

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 is £1.50 for any number of samples requested unless purchased with other sundries.

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 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@gmail.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.

Any schedule 8 seed that might be included on the list will have a copy of the licence to collect the seed (or the parent seed in the case of second generation seed) sent out with any samples. Schedule 8 status only applies to the seed of plants (or their descendants) that are or originally were of British origin and not to the seed of the same species when the parent plants were of non-British stock.

The current list follows:

	Anacamptis morio	2020	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis morio	2021	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis morio	2022	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis morio	2023	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis morio-Continental form	2023	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis pyramidalis	2020	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis pyramidalis	2022	£3 per sample	
	Anacamptis pyramidalis	2023	£3 per sample	
	Bletilla striata	old seed	free of charge	
	Bletilla striata	2022	£3 per sample	
	Cypripedium parviflorum	old seed	free of charge	very limited
	Cypripedium pubescens	old seed	free of charge	very limited
	Dactylorhiza calcifugens	2021	£3 per sample	
*	Dactylorhiza fuschii	old seed	free of charge	
	Dactylorhiza fuschii	2020	£3 per sample	
	Dactylorhiza fuschii	2022	£3 per sample	
	Dactylorhiza maculata	2021	£3 per sample	
*	Dactylorhiza maculata x purpurella	old seed	free of charge	
*	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	old seed	free of charge	
	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	2020	£3 per sample	
	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	2021	£3 per sample	
**	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	2021	free of charge	
	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	2023	£3 per sample	
	Dact. praetermissa var. junialis	2020	£3 per sample	
	Dact. praetermissa var. junialis	2021	£3 per sample	
	Dact. praetermissa var. junialis	2022	£3 per sample	
**	Dact. praetermissa var. junialis	2021	free of charge	very limited
	Dactylorhiza praetermissa x foliosa	old seed	free of charge	
	Dactylorhiza purpurella	2022	£3 per sample	
*	Epipactis gigantea	old seed	free of charge	
	Epipactis gigantea	2020	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis gigantea	2022	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis helleborine	2020	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis helleborine	2022	£3 per sample	
**	Epipactis helleborine	2023	free of charge	
*	Epipactis mairei	old seed	free of charge	
	Epipactis mairei	2022	£3 per sample	
*	Epipactis palustris	old seed	free of charge	
	Epipactis palustris	2020	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis palustris	2023	£3 per sample	
*	Epipactis royleana	old seed	free of charge	
	Epipactis royleana	2020	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis royleana	2021	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis thunbergii	2021	£3 per sample	
	Epipactis thunbergii	2022	£3 per sample	

*	<i>Epipactis veratrifolia</i>	old seed	free of charge	
	<i>Epipactis veratrifolia</i>	2020	£3 per sample	
	<i>Epipactis xanthophaea</i>	2023	£3 per sample	
	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	2020	£3 per sample	
	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	2021	£3 per sample	
	<i>Neottia ovata</i>	2022	£3 per sample	very limited
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	2020	£3 per sample	
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	2021	£3 per sample	
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	2022	£3 per sample	
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	2023	£3 per sample	
	<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> (UK origin)	2023	£3 per sample	
	<i>Orchis mascula</i>	2022	£3 per sample	
	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	2020	£3 per sample	
	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	2022	£3 per sample	
	<i>Spiranthes bightensis</i> "Chadd's Ford"	2023	£3 per sample	
	<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	2023	£3 per sample	