

Considerations for Seed Security and Biodiversity Conservation in Newfoundland

A Scan of Current Seed Security Work, Partnership Opportunities, and Seed Issues in Newfoundland

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Purpose:

To explore perspectives on seed security issues in Newfoundland to support a vibrant seed saving community on the island



What is seed security

having access to adequate quantities of good quality seed and planting materials of preferred crop varieties at all times



"8 of every 10 bites begins with seed"

Seed security = Food Security



Benefits of Seed Security

- builds local and resilient seed systems
- saves traditional seed varieties from extinction
- saves on cost

Challenges:

The agricultural industry in Newfoundland faces many challenges due to their short growing season and harsh climate, creating food and seed security concerns in the Province

Farmers in Newfoundland emphasized the need to have adequate seed supply for the future, especially in an era of climate change.

Findings:

Farmers, researchers, and community groups said that seed availability is not currently a challenge, but seeds are too expensive

Farmers discussed concern for endangered local seed varieties and erosion of genetic diversity

Future directions:

increased assistance to local organizations and small scale seed banks across the province

For more information, visit <https://fledgerresearch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/considerations-for-seed-security-and-biodiversity-conversation-in-newfoundland.pdf>