

## Hardy Orchid Society Seed Bank 2025

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 may be 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 £1.75 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 (recommended in view of the Royal Mail's tendency to lose items or delay delivery), the price is £2.90. Please express a preference when ordering if you prefer the latter.

Much of the old seed in the bank, having been donated in the early years of the Society, has now gone. Although of dubious viability, that which remains is available to members **free of charge**, except for the P & P fee.

We still have somewhat larger quantities of old seed of several species/hybrids that we can give to members who wish to attempt seed scattering in their gardens. In these cases a slightly 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 less than 5yrs old specifically for scattering** is 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 £1.75 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 x bightensis "Chadd's Ford" 2023, 2024      | £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 |