

Workshops Reclaim the Seeds 2017

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| | first round 11:00 - 12:30 |
| 1 - Why propagate your own seeds? <i>(circus space)</i> | This workshop by Patricia Boey (Velt, Vlaanderen) is about selecting, harvesting, cleaning and saving seeds. For people who are starting or have just started to propagate their own seeds. The workshop will last one hour, depending on questions from the audience. |
| 2 - Patents on seeds <i>(theatre space)</i> | During this workshop Maaïke Raaijmaker , campaigner at Bionext, will discuss the consequences of patents on food and the current political situation. She will also tell us more about Bionext's campaign 'The largest seed-bank in the Netherlands' and about other initiatives to put a stop to patents on seed. |
| 3 - Agriculture and climate change <i>(graphical space)</i> | In this workshop explore Finn and Jonny from ASEED the connection between the industrial food system and climate change and the alternatives to this system that exist here. At the end of the workshop the organisation of the Food Autonomy Festival in Amsterdam will be discussed. (This workshop will be in English) |
| 4 - Special grains <i>(atelier space)</i> | Join us as we explore the possibilities of preserving grain biodiversity, as well as the processing and marketing of these unique crops, with the help of grain specialists. With Ieke Dekker (Weizennotkomitee), Louis Dolmans (Doornik Natuurakkers) and Theo Bastiaens (Stichting Behoud van Oude Graanrassen). The moderator will have information about the Zeeuwse Vlegel grain. |
| | second round 13:30 - 15:00 |
| 5 - The 15th Garden, a Syrian network of urban gardens and seed savers <i>(circus space)</i> | As a special guest we will have Ansar Hevi at Reclaim the Seeds. She will give input on <i>the 15th Garden</i> , a bottom-up network of urban gardens in cities that have been bombed or are besieged in Syria. European groups in Germany, France, Greece, Italy and Sweden have started to collect organic non-hybrid seeds and send it to people in besieged cities. At the end of the presentation at Reclaim the Seeds we will explore how we can support the 15th Garden in the Netherlands. (This workshop will be in English) |
| 6 - Agro-ecology and food forests <i>(theatre space)</i> | In the first part of this workshop Wouter van Eck from Voedselbos Ketelbroek will present the opportunities for food production in food forests. In a successful food forest agriculture and nature are combined by setting up an edible system of perennial crops. Ecological principles of a natural forest are the guiding principles. In the second part (3rd round) we will go outside to find out what this means in practice. |
| 7 - little beasties come to our assistance <i>(graphical space)</i> | There are lots of organisms living in the soil such as bacteria, mildew, protozoa, nematods, mites, snails and worms. And all in mind-boggling numbers and unimaginable diversity. Marc Siepman will tell us how they cooperate and how you can help them to help you. See for more information marcsiepman.nl |

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| <p>8 - Update about large seed companies <i>(atelier space)</i></p> | <p>On a global scale, a handful of huge companies are gaining increasing control over the seed markets. Bayer bought Monsanto, Dow took over Dupont and Syngenta is now owned by ChemChina. What is at stake now for the farmers and consumers? How should we fight against market concentration and ensure agricultural biodiversity? Sonia, from ASEED, will give a presentation and facilitate a discussion about possible developments and action. (This workshop will be in English)</p> |
| <p>9 - Wild plants walk <i>(outside. meeting point at the entrance)</i></p> | <p>In the area around de Vasim Leah Groeneweg (Bloemenpad) will show that you can find a lot of edible plants 'in the wild'. Even in a city and even in March.</p> |
| <p>third round (15:15 - 16:45)</p> | |
| <p>10 - Rules and regulations connected with seed production <i>(circus space)</i></p> | <p>The NAK (inspection) formulated instructions for seed growers. What are the regulations? How should the seeds be packed? Which seeds are you free to propagate or not? The rules for 'normal' cultivation are very strict and costly. This presentation will be given by Monique Wijn. She started to propagate and sell seeds in 2002.</p> |
| <p>11 - Open Source, also an alternative for seeds <i>(theatre space)</i></p> | <p>Willy Douma of HIVOS (development organisation) will tell us more about seeds for small farmers in Africa. Most farmers use last year's seeds, exchange seeds or buy on the market. The quality of these seeds is not good. The government and most of the seed firms see patenting as a rightful form of protection for companies. Together with some small seed companies, farmers and the government, Hivos is trying to find out whether open source systems are a good alternative. Can they provide the badly needed innovation for farmers?</p> |
| <p>12 - Availability of a variety of organic plant material <i>(graphical space)</i></p> | <p>The number of organic plant growers is limited at the moment and so is the assortment of seedlings. How can we make sure that both the professional horticulturist as well as the garden hobbyists can acquire a greater variety of organic seedlings? How to stimulate the use of varieties that are regional, open pollinated, robust or special in other respects. Join the discussion with professional horticulturists and people interested in this topic. Willem 't Hooft from Kwekerij A8 who is already raising his own seedlings will also be there.</p> |
| <p>13 - Continuation workshop the 15th Garden <i>(atelier space)</i></p> | <p>In the second part of this workshop participants can discuss how we can help this Syrian network of city gardens and seed savers in the Netherlands.</p> |
| <p>14 - Continuation Permaculture and food forest workshop <i>(meeting point at the entrance)</i></p> | <p>Only a 10 minutes' walk from the VASIM is a young food forest: Food Forest Novio in Park West. The design will be explained, and then everybody who wants to do so can lend a hand and help Working Group Groen Hees to round off the planting of seedlings together with people from the neighbourhood.</p> |