

Seed Saving and adaptation to Ecological Crisis

Andrew McMillion







KVANN

Norwegian Seed Savers





Seed Savers
EXCHANGE®





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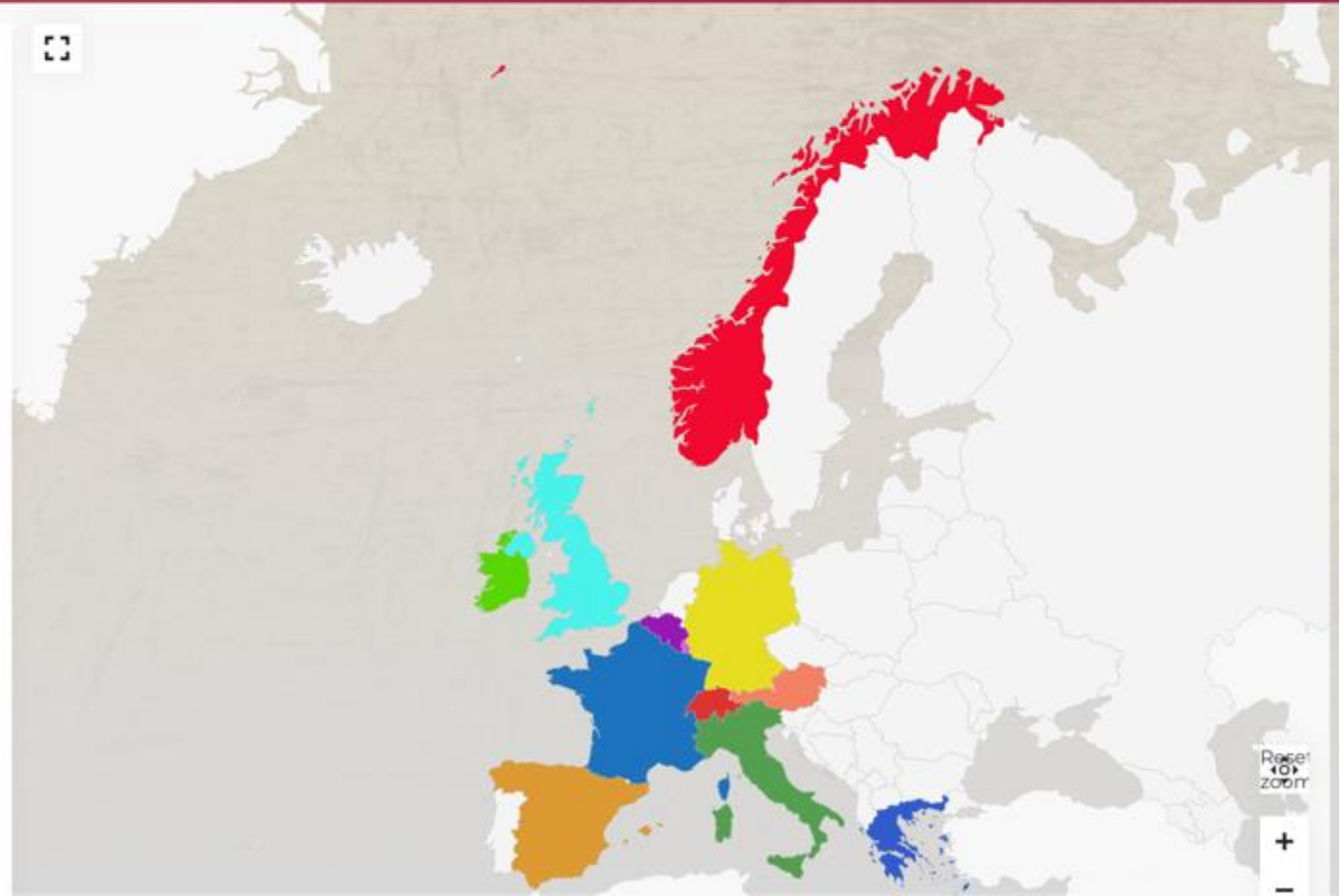
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Reset
zoom



Change in perspective:

- **Measure entropy in systems, not only economics.**
- Control of the means of reproduction.
- Collapse awareness and creative responses.
- Cultivate joy and playfulness.

Schrödinger's Paradox:

Q: How it is that living systems increase their organization despite entropy increasing?



Schrödinger's Paradox:

A: Order from disorder + Order from order
Production + Reproduction





High entropy versus low entropy ecosystems

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Figure 3.9. Pro forma 2017 sales of leading firms after mergers and divestitures

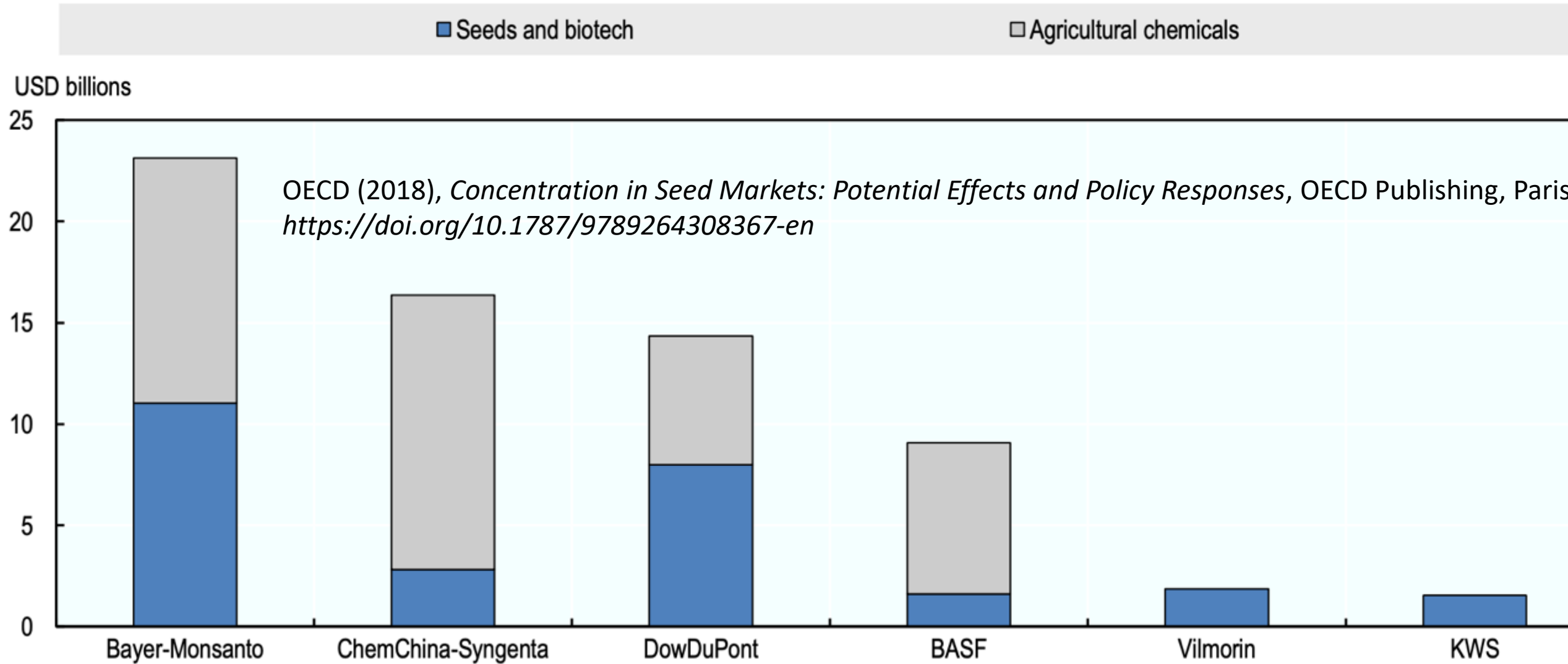
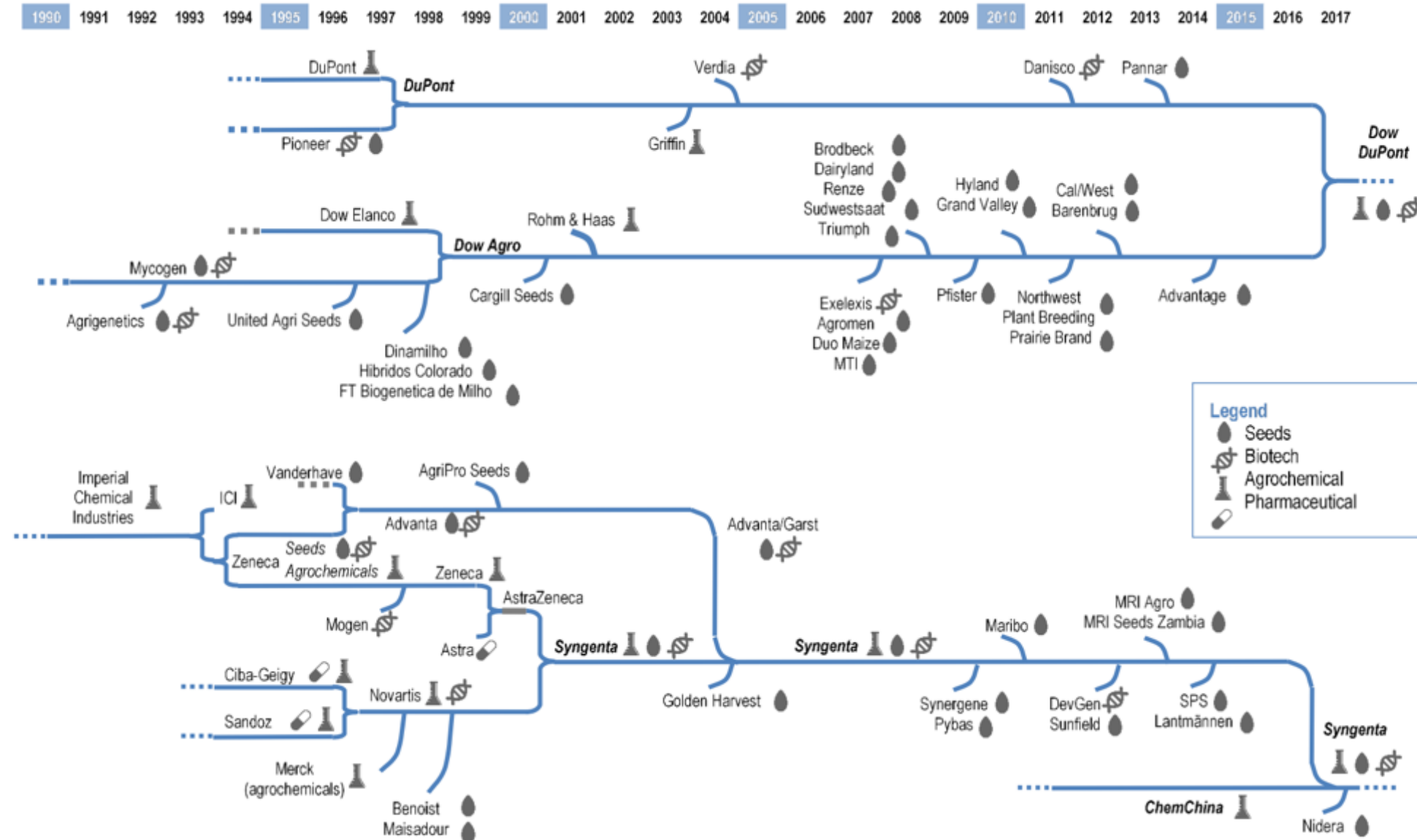


Figure 3.10. Mergers and acquisitions in the global seed industry, 1990-2017

(a) DowDuPont and ChemChina-Syngenta





- UN General Assembly adopted “The Declaration on the Rights of Peasants” (UNDROP) in December 2018.
- Peasants’ rights to save, use, share and sell seeds that they themselves have produced are adopted as a human right.
- Aims to improve living conditions and strengthen the food sovereignty of peasants in the fight against climate change.
- Aims for the preservation of biodiversity.

In Denmark (2015), Frøsamlerne succeeded in changing the interpretation of the Danish seed regulations. This change means that the sale of vegetable seeds to individuals is exempted from the seed regulation.

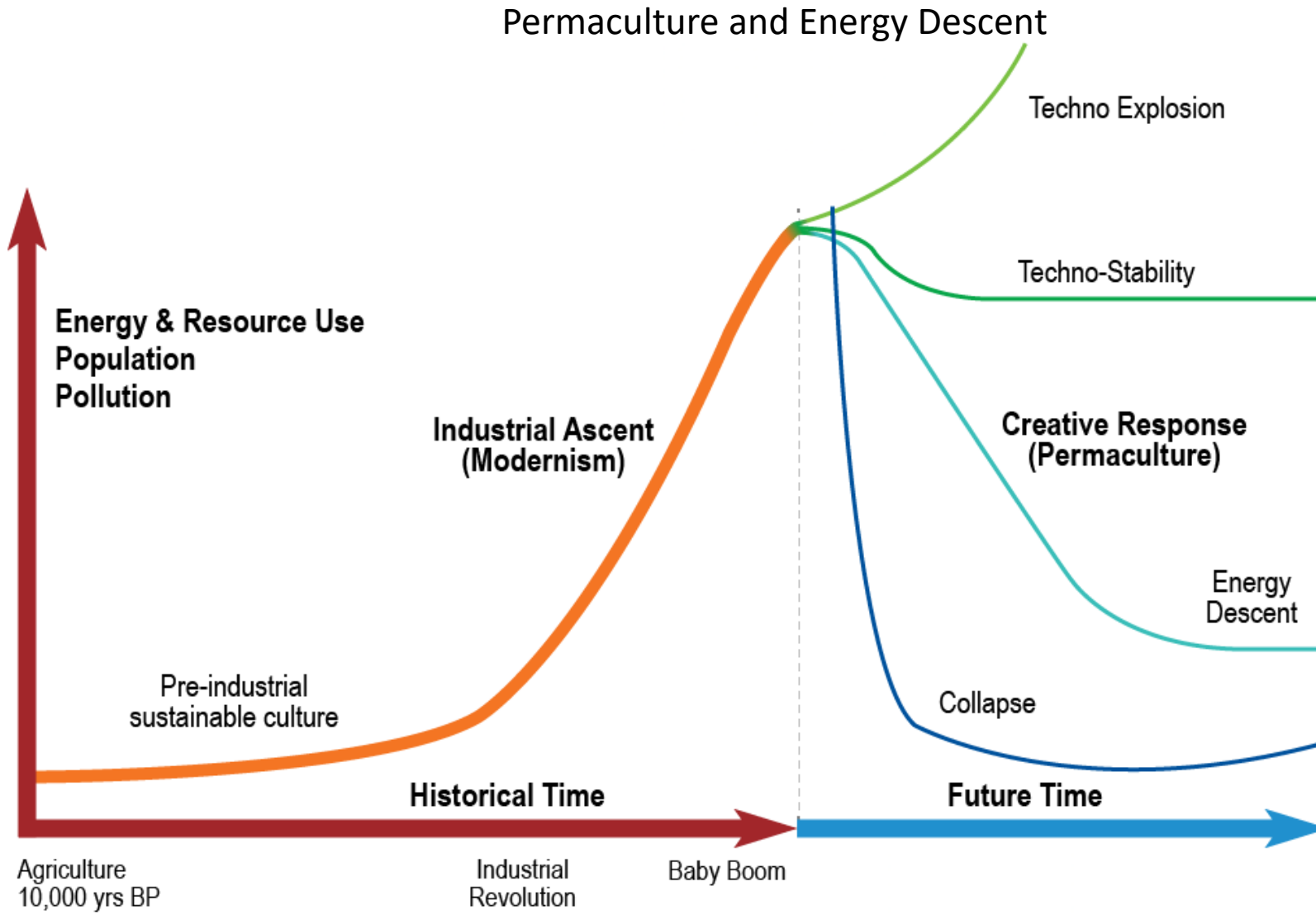


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Peasants right to sell seeds

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The Lost Forest Gardens of Europe

People of the Hazel

MAX PASCHALL · JULY 22, 2020



A Mesolithic shaman's deer headdress from Star Carr in northern England. [Source](#).



Mesolithic people constructed their houses from locally-available materials. Hazel poles often comprised the skeleton of the structure, and reeds like *Phragmites australis* (now endangered in Europe, but a common invasive in North America) were used as thatching. Mesolithic societies were experts at creating thriving societies whose only traces were stone tools and a more diverse landscape. [Source](#).

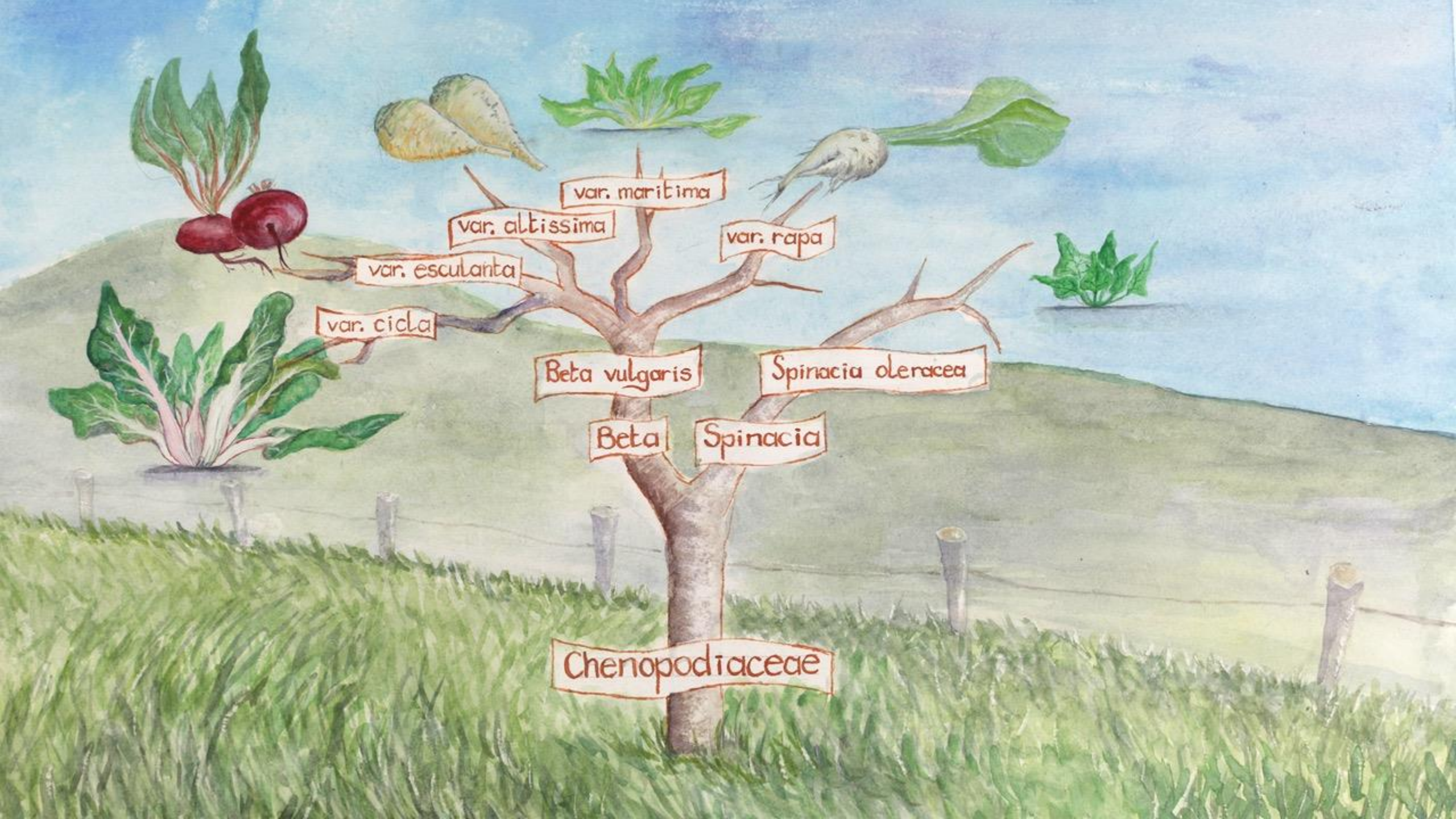




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Chenopodiaceae

Beta

Spinacia

Beta vulgaris

Spinacia oleracea

var. cicla

var. esculenta

var. altissima

var. maritima

var. rapa











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THE AMAZING AMARANTH FAMILY

📅 Posted on July 25, 2020 by [Jill Cloutier](#)

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Episode 32: Meet the broad and beautiful Amaranth family in this episode with farmer and seed saver Andrew McMillion. Andrew shares his experiences propagating and growing Amaranth and tells us about his favorite members in this low maintenance and resilient family including: Orach (*Atriplex hortensis*), Caucasian Mountain Spinach (*Habitzia tamnoides*), Syrian Medieval Chard, and Strawberry Spinach (*Blitum capitatum*).

We touch on the fascinating history of this plant, why Andrew believes it's important to "sow your weeds", and how Amaranth provides him with food nine months of the year. If you're interested in learning how to save seeds, Andrew says Amaranth is a great family for apprentice seed savers to build a relationship with.

There's an Amaranth for every climate- just be aware that they are self seeding and some members of the family can become invasive.

Andrew McMillion works on his small farm in Norway where he stewards a large and growing collection of plants. Andrew is a Board Member and guild leader for several guilds in the Norwegian Seed Savers.

Learn more here:

Email: [Andrew\(at\)NorwegianSeedSavers.no](mailto:Andrew(at)NorwegianSeedSavers.no)

[Norwegian Seed Savers](#)

Listen to a previous interview that I did with Andrew: [Earth Care- How Connecting to Nature Can Change Your Life](#)

<https://sustainableworldradio.com/the-amazing-amaranth-family/>











25/08/2021

Locally Adapting Pumpkins

The perennial plant breeder Wes Jackson once said, "If your life's work can be accomplished in your lifetime, you're not thinking big enough." The joy of working on something that is bigger than you and which connects you to the web of life is shared by all plant breeders. Being linked to the reproductive cycles in...



















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Ancient Garlic: the Perfect Peasant Plant



Andrew Mcmillion / 06/08/2021



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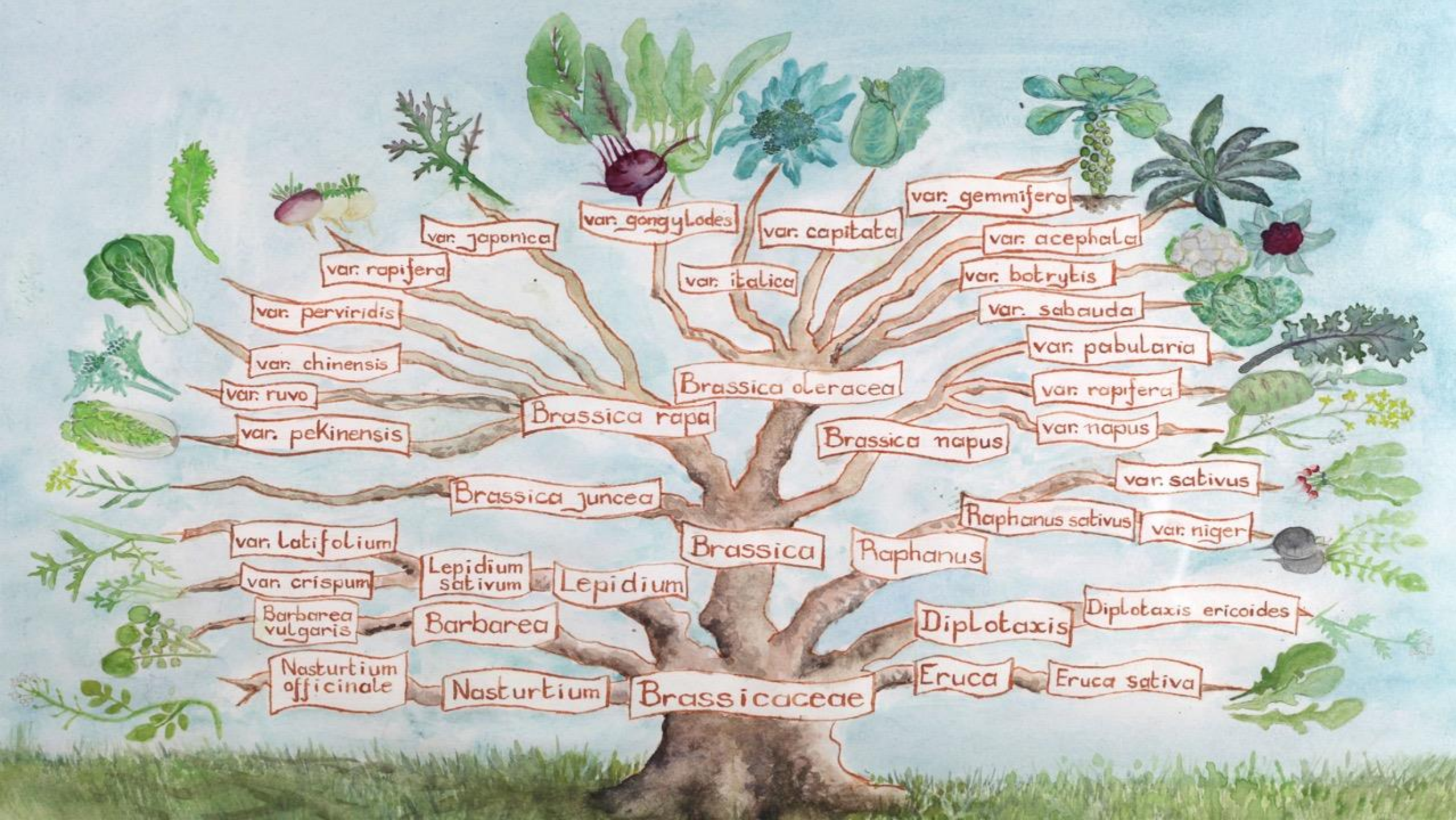
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Diversifying Onions: an update on new onion varieties from the 2021 trial.



















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Udo spring harvest



Stephen Barstow with mature Udo

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