



Cucurbitaceae Family

VARIETIES





Cucurbitaceae family

Cucurbitaceae tribe

A. Cucurbita – pumpkins and squash

Benincaseae tribe

B. Citrullus – watermelon

C. Cucumis – cucumbers and melons

D. Lagenaria – gourds

Sicyoeae tribe

E. Luffa – loofah

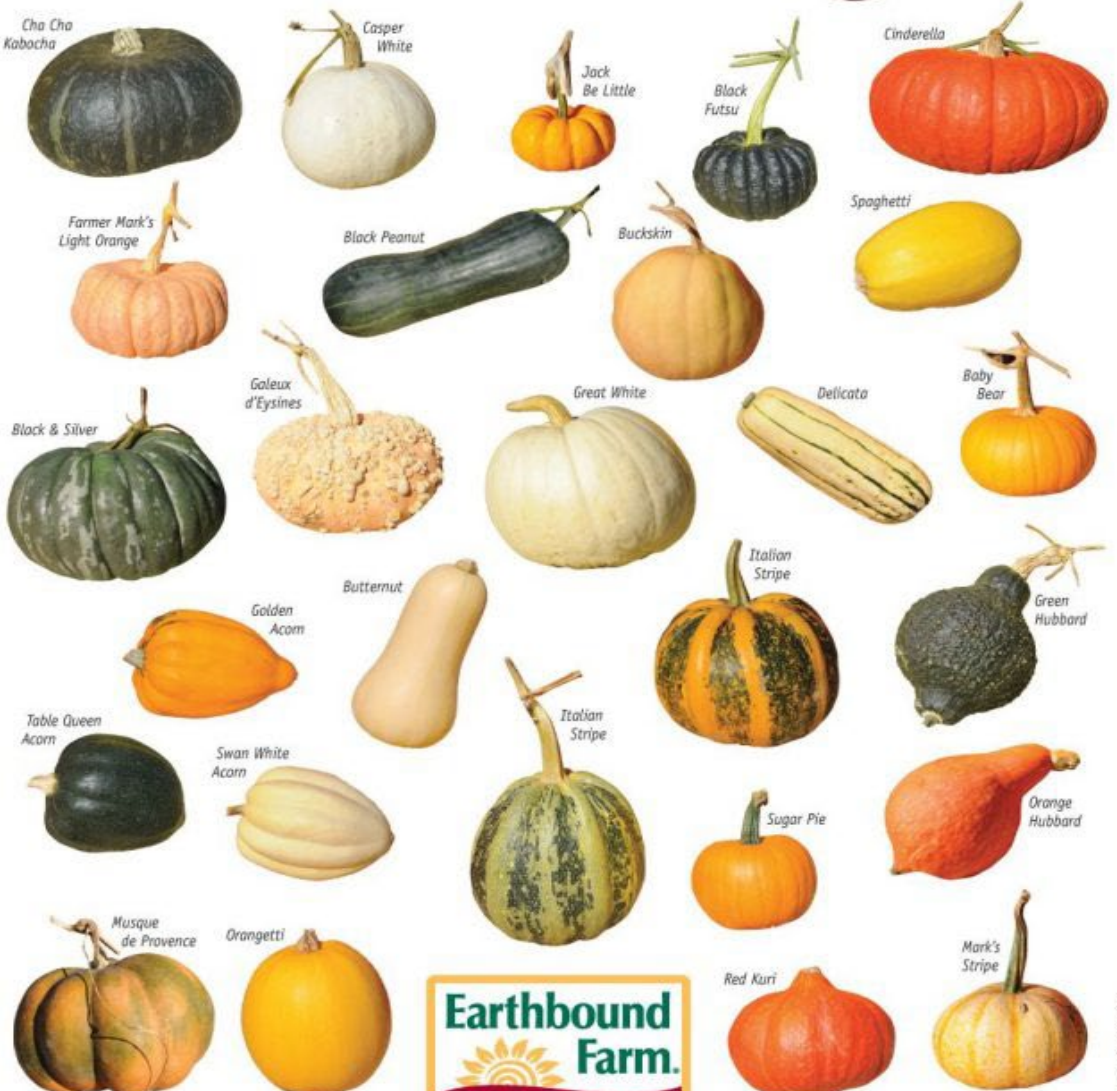
Cucurbitaceae family

Cucurbitaceae tribe

A. Cucurbita – pumpkins and squash



PUMPKIN & SQUASH



<https://www.earthboundfarm.com>



<https://seedsnbeyond.com.au/>



A. Cucurbita Genus

1. *Cucurbita maxima*
2. *Cucurbita moschata*
3. *Cucurbita pepo*
4. *Cucurbita argyrosperma* (formerly *C. mixta*)
5. *Cucurbita ficifolia*

1 Cucurbita maxima

1. STEM



Soft, round & corky stem, not thickened at apex

2. LEAVES



round to reniform leaves that are only shallowly lobed, if at all, borne on 5-20 cm long petioles, often rough and prickly, thin and wider than long

3. SEEDS



white, tan or brown thick seeds with cream-coloured margins and a thin cellophane coating

4. FRUIT



Generally, the big pumpkins

- 1. Qld Blue
- 2. Qld Blue
- 3. Qld grey

4. Pumpkin harvest 2024

Words based on: <https://www.seedsavers.org.au/wiki/cucurbits-introduction> and Weaver 1997

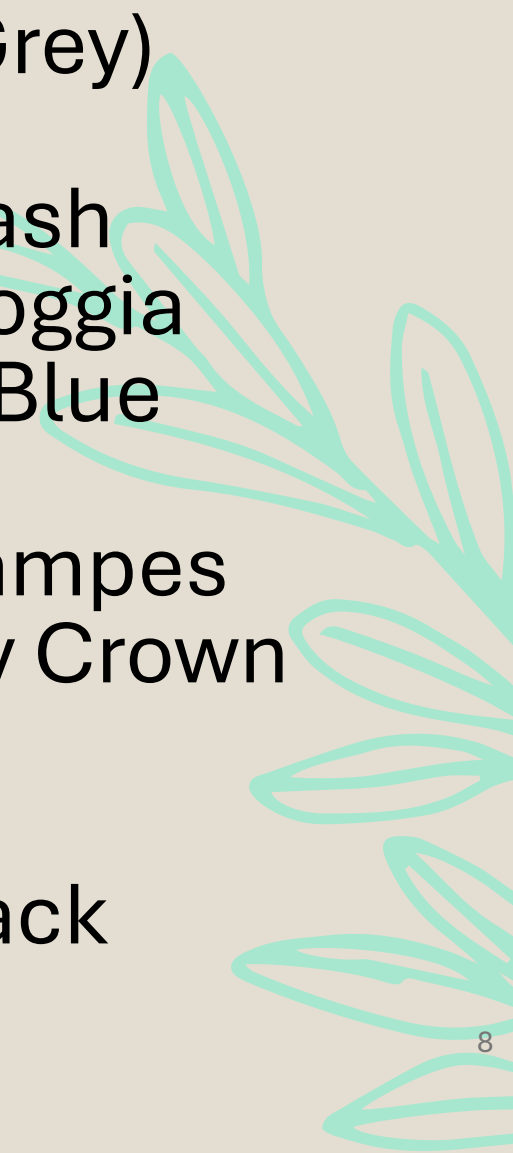
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Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

Atlantic Giant
Australian Butter
Baby Blue
Banana
Big Max
Bohemian
Buttercup
Crown Prince
Galeux D'Eysines
Golden Nugget
Hubbard
Ironbark

Jarrahdale (Grey)
Kabocha
Lakota Squash
Marina di Chioggia
Queensland Blue
Red Kuri
Rouge vif D'Etampes
Sweet Grey/Grey Crown
Triamble
Turban
Windsor Black



Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

1. Atlantic Giant



Despite huge size is still good to eat

2. Australian Butter



Rare Australian heirloom pumpkin with pale orange skin

3. Baby Blue



Cross between Seminole + Hubbard Blue from USA 1970, small to medium blue-grey sweet pumpkin

Photos

1. [pumpkin orange autumn harvest round harvesting vegetables-680541.jpg](https://www.pumpkinorange.com.au/pumpkin-orange-autumn-harvest-round-harvesting-vegetables-680541.jpg)!d (1200×675)
2. <https://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/showimage/348407>
3. <https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/pumpkin-baby-blue-seeds>

Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

4. Banana



Big pink or blue skinned, good keeper

5. Buttercup



Delica

Small, round, green pumpkin with cup at base

6. Kabocha



Japanese variety, green skinned and very sweet orange flesh with thin skin

Photos
4. mine

5. <https://abseeds.com.au/all-products/vegetable/pumpkin-burgess-buttercup/>

6. <https://thewoksoflife.com/how-to-grow-kabocha-squash/>

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Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

7. Galeux D'Eysines



Also called Peanut Pumpkin, French heirloom meaning 'embroidered with warts' from 'Eysines' a small city in the south west of France. Warty skin

8. Golden Nugget



Bush variety, heavy producer, ready to eat in 2 months or store for a year, mild flavour, up to 1 kg

9. Marina di Chioggia



Italian heirloom

Photos

7. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/pumpkin/>

8. <https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/pumpkin-golden-nugget>

9. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/marina-di-chioggia>

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Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

10. Red Kuri



Japanese heirloom,
Baby Red Hubbard,
Potimarron or Hokkaido,
brilliant red-orange,
medium sized, tear-drop
shaped fruit with thin edible
skin, nutty flavour

Photos

10. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/red-kuri>

11. <https://happinesspumpkin.com/varieties-of-pumpkins/>

12 <https://www.edenseeds.com.au/Product-Info-Seeds?product=pumpkin-ironbark>

11. Hubbard



Orange and Blue
varieties, South
American heirloom
dating to 1800's

12. Ironbark



Rare, Australian
heirloom variety
~1850's, hard, thick
skin needs an axe for
the first cut

Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

13. Crown Prince



Blue Hokkaido
New Zealand heirloom
from Whangaparoa
Bay, keeps well

14. Rouge vif D'Etampes



French heirloom
from 1700's, large,
deep red/orange
fruit

15. Turk's Turban



French heirloom
predating 1820,
orange turban
shape on top of
colourful base

Photos

13. <https://marshallsgarden.com/products/pumpkin-crown-prince-seeds-10202477>

14. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/rouge-vif-detampes/>

15. <https://www.theseedcollection.com.au/Pumpkin-Turks-cuc>

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Cucurbita maxima pumpkins

16. Big Max



Red-orange skin nearly round massive sized fruit

17. Lakota Squash



Rare Native American winter squash, medium-sized pear-shaped

18. Windsor Black



Very rare Australian heirloom pumpkin from 1800's. Round fruit with large, strong ribs and smooth rind that starts green and darkens as mature

Photos:

16. . <https://www.edenseeds.com.au/Product-Info-Seeds?product=pumpkin-big-max>

17. <https://www.josheseeds.com.au/shop/p/lakota-squash-pumpkin-seeds-organic-heirloom-variety-x8>

18. <https://www.localseeds.com.au/product/windsor-black-pumpkin/>

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C. maxima Australian Blues

19. Jarrahdale



Australian
heirloom, from
south of Perth, WA

20. Queensland Blue



heirloom dating
back to 1920's,
long keeper

21. Triamble



Triangle, Tristar,
Shamrock Pumpkin,
rare Australian
heirloom dating back
to 1820's, store up to 2
years

Photos

19. <https://www.diggers.com.au/products/pumpkin-jarrahdale>

20 mine

21. <https://goodgourds.com/ultimate-squash-guide/#triamble-squash>

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A. Cucurbita Genus

1. Cucurbita maxima
2. Cucurbita moschata

2 Cucurbita moschata

STEM



Very hard, hairy and slightly angular stem that flares noticeably at the fruit end

LEAVES



Large, rough and prickly to the touch, usually have white blotches at the vein intersections

SEEDS



Small, beige and have a darker beige margin

FRUIT



Various fruit forms (bell-shaped, flattened round shaped or have elongated curved or straight neck) and smooth reddish-orange skin

Butternut seeds

<https://www.seedsavers.org.au/wiki/cucurbits-introduction>



Cucurbita moschata pumpkins

Black Futsu

Black JAP

Blanc du Maroc

Butternut Pumpkin

Calabaza

Crookneck

Dickinson

Gramma

Kent (J.A.P.)

Kikuza

Long Island Cheese

Lunga di Napoli

Musquee de Provence

Violina

Cucurbita moschata pumpkins

1. Black Futsu



Rare Japanese heirloom, deeply ribbed small to medium thin-skinned fruit, they change from black to orangy-brown as they mature

2. Blanc du Maroc



Heirloom variety from Morocco, medium-sized and acorn shaped

3. Butternut



Waltham, pear-shaped fruit to 30cm with smooth light brown skin. Ready to eat in 3 months
don't store well

Photos

1. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/black-futsu>
2. <https://www.edenseeds.com.au/Product-Info-Seeds?product=pumpkin-blanc-du-maroc>
3. <https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/pumpkin-butternut-seeds>

Cucurbita moschata pumpkins

4. Calabaza



Or Calabash
Need long warm
growing season

5. Crookneck



Relative of
butternut, high
yielding

6. Dickinson



American heirloom
variety used to
make 95% of
canned pumpkin in
USA, Nearly round,
medium to large
elongated fruit

Photos

- 4. <https://neeraseeds.com/products/calabaza-seeds-for-planting-100-pcs>
- 5. <https://www.pumpkinpatchesandmore.org/varieties-of-pumpkins-master-list.php>
- 6. <https://tomorrowseeds.com/products/dickinson-pumpkin>

Cucurbita moschata pumpkins

7. Gramma



Heat tolerant, typically egg/pear-shaped, with smooth yellow to rusty orange skin that deepens in colour as they mature

8. Kent (JAP)



Australian heirloom from late 1800's, mature late autumn, sweet, store well

9. Black JAP



Rare, deep green to black skin and occasional pale patches and striping, variable size, disease resistant

Photos

7. <https://www.edenseeds.com.au/Product-Info-Seeds?product=pumpkin-gramma>

8. <https://abseeds.com.au/>

9. <https://fairdinkumseeds.com/products-page/vines-and-climbers-of-every-sort/black-jap-pumpkin-cucurbita-moschata-seeds/>

Cucurbita moschata pumpkins

10. Kikuza



Japanese variety
produces many small,
flattened fruit with a
slightly spicy flavour

11. Long Island Cheese



Eastern American
heirloom variety
Orange to brown
medium sized fruit

12. Lunga di Napoli



Naples Long Squash
Huge winter squash

Photos

10. [Kikuza – Seed Savers Connect](#)

11. [Pumpkin Seeds – Epic Gardening](#)

12. <https://truelove seeds.com/products/lunga-di-napoli-winter-squash-1>

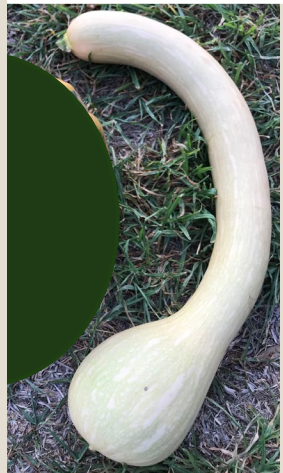
Cucurbita moschata pumpkins

13. Musquée de Provence



Southern France
heirloom, large, tan
coloured, heavily
ribbed found fruit

14. Tromboncino



Zucchini rampicante
From Liguria, Italy
Buff-coloured sweet
flesh

15. Violina



Italian heirloom,
medium to large fruit
shape resembles
violin. Also called
Wrinkled Butternut

Photos

13. <https://www.theseedcollection.com.au/pumpkin-musquee-de-provence-p>

14 mine

15. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/>

Cucurbita moschata squash

Aehobak
Tromboncino

Cucurbita moschata squash

1. Aehobak



Korean Zucchini
Mild, sweet flavour

2. Tromboncino



Zucchetta
Trumpet Zucchini
Mild flavour
Curl grown on ground
Straight on trellis

Photos

1. <https://whitwamorganics.com/products/squash-meot-jaeng-i-ae-korean>
2. <https://www.gardensall.com/tromboncino-trombone-squash/>
- 3.



A. Cucurbita Genus

1. Cucurbita maxima
2. Cucurbita moschata
3. Cucurbita pepo

3 Cucurbita pepo

STEM



Hard, furrowed stem with five distinct angles, hard and thickened at the junction of the fruit.

5 sided, prickly stem

LEAVES



Dark green rounded-triangular, prickly leaves with 5-7 irregular lobes on 6-9 cm long petioles, thin, harsh textured, 3-7 lobes, marginally toothed, 20-35 centimetres (8-14 in) wide

SEEDS



cream coloured with a white margin

No tendrils on bush varieties

FRUIT

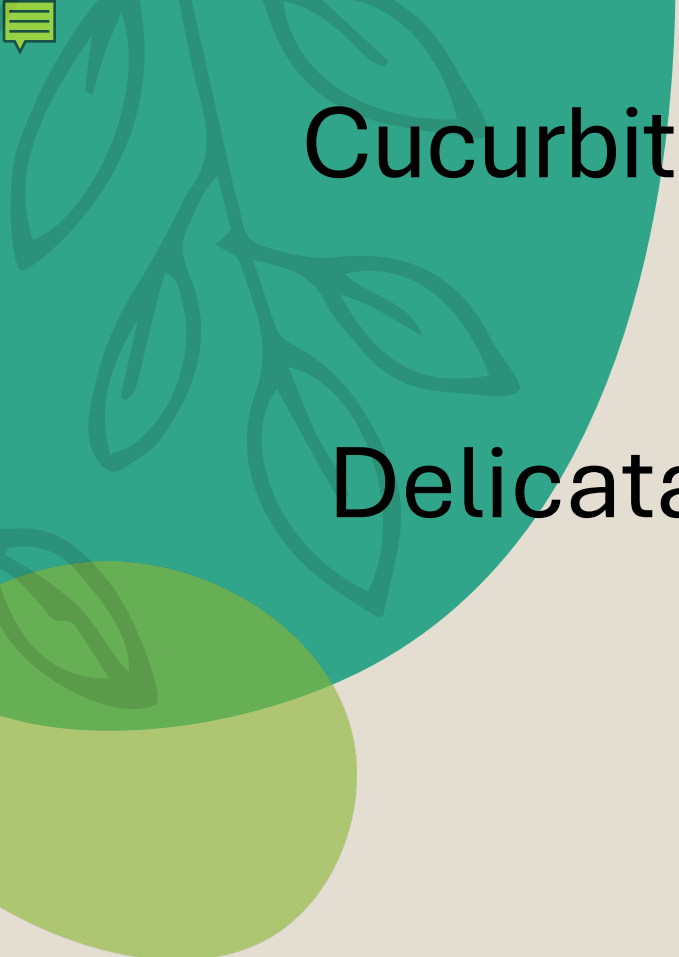


Pumpkins usually have bright orange skin

Squash

Skin white, yellow or green

1. Mine
2. <https://www.seedsavers.org.au/2025/08/01/cucurbita-spp/>
3. <https://ar.inspiredpencil.com/pictures-2023/cucurbita-pepo-seeds>
4. mine



Cucurbita pepo – PUMPKINS (Winter Squash)

Acorn

Delicata (Bohemian, Sweet Potato Squash)

Jack Be Little

Kamo Kamo (Kumikumi)

Pepita varieties (Kakai)

Sugar Small (New England Pie)

Sweet Dumpling

Cucurbita pepo pumpkins

1. Acorn



Native to Mexico,
bush or semi-bush
vine

2. Delicata



Heirloom from 1890's,
cream-colored
cylindrical fruits
striped in green or
orange, can last 3
months

3. Jack be Little



Orange ribbed skin &
flattened small fruit

4. Kumi Kumi



Kamo Kamo,
heritage variety
introduced to NZ
in late 1800's,
ridged round fruit

Photos

1. <https://www.pumpkinpatchesandmore.org/varieties-of-pumpkins-master-list.php>
2. mine
3. <https://www.edenseeds.com.au/Product-Info-Seeds?product=pumpkin-jack-be-little>
4. Atlas of Living Australia <https://bie.ala.org.au/species/https://id.biodiversity.org.au/node/apni/2909084>

Cucurbita pepo pumpkins

5. Pepita



Kakai, hullless (naked) seed, harvest pumpkins when stem starts to dry and fruit goes from green to streaky yellow. Collect seed immediately.

6. Sugar Small



New England Pie
Heirloom from 1800's, flattened globe-shaped to 30cm, good for pumpkin pie, prolific

7. Sweet Dumpling



Small bushy plant, small fruit, white with green striped skin with sweet, orange flesh

Photos

5. mine

6. <https://www.theseedcollection.com.au/Pumpkin-Small-Sugar>

7. <https://www.edenseeds.com.au/Product-Info-Seeds?product=pumpkin-sweet-dumpling>

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Cucurbita pepo- SQUASH

Bennings Green Tint

Cocozelle

Early Summer

Marrow

Pâtisson Blanc

Scallop (Pattypan)

Spaghetti Squash

Yellow Crookneck

Zucchini (Courgette)

Cucurbita pepo var clypeata squashes

1. Pattypan squash



2. Bennings Green Tint



Heirloom from 1914. Pale green to grey button, scalloped fruit

3. Yellow Bush Scallop



Chinese heirloom. Oval-shaped fruit, harvest when change from green to yellow and < 9 cm diameter

Photos:

1. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/bennings-green-tint>
2. <https://www.liveeatlearn.com/types-of-zucchini/>
3. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/yellow-bush-scallop>

Cucurbita pepo squashes

4. Crookneck Squash



Long, bumpy yellow-skinned fruits with a narrower bent neck

5. Marrow



Originated in England in 1800's, C. pepo var. fastigata

Resemble large zucchinis

Tender eaten young < 12cm, peel older fruit

6. Spaghetti squash



Chinese heirloom.

Oblong-shaped, yellow fruit with stringy flesh

Photos:

4. <https://www.everwilde.com/search.html?q=crookneck>

5. <https://heritageharvestseed.com/products/vegetable-marrow-seeds-1824-c-pepo>

6. <https://www.themerchantbaker.com/how-to-cook-spaghetti-squash/>

Cucurbita pepo squashes

C. pepo var. cylindrica

7. Coccozelle



Italian heirloom variety that is dark green with lighter green stripes

8. Lebanese Zucchini



Pale green skin variety

9. Zucchini



Black Beauty

Photos:

7. <https://www.australianseed.com/shop/item/zucchini-coccozelle-cucurbita-pepo>

8. <https://www.liveeatlearn.com/types-of-zucchini/>

9. mine



Cucurbita pepo- GOURDS

Crown of Thorns
Tiny Bottle

Cucurbita pepo gourds

1. Crown of Thorns



Ornamental gourd, 10 cm diameter in variety of colours

2. Tiny Bottle Gourd



Ornamental gourd, 10 cm long, edible when young

Photos:

1. <https://www.theseedcollection.com.au/gourd-crown-of-thorns-p>
2. <https://veggiegardenseeds.com.au/products/tiny-bottle-gourd-seeds>



A. Cucurbita Genus

1. Cucurbita maxima
2. Cucurbita moschata
3. Cucurbita pepo
4. Cucurbita argyrosperma (formerly C. mixta)

4 Cucurbita argyrosperma (mixta)

1. STEM



hard, hairy, is five angled and flares out slightly at the fruit end

2. LEAVES



Round, large, hairy, palmate

3. SEEDS



white or tan and thin cellophane coating
“silver seeds”

Good to eat!

4. FRUIT



pear- and oval-shaped fruits featuring green stripes over a white to creamy base

1. <https://www.seedsavers.org.au/>

2. [PlantFiles Pictures: Japanese Pie Pumpkin, Pipian, Cushaw Pumpkin, Silver-seed Gourd 'Mrs. Aquillard's Cushaw Squash' \(<i>Cucurbita argyrosperma</i>\) by scirpidiella](#)

3. <https://garden.org/plants/view/679098/Winter-Squash-Cucurbita-mixta-Pipian-from-Tuxpan/>

4. Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co

Cucurbita argyrosperma

Cushaw (Or Pipian) Squash

Cucurbita argyrosperma

1. Green Striped Cushaw



2. Orange striped Cushaw



Photos

1. [Green Striped Cushaw Squash – Truelove Seeds](#)
2. [Orange Striped Cushaw Seeds - For 2026 Planting Southern Kershaw | TomorrowSeeds](#)

Cucurbita argyrosperma

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3. Japanese Pie Pumpkin



4. Jonathon Pumpkin



Cushaw White
Pumpkin

5. Pipian from Tuxpan



Photos

3. davesgarden.com/pics/2014/09/18

4. And 5. Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co found in this article <https://www.sowanddipity.com/10-unusual-edible-pumpkins/>

Cucurbita argyrosperma

6. Silver Edged



Native American heirloom. Round or pear-shaped white fruit with mottled green stripes grown for its seeds

7. Tennessee Sweet Potato Squash



American heirloom from 1847 good for pie

Photos

6. <https://www.thelostseed.com.au/silver-edged>

7. www.sowanddipity.com/10-unusual-edible-pumpkins/

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A. Cucurbita Genus

1. Cucurbita maxima
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5. Cucurbita ficifolia

Cucurbita ficifolia squash

1. Chilacayote



Fig Leaf Gourd, Pie Melon, native to central Mexico

large watermelon-like fruit up to 6kg and 20 cm in diameter
with bright white mild-tasting flesh, mature fruit is good in
jams,

up to 500 edible black seeds/fruit

Photo

<https://www.australianseed.com/shop/item/squa-sh-chilacayote-cucurbita-ficifolia>

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Cucurbitaceae family

Cucurbitaceae tribe

A. Cucurbita – pumpkins and squash

Benincaseae tribe

B. Citrullus – watermelon

B. Citrullus lanatus

LEAVES



deeply pinnately
lobed leaves

SEEDS



ovate seeds
appear in many
colors: white,
yellow to brown,
black, or mottled

FRUIT



Round, various
sizes

B. Citrullus lanatus

Jam Melon



Ancestor of
watermelon, high in
pectin, drought
hardy

Watermelon



Sweet once ripe

Afghan or Camel
melon



Bitter, poisonous,
weed

Photos:

1. <https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/melon-jam-preserving-red-seeded-citron>

2. & 3. mine

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Cucurbitaceae family

Cucurbitaceae tribe

A. Cucurbita – pumpkins and squash

Benincaseae tribe

B. Citrullus – watermelon

C. Cucumis – cucumbers and melons

C. Cucumis species

LEAVES



simple, dentate to
deeply palmately
lobed

TENDRILS



unbranched tendrils

FLOWER



yellow corolla is ≤ 3
cm broad and long

SEEDS



elliptic, compressed,
smooth, pale

C. Cucumis species

1. C. sativus



Cucumber and gherkin

Most cucumbers that
require pollination
are self-incompatible

2. C. melo



muskmelon,
cantaloupe, sweet
melon and honeydew

3. C. melo var flexosus



Armenian or Yard long
Cucumber

4. C. myriocarpus



Prickly paddymelon
from Africa, poisonous
globular fruit up to 2 cm
diameter are usually
yellow-green or have
green stripes and
covered with soft
spines

1. <https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/cucumber-beit-alpha-lebanese?variant=39648673333338>

2. https://barossavalleyseeds.com.au/?s=melon&post_type=product&dgwt_wcas=1

3. <https://barossavalleyseeds.com.au/product/cucumber-armenian/>

Cucurbitaceae family

Cucurbitaceae tribe

A. Cucurbita – pumpkins and squash

Benincaseae tribe

B. Citrullus – watermelon

C. Cucumis – cucumbers and melons

D. Lagenaria – gourds

D. *Lagenaria siceraria*

LEAVES



FLOWER



White, open at night

FRUIT



Eaten young as a mild flavoured vegetable or dried when mature for utensils, containers and instruments

SEEDS



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calabash>

<https://www.amazon.com/Types-Calabash-Lagenaria-siceraria-Bottle>

<https://www.naatigrains.com/buy-bottle-gourd-seeds-online>

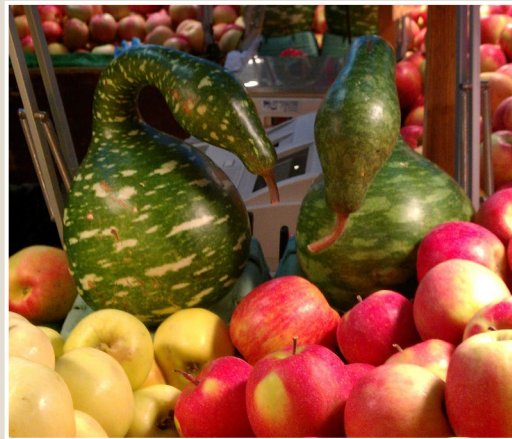
D. Lagenaria (gourd-bearing vines)

Calabash, Bottle Gourd, L siceraria

Bottle-shaped



Crook-necked



“Geese” cultivar
photo Wendy Cutler
wikipedia

Long Cucuzza, Indian
Squash



Southern Italy,
climbing, long, thin,
green fruit with white
flesh that tastes like
green beans

Not typically dried

Huge round gourd



Bowls and spoons
from Mali

1. https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a2/Courge_encore_vert.jpg

3.
4. <https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/bottle-gourd-new-guinea-bean-cucuzza?variant=39648744996954>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calabash>
<https://www.naatigrains.com/buy-bottle-gourd-seeds-online>



Cucurbitaceae genera

- A. Cucurbita - pumpkins
- B. Citrullus – watermelon, Afghan melon
- C. Cucumis – cucumbers and melons
- D. Lagenaria – gourds

Sicyoeae tribe

- A. Luffa – loofah

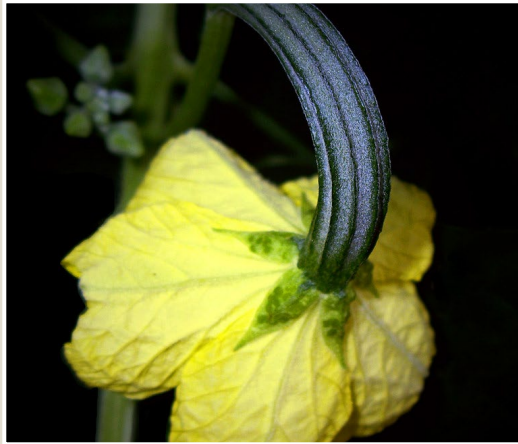


E. Luffa (name of genus)

LEAVES



FLOWER



Yellow or
orange

FRUIT



Eaten young as
a mild
flavoured
vegetable or
dried mature
for sponges

SEEDS



bumpy edge

Loofah sponge



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<https://www.thespruce.com/luffa-a-plant-profile-4796761>

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E. Luffa - Loofah

Sin Qua
Luffa acutangular



<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/horticulture/vegetables/common-growing-guides/asian-vegetables/m-z/sin-qua-empluffa-acutangulaem>

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Sponge Gourd
Luffa aegyptiaca



<https://www.happyvalleyseeds.com.au/products/luffa-gourd-sponge-gourd>



Cucurbitaceae genera

Cucurbitaceae tribe

A. Cucurbita – pumpkins

Benincaseae tribe

B. Citrullus – watermelon

C. Cucumis – cucumbers and melons

D. Lagenaria – gourds

Sicyoeae tribe

E. Luffa – loofah





Zucchini = Cucurbita pepo

Intervarietal hybridisation



Button Squash =
Cucurbita pepo





Interspecific hybridisation

1. *Cucurbita pepo*
2. *Cucurbita maxima*
3. *Cucurbita moschata*
4. *Cucurbita argyrosperma* (formerly *C. mixta*)

Interspecific hybridization example

Tetsukabuto/Late Potkin Pumpkin



Photo:

<https://www.localseeds.com.au/product/potkin-pumpkin/>

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Sechium edule Choko

LEAVES



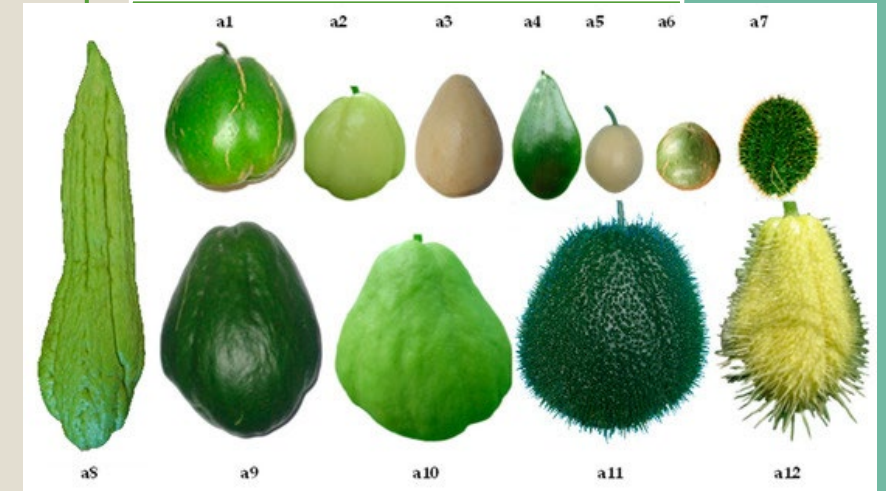
palmate

FLOWER



Tiny,
inconspicuous

FRUIT



Eaten young as a
mild flavoured
vegetable, the
whole fruit is the
seed