Cleaning, drying and processing seed grown for sale – methods and equipment

Harvesting:

- Maximise proportion of fully ripe seed
- Minimise shattering / other losses
- Minimise contamination

- Don't need lots of expensive equipment
- Do need care and attention



Dry seed

- Need Builders bags / Tarps / Dry, clean floorspace
- Thresh, sieve, winnow
- Avoid breaking seed, contamination with dirt
 / weed seeds, damp / mildew





Wet seed

- Care and experience needed to assess when seed is ready
- Need buckets, water supply, sieves
- May need fermentation
- Washing thorough but gentle
- Drying quick enough to avoid moulds, but without harming germination



Drying

- Critically important to get this right
- Damp seed won't store mildews, insects etc
- Over-drying seed may damage germination



- Experience
- Care
- Space