




agriculture & rural development


Department:
agriculture
& rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

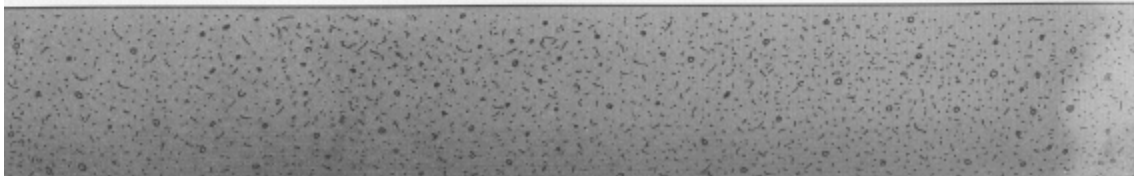




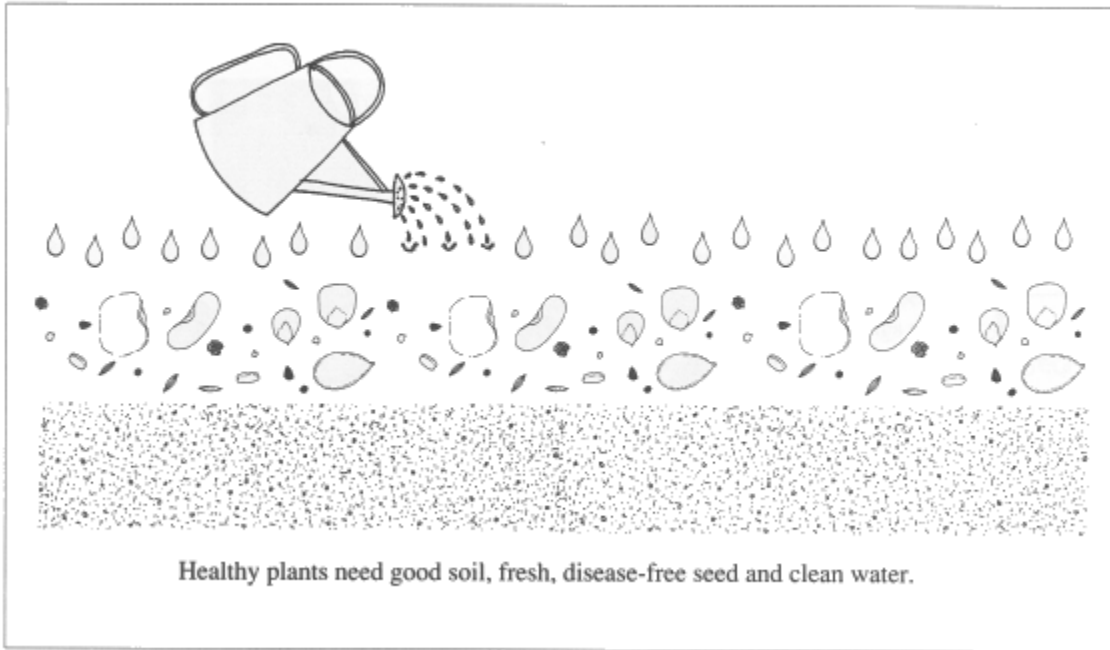
**Good seed, soil and water
for success**

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Good seed, soil and water for success



SEED

• How to store seed

Good seed is expensive, but it gives healthy plants.



Store the seed in a bottle with a lid that fits tightly.

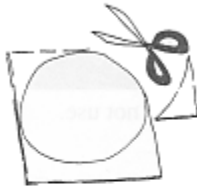


Store the seed you do not use.

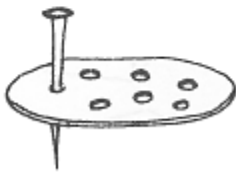
Put the seed in small envelopes or paper bags and write the type of seed and the date on them.



Cut a round piece of cardboard which will fit into the bottle.



Make a few holes in the cardboard.



First put a few pieces of dry charcoal in the bottle. Put the cardboard on top of the charcoal and the bags on top of the cardboard.

Envelopes or paper bags



Cardboard



Charcoal



Close the bottle tightly and store in a cool, dry place.

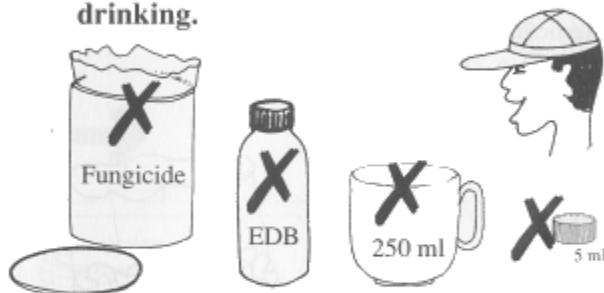


Warning/Be careful

✓ Always wear gloves and protective clothes when handling poison.



✗ Never use containers, measuring spoons or anything that has been in contact with poison for eating or drinking.



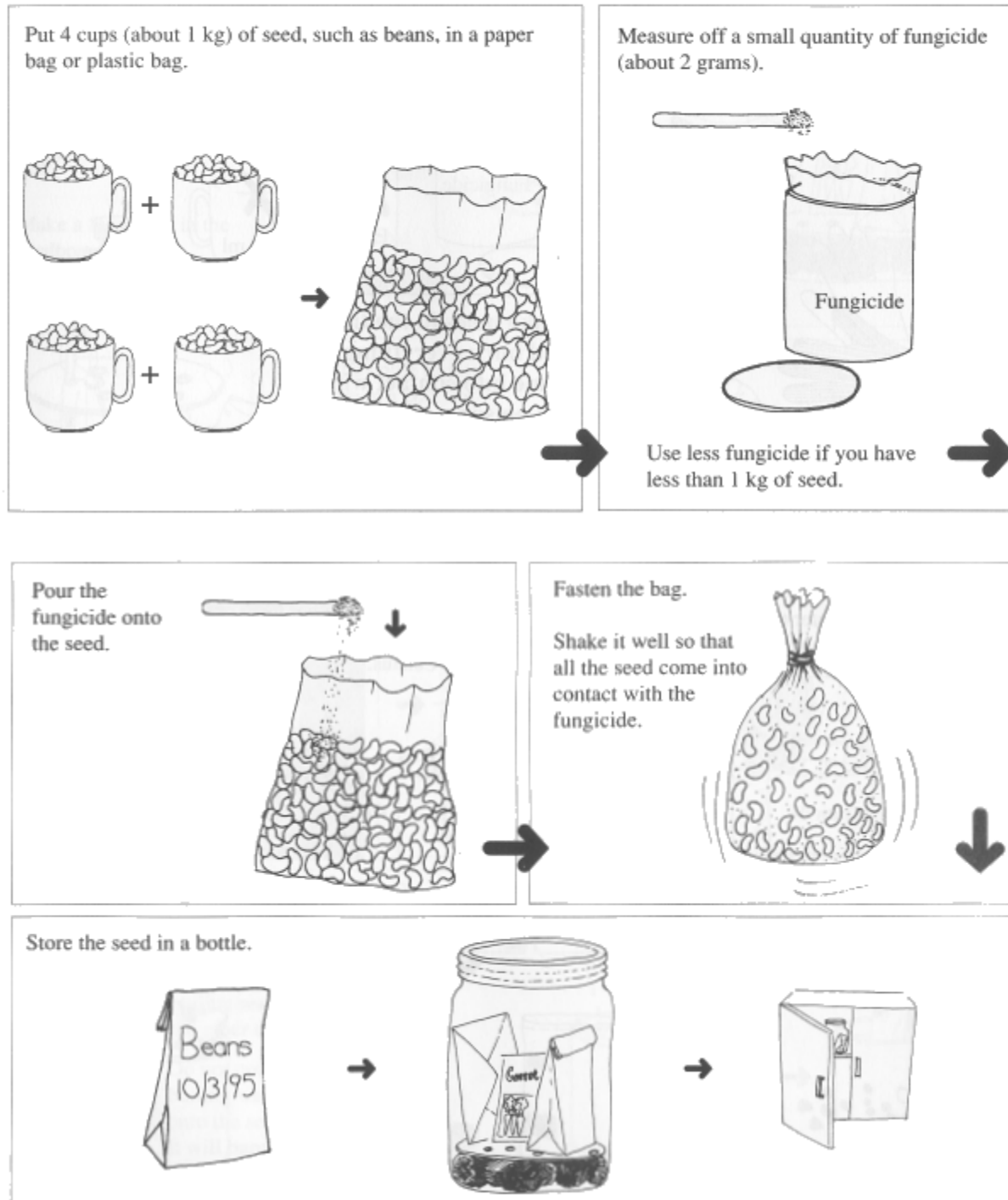
Make holes in the tins and burn everything that came into contact with the poison.



A number of methods can be used to protect seed against diseases and insects.

• **Fungicide**

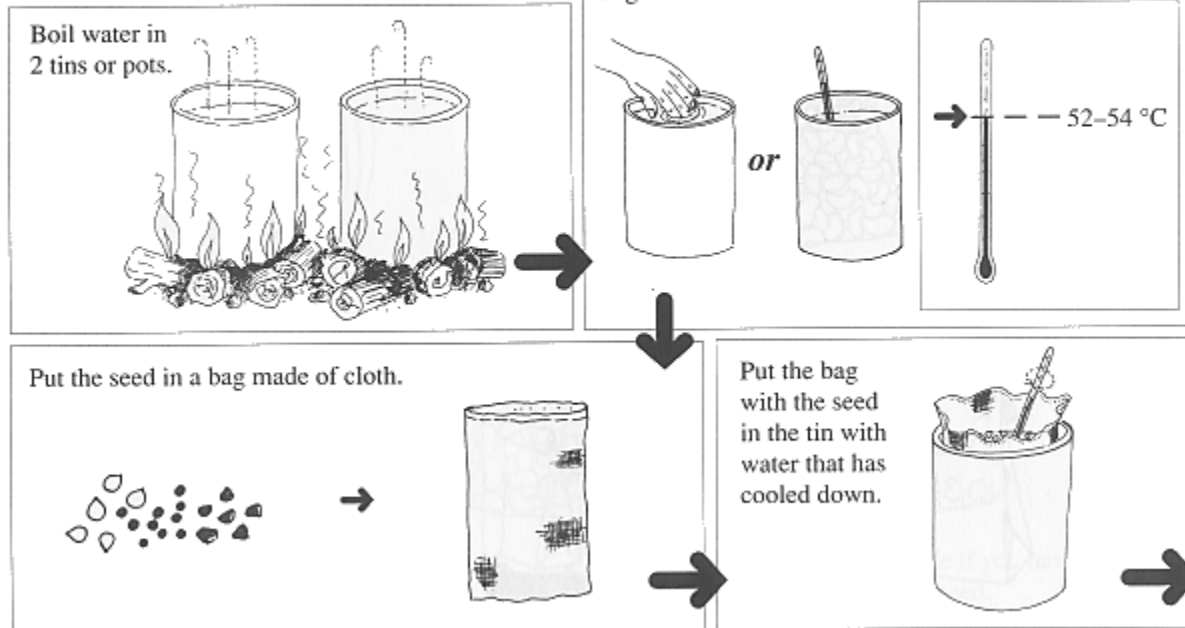
Treat the seed with a fungicide.



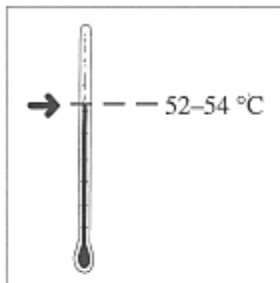
• **Hot water**

Put the seed in hot water to kill diseases on or in the seed. Do this with tomato, onion and cabbage seed.

Leave one tin of water to cool so that the water does not burn your hand or until it is at a temperature of between 52 and 54 degrees Celsius.



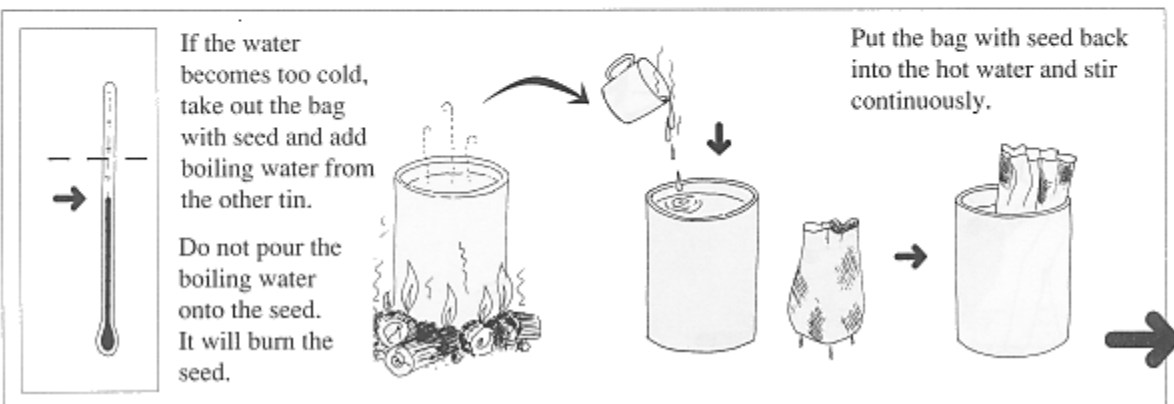
Stir continuously with a stick or the thermometer.

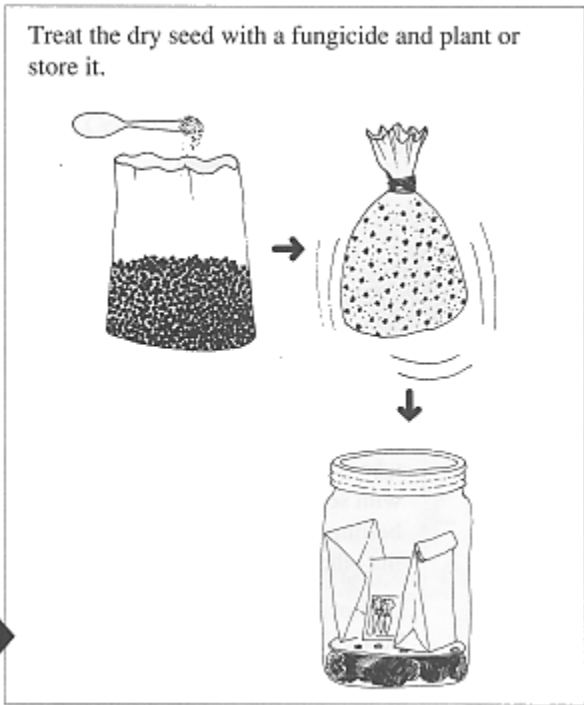
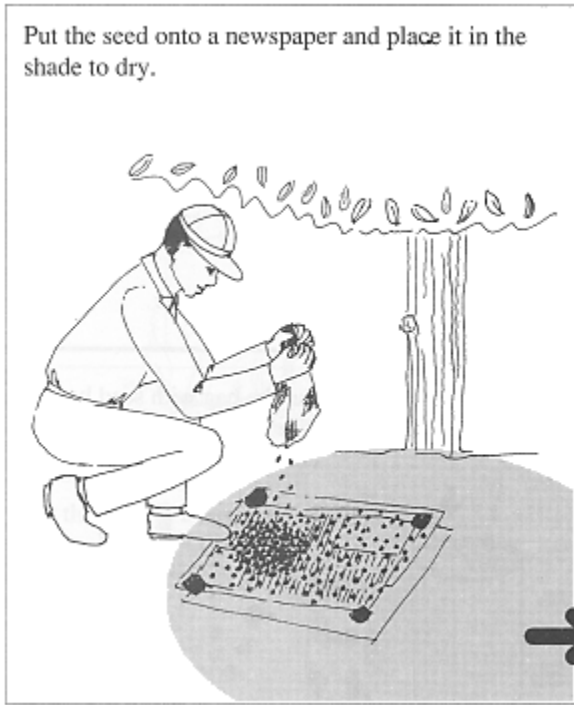


Stir for about half an hour.

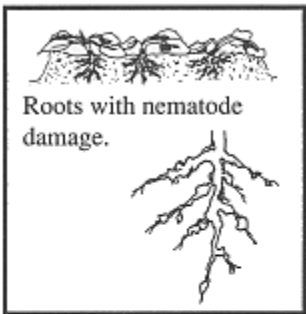


30 minutes





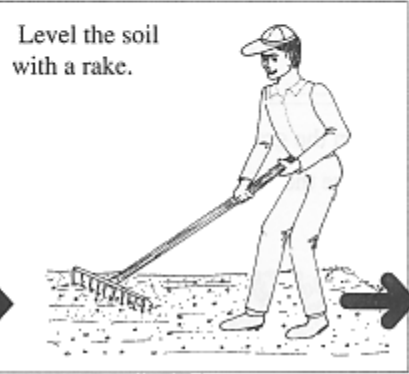
SOIL



If there are diseases or nematodes in the soil, treat the soil before planting.

Always start by preparing the seed-bed.

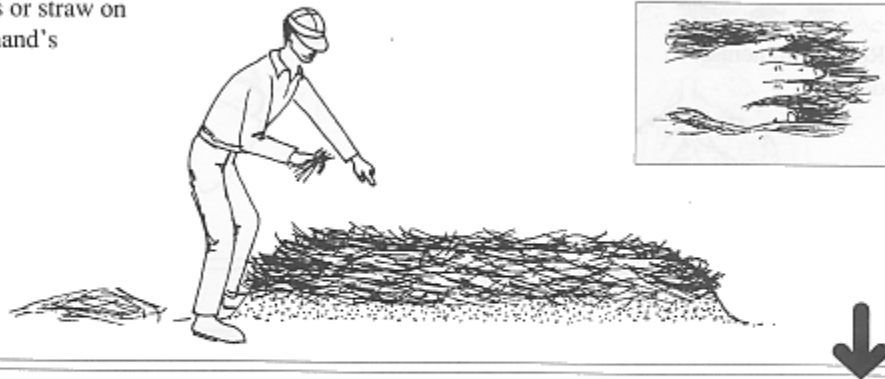
Water the soil and wait until it is moist.



Treating the soil

Heat is the cheapest way to kill pests in the soil.

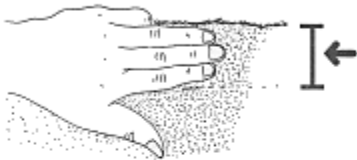
Put a layer of dry grass or straw on the seed-bed, about a hand's breadth deep.



Burn the grass or straw.
Leave the ashes on the seed-bed.



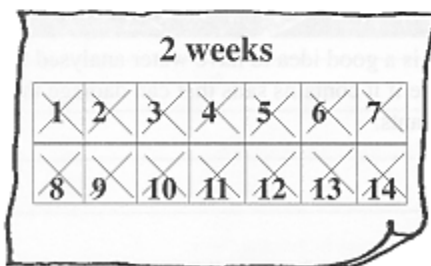
The top layer of about 3 fingers deep is now free from pests.



Do not dig the soil or rake again before planting.



Plant the seed or seedlings after about 2 weeks.



Cover the soil between the seedlings with grass or straw so that it does not dry out too quickly.



WATER

Water the plants with clean water.



Dirty water causes diseases.



It is a good idea to have water analysed to see if it contains salts that can damage the plants.