

# GROW OUT - LETTUCE

**Common name:** Lettuce Loose-leaf

**Scientific name:** *Lactuca sativa*

**Variety:** Red Deer Tongue

**Seed source:** Bounty Beyond Belief

**Planting information:** Beautiful, red tinged, triangular leaves. Mild, meaty leaves. A sturdy and heavy producer it will tolerate warmer temperatures than most lettuces, but is still cold-resistant. Pick individual leaves or cut the entire head.\* Plant 1/8" deep in partial/full sun. Plant spacing 4-8". Days to maturity 45-55 days.

\*Let at least one of your plants go to maturity and flower for seed saving.

## **Planting instructions to minimize hybridization:**

No special requirements for lettuce. You can plant multiple varieties of lettuce right next to each other without cross-pollination.

## **Harvesting:**

1. Let seeds dry on the plant. When about half the flowers have gone to white fluff, you can cut off the flower stock and put upside in a paper bag to let dry. Keep out of direct sunlight when drying.
2. Collect.

## **Returning:**

1. Remove fluff from seeds. You can do this by holding the material up in the air above a bowl. Let the (lighter) fluff blow away and the seeds fall into a bowl below. You can also take the seeds and sift them through a sieve. You may have to try different size sieves to find the right sized holes.
2. Get labels and envelopes. You can go to [RichmondGrowsSeeds.org](http://RichmondGrowsSeeds.org) and the "How to Use the Library" to the "Returning/Donating" and click on the returning seeds sheet or come to Richmond Grows and get envelopes. If you download the form, you can type onto it.
3. Fill in the label using the information above, except the "seed source" will be your name (optional). Include notes about the plant using the description information above. Remember that the people borrowing these seeds only have what is written on the envelope so the more information you can provide the better.
4. Since we are sharing the seeds with other envelopes it would be helpful to put the seeds into multiple envelopes.
5. Return the seed to the Community Seed Connection @ Chester Springs Library.