

# Home for Seeds

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*Date:* 16.05.2021 *Issue:* 5/2021



*At the “Bulgarian Seed” Festival, which is traditionally held in Sevlievo Municipality on 15–16 May, every visitor will receive a small packet of einkorn, the most ancient grain with which our forefathers used to make bread.*

The Seed House is the place where again this year all visitors to the “Bulgarian Seed” Festival who wish to do so will be able to receive free Bulgarian certified seeds, provided by some of the institutes of the Agricultural Academy, which is a partner of the event.

The Institute of Roses and Essential Oil Crops – Kazanlak of the Agricultural Academy has already sent seeds of essential oil crops.

The Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute – Plovdiv will present seeds of authentic varieties of vegetable crops: tomato varieties “Rozovo Sŭrtse” (Pink Heart), “Milyana” and “Ideal”, cucumber variety “Tereza”, pepper varieties “Ivaylovska Kapiya”, “Kapiya UV Vertus” and “Balgarski Ratund”, white head cabbage “Balkan” and melon “Pobeditel” (Victor).

With its participation in the National Festival “Bulgarian Seed”, the Institute of Plant Genetic Resources (IPGR) “K. Malkov” – Sadovo will promote the Bulgarian wheat variety “Pobeda”, the widely grown domestic peanut variety “Kalina” and other varieties of this crop, such as “Kremena”, “Tsvetelina”, “Orfey”. The sesame varieties “Nevena” and “Sofiya”, the naked oat variety “Mina”, as well as the rye variety “Millenium” – the only Bulgarian one on the official variety list – will also be present. The best winter forage pea variety for green mass “Mir” of IPGR will be among the Bulgarian seeds at the festival. Next to it will be the grass pea variety “Rodopi” – a type of vetch used for medicinal purposes. The Institute in Sadovo will also showcase local populations: the melliferous plant phacelia, the essential oil crops fennel and lavender, and the aromatic spice basil.

The Dobrudzha Agricultural Institute – General Toshevo is represented by several bean varieties such as “Blyan” and “Skitiya”, the chickpea varieties “Balkan” and “Progress”, as well as lentil “Ilina” and pea “Dobrotitsa”.

The Institute of Ornamental and Medicinal Plants – Sofia is participating with its own variety “Usmivka” of Tagetes (Tagetes patula L.).

Community centres (chitalishta) from the villages of Sevlievo Municipality are also actively participating in the “Seed House” initiative, and will pass on seeds preserved by their ancestors.

The Seed House is a human-sized beehive and can be found in the immediate vicinity of the stage. You can also leave there seeds you have brought, placed in a small packet with information about them.

### **“Pass on the Legacy” – a new initiative of the seventh National Festival “Bulgarian Seed”**

Sevlievo Municipality is organizing for the seventh time the National Festival “Bulgarian Seed” on 15 and 16 May in the “Kazarmite” Park. “Pass it on” is the motto that brings together in one place Bulgarian folklore, traditional arts and crafts, local flavours and priceless seeds from all over Bulgaria.