Small Scale Production of Home Garden Seeds

We work on a severely eroded wasteland
Auroville, Tamil Nadu, India

LAND REGENERATION FOR

FORESTRY

GARDENING

We are two voluntary workers, accompanied sometimes by student volunteers

No Hired Workers

GARDENING ON ERODED LAND

PLANT VARIETIES

IDEAL FOR HOME GARDENS

NUTRITIOUS

TASTY

HARDY

UNIQUE

DROUGHT TOLERANT

EASY TO GROW

UNUSUAL, RARE

DISEASE RESISTANT

VIGOUROUS

A GARDEN FOR EVERYONE

A Seed Exchange
Initiative
for Home Gardeners

80 TO 90 VARIETIES

Seeds are multiplied and shared with farmers / gardeners

At least 3000 packets
every year

HOME ACTIVITY

Inspired by the idea
that every farm
should be a
seed wealth centre

BOTTLE GOURDS

LIMA BEANS

WINGED BEAN
EXTRA LONG VARIETY

JACK BEAN

RED LONG BEAN

SEED CONSERVATION

1) KEEPING VARIETIES PURE
   (Controlling pollination or preventing cross pollination)

- KEEPING SEEDS VIABLE
  (Seed harvest, Processing and Storage, Germination Tests, Regrowing)

- KEEP THE SEEDS MOVING
  (Display, Packing, Distribution)

Green lady’s finger

Red lady’s finger

Cross pollination

Loss of Desired Qualities

LADY'S FINGER

ISOLATION

WITH STRING

BRINJAL FLOWERS

Perfect flowers with male and female parts within the same flower
With a capacity to self pollinate

MOSQUITO NET
6 FEET X 3 FEET

TWO BRINJAL PLANTS
TWO CHILLY PLANTS

ONE BRINJAL VARIETY (TWO PLANTS) & ONE CHILLY VARIETY (TWO PLANTS) IN EACH NET OF 6 X 3

MOSQUITO NET ISOLATION – OTHER CROPS

TOMATO

CHILLIES

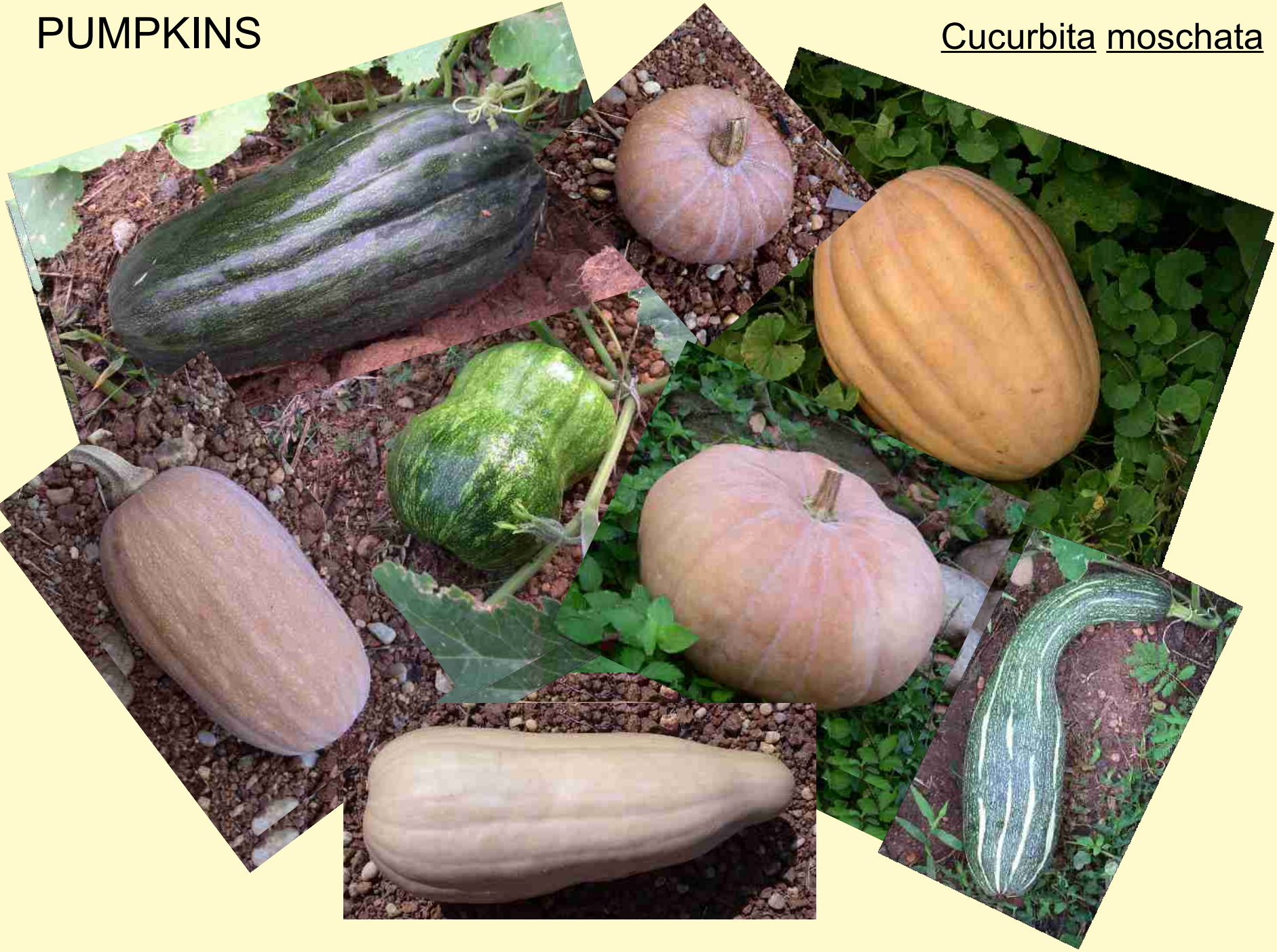
CAPSICUM

BASIL

A possibility for small scale seed multiplication in cities / limited space

PUMPKINS

Cucurbita moschata



PUMPKIN (Cucurbita moschata)

Male Flower

Female Flower

HAND POLLINATION

WITH TWINE

Pumpkin

Cucurbita moschata

HAND POLLINATION WITH PAPER BAG

Sponge Gourd
(Luffa cylindrica)

KEEPING SEEDS VIABLE

Low cost seed storage

5 watt bulb to prevent moisture

Boxes and packets with used A4 paper

GERMINATION TESTS

Pot Test

Seeds germinate best on the surface, in the presence of oxygen

Watering lightly - an improvised shower

Chicken mesh to prevent snails and rats

RAG TEST for GERMINATION

SEED SHARING

Photo display

Seed packets