

## How to Collect and Process Seed

Make sure area to be collected is not a planted cultivar. Ex. CRP land.

**Be sure to collect ripe seed!** Check for filled seed. Mature seed is typically dry and hard and has separated from the rachis (grasses) or loosens easily from the pods, capsules, or flower heads.

Collect and store grass and forb seeds in paper bags to keep moisture from accumulating. Staple Collection Information Sheet to paper bag for identification. If seeds have to be stored for short periods before mailing, store in a cool, dry place away from direct light.

Fleshy seeds from woody species should be depulped. The fruit of the seed should be crushed and seeds should be separated from it. This can be done in several ways:

Macerating with a rolling pin or fruit press.

Crushing the fruit, washing under running water into large containers, debris and pulp will float to the top and seeds will sink, seeds should not be allowed to soak for extended periods of time to prevent them from rotting.

Cleaned by rubbing seeds on a wire screen under running water.

After being depulped, seeds from woody plants should be dried, and stored the same as above, in paper bags with a Collection Information Sheet stapled to it.