

Hardy Orchid Society Seed Bank 2024-25

The seed bank is intended to provide seed to members who wish to attempt to grow their own hardy orchids using micropropagation techniques.

It is highly unlikely that seed scattered freely in a garden will ever find the right conditions and fungal partner to germinate and most scattered seed is essentially wasted.

Seed is donated to the bank by members (please pollinate your plants and send us fresh seed!). An administration charge of £3 per sample (between 0.2ml and 0.4ml of seed most usually... enough for 2 or 3 laboratory sowings) is made for samples of seed that are less than 5 years old.

Postage and packing is a default £1.50 for any number of samples requested unless purchased with other sundries. This is via Royal Mail untracked second class post. Should you want a tracked service, the price is £2.90. Please express a preference when ordering if you prefer the latter.

Much of the seed in the bank is older than 10 years having been donated in the early years of the Society. Although of inevitably reduced viability, this is available to members **free of charge**, except for the P & P fee... but again, most samples are small and are intended to be used for artificial propagation purposes.

We do have some larger quantities of older seed of several species/hybrids that we can give to members who wish to attempt seed scattering in their gardens, rather than let the seed fossilise in our store. In these cases a larger quantity of seed will be supplied whilst stocks last. Members who request access to this seed are advised that the best chances of achieving results are by sowing the seed in undisturbed areas of the garden **where other orchids are already growing**. This may be in troughs or beds, on rockeries or in bog or woodland gardens. Early autumn is probably the best time for most of the species available.

Only seed marked in the list with an asterisk is suitable and plentiful enough to scatter *.

Seed specifically for scattering has been made available for members who wish to turn part of their garden/plot/own land into a cultivated wild flower meadow. Also, any members who are in a position to donate coarse, uncleaned seed in large quantities are invited to do so.

Currently we have 3 types available... *Epipactis helleborine*, *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* var. *praetermissa* and *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* var. *junialis*. This seed is not clean enough for laboratory propagation use and will be provided free of charge in 10ml quantities in paper envelopes for immediate use to members who request it whilst stocks last. A p & p charge of £1.50 or £2.90 applies to these samples. The species are marked on the list with a double asterisk **.

A mix containing seed in quantity involving multiple species designed for scattering is being offered for a £35 charge (proceeds donated to the society!) by one of our members, Dave Trudgill, who has had enviable success using the method to enrich his Scottish orchid meadow. Interested members should contact Dave directly on davetrudgill@googlemail.com.

It is most important that seed obtained from the HOS seed bank and associated sources is not released into wild environments and we expect our members to abide by this request.

For more experienced members wishing to try to propagate less common species or more unusual hybrids, the seed bank manager does have access to small quantities of other legally obtained but usually quite old seed that might be of interest. Please enquire to John Haggart on johnsorchids57@gmail.com.

The current list follows:

Seed less than 5 years old for artificial propagation

Anacamptis papilionacea 2024	£3 per sample
Anacamptis morio 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024	£3 per sample
Anacamptis pyramidalis 2022, 2024	£3 per sample
Bletilla striata 2022	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza calcifugens 2021	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza fuschii 2020, 2024	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza maculata 2021, 2023, 2024	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza x latirella (purpurella x incarnata) 2024	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza praetermissa 2020, 2021, 2023	£3 per sample
Dact. praetermissa var. junialis 2020, 2021, 2022	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza purpurella 2020, 2023	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza traunsteinerioides 2024	£3 per sample
Dactylorhiza traunsteinerioides x purpurella 2024	£3 per sample
Epipactis atrorubens 2024	£3 per sample
Epipactis gigantea 2020, 2023	£3 per sample
Epipactis helleborine 2020, 2023	£3 per sample
Epipactis mairei 2022	£3 per sample
Epipactis palustris 2020, 2024	£3 per sample
Epipactis royleana 2020, 2021	£3 per sample
Epipactis thunbergii 2021, 2022	£3 per sample
Epipactis veratrifolia 2020	£3 per sample
Epipactis xanthophaea 2023	£3 per sample
Gymnadenia conopsea 2020, 2024	£3 per sample
Gymnadenia densiflora 2022, 2024	£3 per sample
Himantoglossum hircinum 2024	£3 per sample
Neotinea maculata 2024	£3 per sample
Neotinea tridentata 2024	£3 per sample
Neottia ovata 2022	£3 per sample
Ophrys apifera 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024	£3 per sample
Orchis mascula 2022	£3 per sample
Pseudorchis albida 2024	£3 per sample
Spiranthes bightensis "Chadd's Ford" 2023	£3 per sample
Spiranthes spiralis 2023	£3 per sample
Spiranthes ochroleuca 2024	£3 per sample

Old seed free of charge

	Anacamptis papilionacea v. heroica	old seed	free of charge
*	Bletilla striata	old seed	free of charge
	Cypripedium parviflorum	old seed	free of charge
	Cypripedium pubescens	old seed	free of charge
	Dactylorhiza fuschii	old seed	free of charge
	Dactylorhiza maculata (white)	old seed	free of charge
*	Dactylorhiza maculata x purpurella	old seed	free of charge
	Dactylorhiza majalis	old seed	free of charge
*	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	old seed	free of charge
*	Dactylorhiza purpurella	old seed	free of charge
	Dactylorhiza purpurella x maculata	old seed	free of charge

*	Epipactis gigantea	old seed	free of charge
*	Epipactis mairei	old seed	free of charge
	Epipactis palustris	old seed	free of charge
*	Epipactis royleana	old seed	free of charge
*	Epipactis veratrifolia	old seed	free of charge
	Gennaria sp.	old seed	free of charge

10ml Seed specifically for scattering

**	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	2021	free of charge
**	Dact. praetermissa var. junialis	2021	free of charge
**	Epipactis helleborine	2023	free of charge