



The OSSI Pledge and the Four Essential Seed Freedoms

The Open Source Seed Initiative (OSSI) is dedicated to maintaining fair and open access to plant genetic resources worldwide in order to ensure the availability of germplasm to farmers, gardeners, breeders, and communities of this and future generations. The core strategy for achieving these goals is the dissemination and propagation of the OSSI Pledge and of OSSI-Pledged varieties, both of which preserve what OSSI regards as the four essential seed freedoms.

Varieties are Pledged to OSSI by their breeders, who commit to transferring the seed only accompanied by the OSSI Pledge. Such varieties are called OSSI-Pledged varieties.

Pledge:

You have the freedom to use these OSSI-Pledged seeds in any way you choose. In return, you pledge not to restrict others' use of these seeds or their derivatives by patents or other means, and to include this Pledge with any transfer of these seeds or their derivatives.

The Four Essential Seed Freedoms:

1. The freedom to save or grow seed for replanting or for any other purpose.
2. The freedom to share, trade, or sell seed to others.
3. The freedom to trial and study seed and to share or publish information about it.
4. The freedom to select or adapt the seed, make crosses with it, or use it to breed new lines and varieties.

**on the web at osseeds.org
and visit "Open Source Seed Initiative" on Facebook**