*. I didn't have the space to commit to starting seeds indoors, and I didn't really understand that some plants needed long growing seasons to reach maturity. Through the years, though, I've learned about the best plants to direct seed—with a lot of trial and error.

I've even had success direct seeding some dwarf tomato varieties! With gardening, the sky's the limit. But to get you started off on the right foot this year, here are 10 plants you can direct seed just before or after your last frost date.

Plants You Can Direct Seed

Here are some of the easiest plants to direct seed in the garden.

- **Radishes.** These pungent, crispy root vegetables are one of the quickest growing edibles in the garden. Like most root veggies, they don't transplant well. If you're going the [square foot garden](#) route, plant 16 or 9 per square.
- **Carrots.** I just sowed my carrot seeds in the garden. I normally plant 16 per square, but this year I decided to broadcast sow the seeds because I'm planting so many, and I didn't feel like carefully pinching seeds into hundreds of holes. Carrots grow slowly, but they're really easy to grow given the right soil conditions. Once they sprout, all you need to do is thin out the seedlings. After that, regular watering is really all

that's required.

- **Kale.** Another slow-growing one. BUT [kale](#) does exceptionally well when direct-seeded. You can sow kale in the spring before your last frost date. I like the interplant kale with herbs and flowers to entice pollinators and beneficial bugs to settle in. Most years, cabbage loopers decimate my kale crops not under protection. But last year, I had a lot of success pairing my brassicas with flowers and flowering herbs.
- **Spinach.** This crop is another easy one to grow. You'll have the best results sowing early in the spring as soon as the soil is workable. Spinach bolts when the weather gets warm, so early plantings can mitigate premature bolting. Grow spinach in partial shade. The hot afternoon sun, even on a cool day, can trigger bolting.
- **Asian greens.** There are many delicious Asian greens out there, but some of my favorites include bok choy, Chinese broccoli, and frilly mustards. Most of these grow well from seed. You can also harvest them early as baby greens.
- **Summer squash.** I'm not planting squash this year because I have a squash bug problem. But if you're lucky enough not to have to deal with these irritating insects, summer squash is an excellent plant to grow from seed. It grows exceptionally fast, and once it starts to produce, you'll have plenty of food to eat. My favorite variety is [patty pan](#). Sow summer squash right after the last frost date.
- **Beans.** Beans grow so quickly I never bother starting them from seed. They also don't love to be moved around. I prefer bush varieties because they don't require supports, but if you space them too closely, you can end up with a tangled mess. Sow bean seeds right after the last frost date.

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