

SEED

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Growing CP from seed is a rewarding experience for several reasons. First, you acquire many plants of a single species to grow which later you may exchange with other CP enthusiasts. Secondly, the natural variations inherent in the genetic makeup of species are expressed in variation of color, size and shape of the plants. A disadvantage to growing CP from seed is the long interval of time it takes the plant to mature. Also, if growing space is a consideration, the many seedlings do take up space and even more so as they grow larger from year to year. The seed are harvested and stored at 32° - 40° in paper envelopes. Given below are some directions on germination and related data:

- Aldrovanda No experience.
- Byblis
gigantea Requires high temperatures to germinate. Sow seed on wet peat moss and sand surface (1:2). Crush up three paper towels and place on the pot surface and light. After fire dies down, water thoroughly again. Another method uses a soaking in water at a temperature of 170° F. and allowing this to cool to room temperature. FLOWERS: Second year.
- liniflora Germinates readily on peat moss surface after 2-3 weeks. FLOWERS: First year.
- Cephalotus Difficult to germinate. Seeds sown on peat moss usually germinate at variable periods of time up to six months. FLOWERS: Fourth or fifth year.
- Darlingtonia Soak seed in water for a week changing water daily. Then sow seed on peat moss surface. FLOWERS: Fourth or fifth year.
- Dionaea Seed needs constant relatively high temperature to germinate. A temperature of 75-80° F. is about right when seed is sown on the surface of moist peat moss. FLOWERS: Third or fourth year.
- Drosera For the North American Drosera, seed germinates readily on peat moss. Plants flower in second year. For African Drosera, seed of D. capensis germinates quickly but the other species remain for various lengths of time before they germinate. Up to six months. For Australian Drosera, the eastern species like D. binata and spathulata germinate readily on peat moss. I have limited experience with seed from the tuberous Drosera but most germinate readily if fresh on peat moss. FLOWERS: two to three years.
- Drosophyllum Snip the tip off the pear-shaped seeds with a nail clipper so that a small portion of the white endosperm shows. Soak seeds overnight in water. Sow seeds on peat moss and sand mix (1:2). When seed germinates, repot singly in a two-inch pot in sphagnum moss and perlite mix. Ratio of mix is 1:1. Treat seedlings with Benlate, a systemic fungicide to prevent damping off.
- Genlisea No experience.
- Heliophora
heterodoxa Fresh seed germinates readily on the surface of sphagnum moss. FLOWERS: four to five years.
- Nepenthes When seed is very fresh, it germinates on the surface of sphagnum moss at 80° F. FLOWERS: Four to five years.
- Pinguicula Seed germinates for most species very readily on the surface of peat moss at room temperature. For some species, damping off may be a problem, so it is wise to spray with Benlate. FLOWERS: Two to three years.
- Sarracenia Store the seed after harvest in the refrigerator on a damp towel sprayed with Benlate. After six weeks, sow seed on the surface of peat moss. The seeds should germinate in several weeks. Some of the seeds from the northern regions of America need a freeze-thaw cycle while moist to crack the seed coat and allow water to enter and germination to take place.
- Utricularia
and
Ulypompholyx The fresh seed of the terrestrial type germinate readily on peat moss and sand mix (1:1). The aquatic type germinate in water at room temperature. FLOWERS: One to two years.