

# Seedling Culture

"A good seedling start with a good seed"

3 Type of Vegetable Seed

1. Open Pollinated Variety
2. Hybrid ( F<sub>1</sub>)
3. GMO



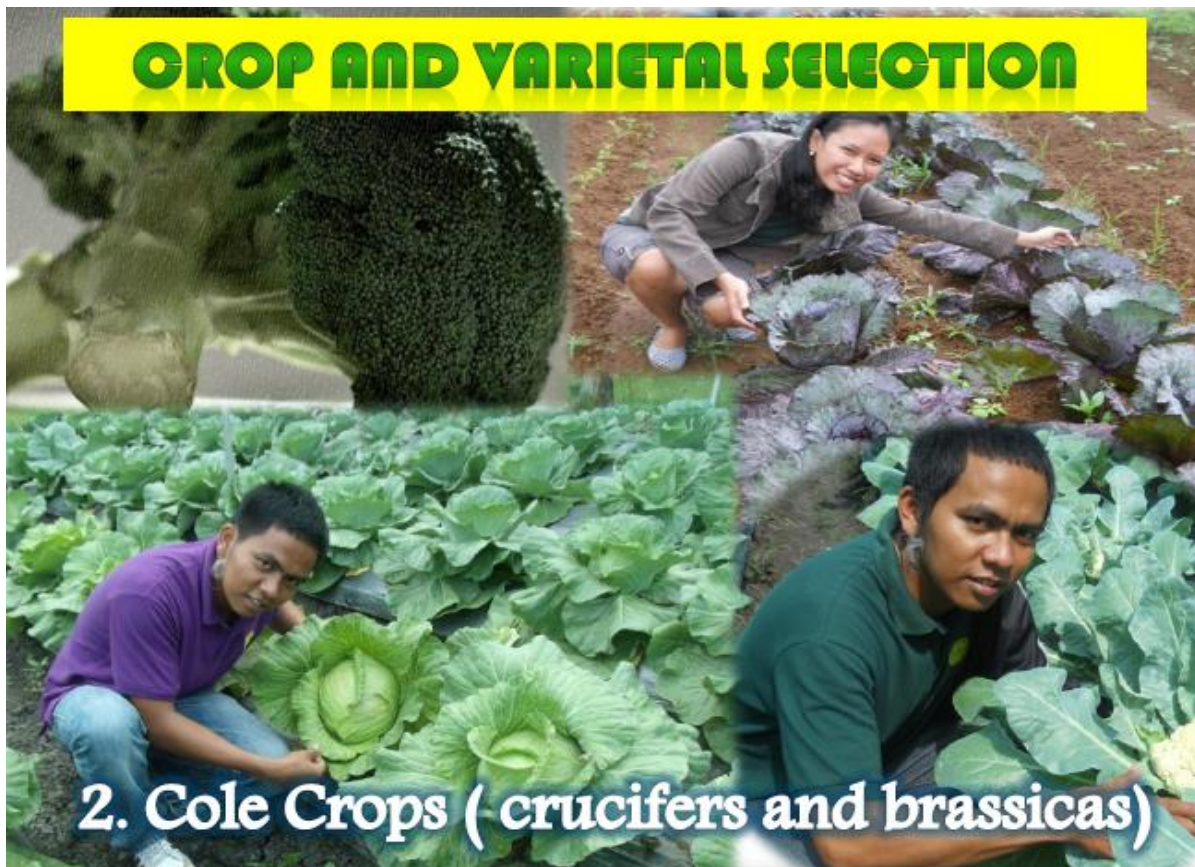
## CROP AND VARIETAL SELECTION



1. Leafy Vegetables



## CROP AND VARIETAL SELECTION



### 2. Cole Crops (crucifers and brassicas)

## CROP AND VARIETAL SELECTION

### 3. Cucurbits





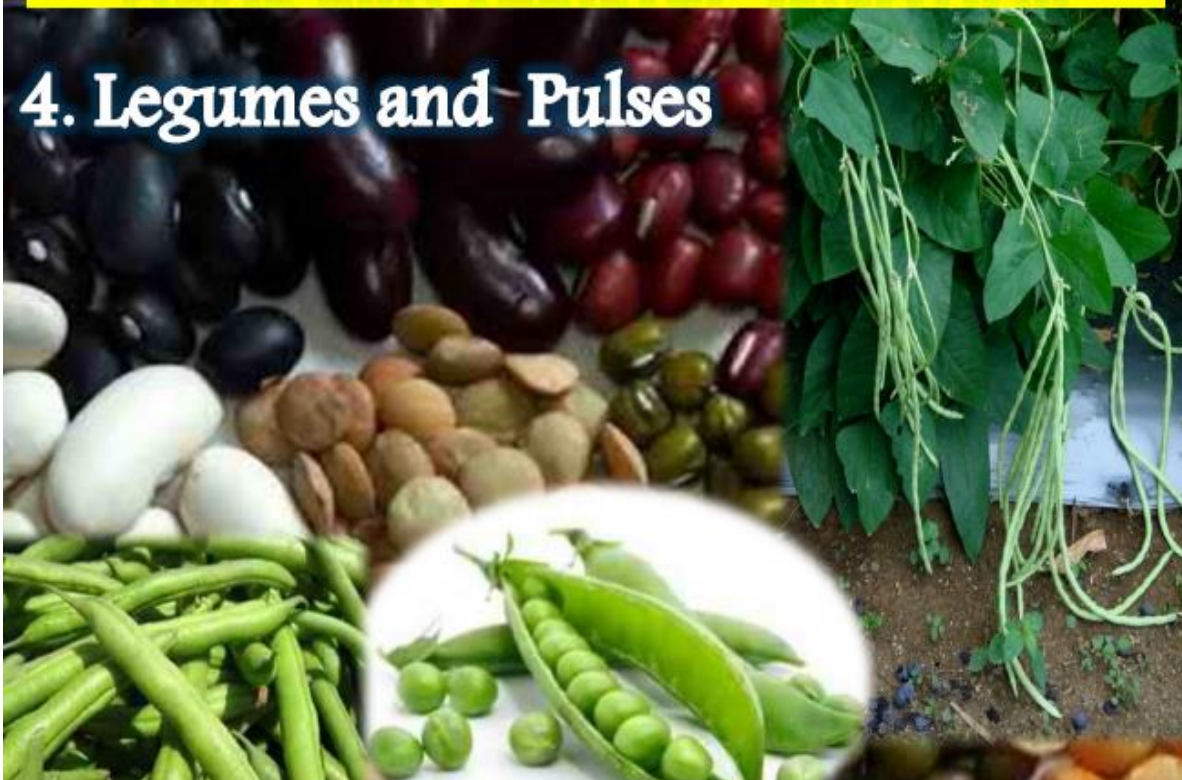
## **CROP AND VARIETAL SELECTION**

### **3. Solanaceous Crops**



## **CROP AND VARIETAL SELECTION**

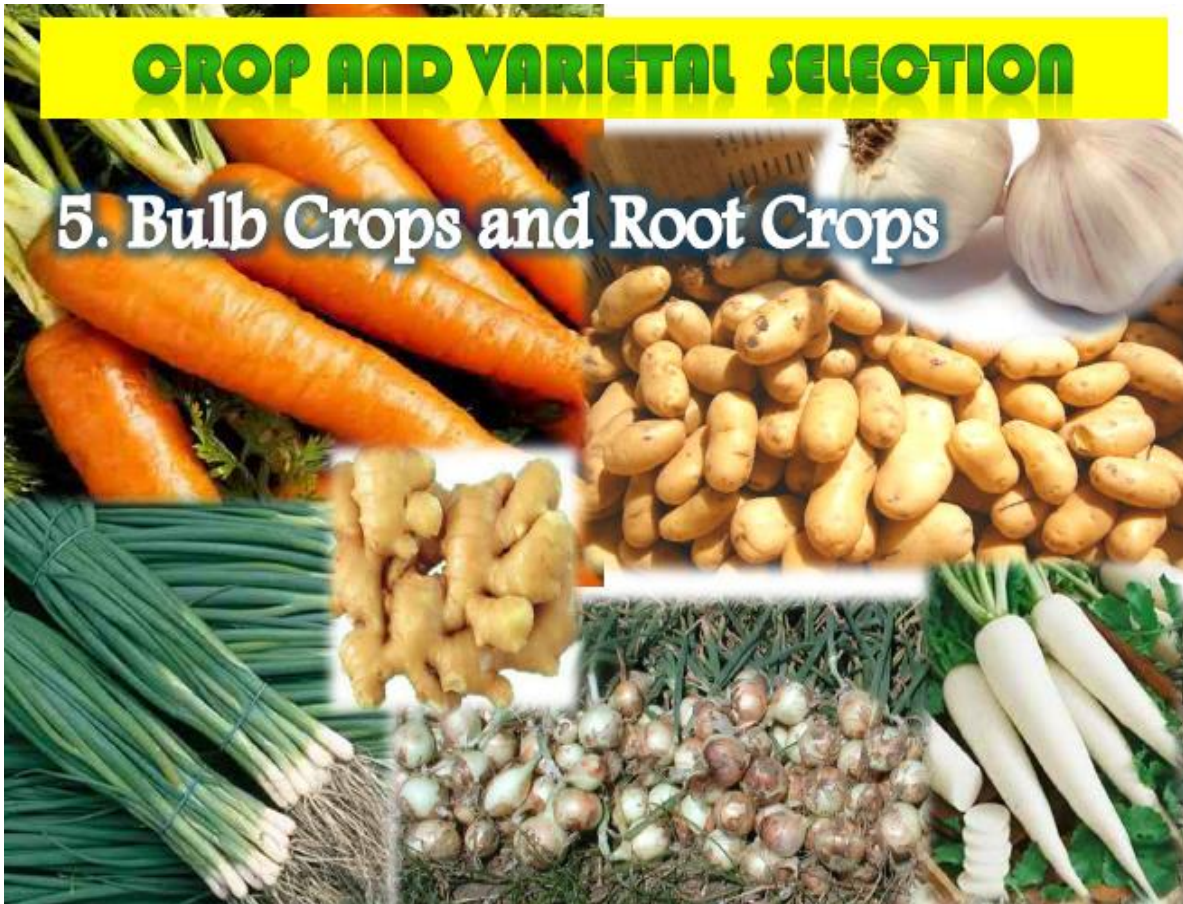
### **4. Legumes and Pulses**





# **CROP AND VARIETAL SELECTION**

## **5. Bulb Crops and Root Crops**



# **SEED GERMINATION**

*Factors affecting seed germination*

**1. Biological Factors**

**2. Environmental factors**





## *Environmental Factors*

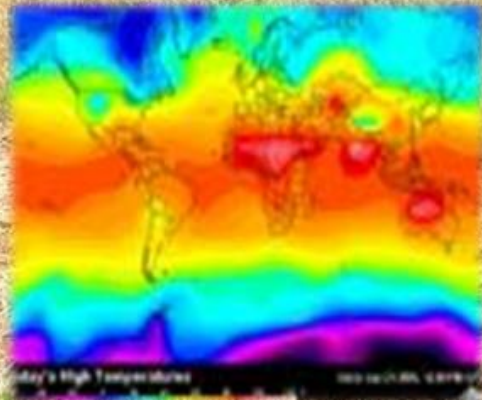
**. Water**

**. Air**

*At least 20% soil air is present in the soil*

## *Environmental Factors*

**. Temperature**



*5° to 45°C with optimum  
around 20°C to 30°C*



## *Factors affecting seed germination*

### **3. Seed Dormancy**

*Inability of seeds to germinate under favorable conditions*

## **METHODS TO OVERCOME SEED DORMANCY**

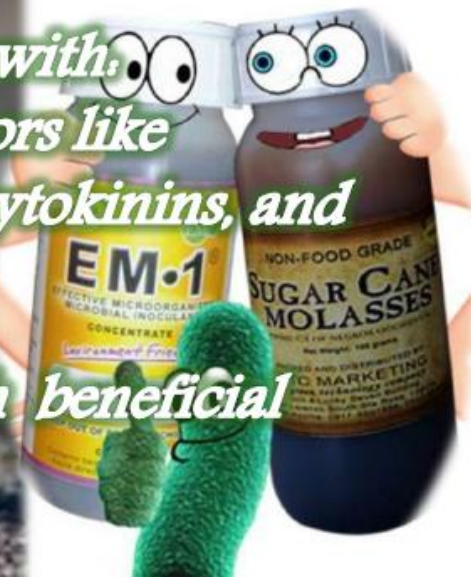
- A. Use of suitable temperature regime
- B. Modification of seed coats by:
  - . Milling
  - . Cutting
  - . Scarification



## METHODS TO OVERCOME SEED DORMANCY

*C. Chemical treatment with plant growth regulators like gibberellins, auxins, cytokinins, and ethylene*

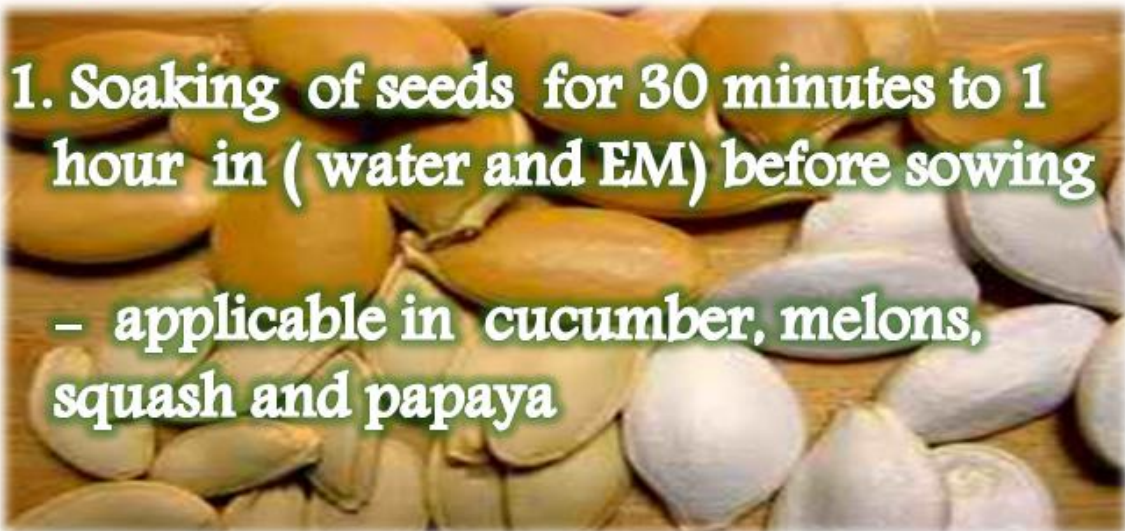
*D. Seed Treatment with beneficial micro-organism*



## SEED SOWING

### *Field Practice*

1. Soaking of seeds for 30 minutes to 1 hour in ( water and EM) before sowing
  - applicable in cucumber, melons, squash and papaya



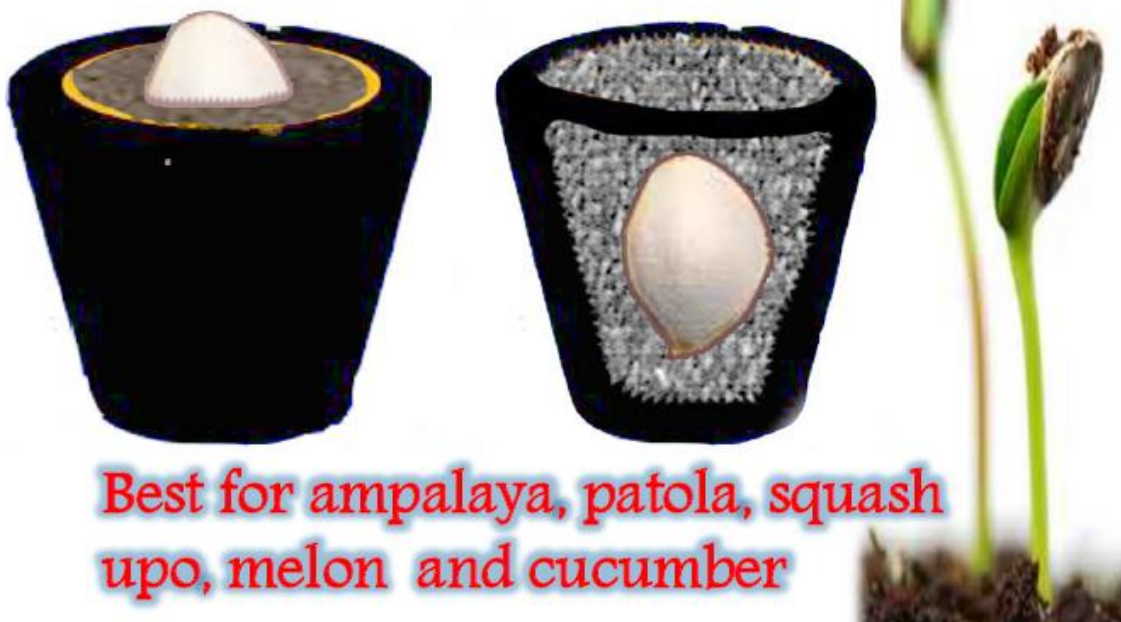
# SEED SOWING

## *Field Practice*

### 2. Cracking / Cutting before soaking

– applicable in ampalaya, upo and patola

## *Proper Sowing of Seeds*



Best for ampalaya, patola, squash upo, melon and cucumber



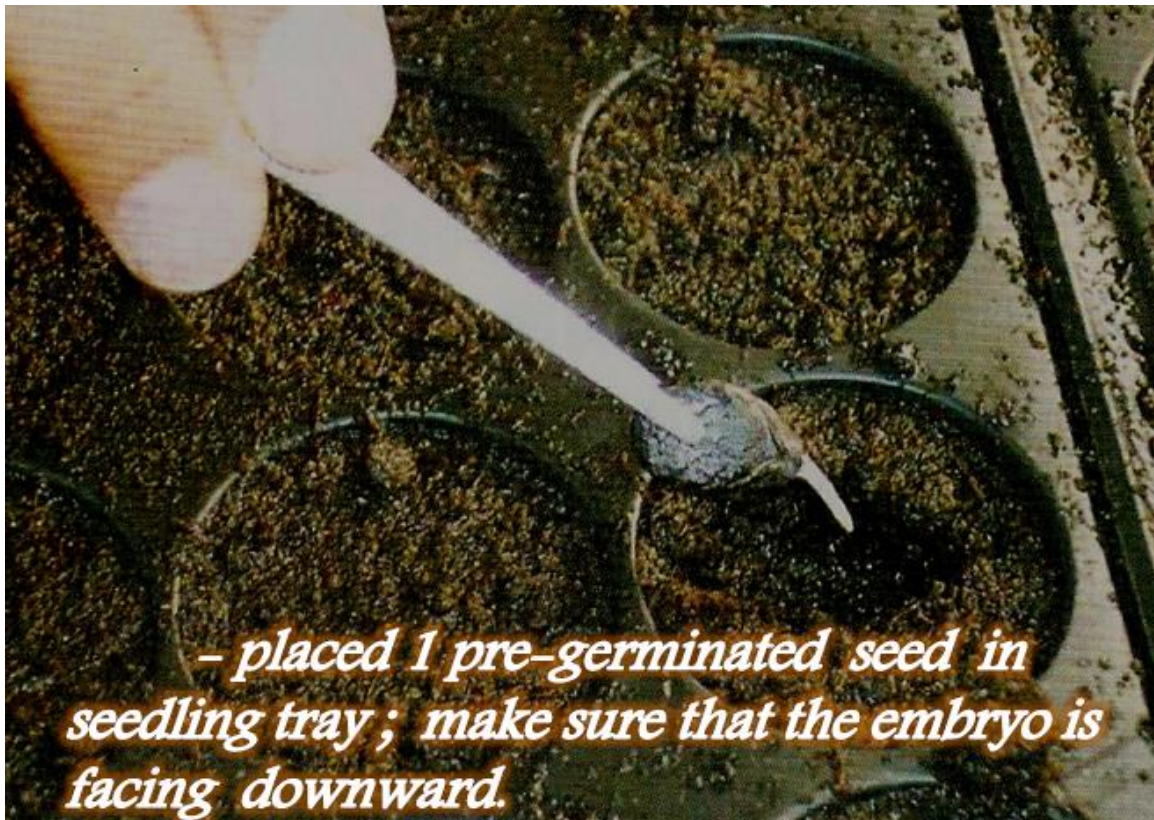
# SEED SOWING

## *Field Practice*

### 3. Incubation

– applicable in cucurbits and  
best in watermelon

*Incubate for 24 to 36 hours with  
temperature 25°C to 30°C*



*– placed 1 pre-germinated seed in  
seedling tray; make sure that the embryo is  
facing downward.*



# SEED SOWING

## Field Practice

4. Direct sowing on seedling tray and field  
– applicable in all small seeds

*- Put 1 or 3 per hole if seedling tray will be used or broadcast it directly in well prepared field*

## SEEDLING TRAY

- 35 holes – use in sowing of papaya  
50 holes – use for sowing vegetables if larger seedling is desired  
104 holes – mostly used for vegetables  
128 holes – use in sowing solanaceous and leafy vegetables



# SEEDLING TRAY

## *Advantage of using seedling tray*

- uniform size of seedlings
- economical use of seeds



## *Advantage of using seedling tray*

- minimal or no root damage on seedlings during transplanting











## POTTING MEDIUM

### *Characteristics of ideal nursery medium*

- 
1. Water holding capacity and aeration
  2. Capacity to supply nutrient
  3. Free from soil-borne diseases
  4. Light weight
  5. Easy to drain



# Growell potting medium

## Composition

1. carbonized rice hull – for drainage and aeration
2. coconut coir dust – for water retention
3. organic matter – for nutrient/food for seedlings





## **NURSERY MANAGEMENT**

### *Safety Reminders*

**The seedling tray should be elevated**

**Protect the seedling from strong wind and heavy rain**

**Protect from pests, including higher animals, such as chicken**

## **NURSERY MANAGEMENT**

### *Water Management*

**Watering with a mist sprayer is recommended**

***Large water drops tend to erode the thin soil covering of the small seeds***



## NURSERY MANAGEMENT

### Water Management

**Watering during seedling production should be done in the morning.**

***If watering needs to be repeated, this should be done in the early afternoon.***

## NURSERY MANAGEMENT

### Seedling Hardening

**To assures high transplant survival and quick recovery after transplanting**