

# TOOLKIT:

## Seed Collection, Preparation, Storage and Seedbed Site Selection (*Ocimum Kilimandscharicum* and Other Crops)



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UNOPS

1



Collect mature seedstalks from the plants when it is not raining, windy, or muddy.

2



Hand-pick seed-talks from the plants or use a pair of secateurs and put the cuttings into a basket, bag or bucket.

3



Dry the seed-stalks by spreading out on a mat under shade for 2 to 3 days.

4



Thresh the dried seedstalks to remove the seeds from the stalks and their coating. This waste material, if sown along with the seeds, tends to rot and may encourage fungal diseases.

5



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6



*Ocimum kilimandscharicum* seeds are black and very small, oval shaped.

7



Store the seeds preferably in tins or sealed paper bags, in a cool, dry place. Do not store the seeds in polythene bags. If seeds become damp or over-heat, they may fail to germinate.



Select a suitable site for establishing the nursery. The site should be located on a fairly level ground with good drainage, water source and not far from the house. It should have good porous soil.

8

The site should be fenced to keep away livestock, and with trees to serve as wind breakers but not overshadowed with dense trees.

9



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