

EDUCATION

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Many seeds and berries are spread by animals and wind. You can see how common this is by scraping mud off your shoes after an Autumn walk in the woods and fields, and planting it. You will be amazed at the variety of plants that spring up.

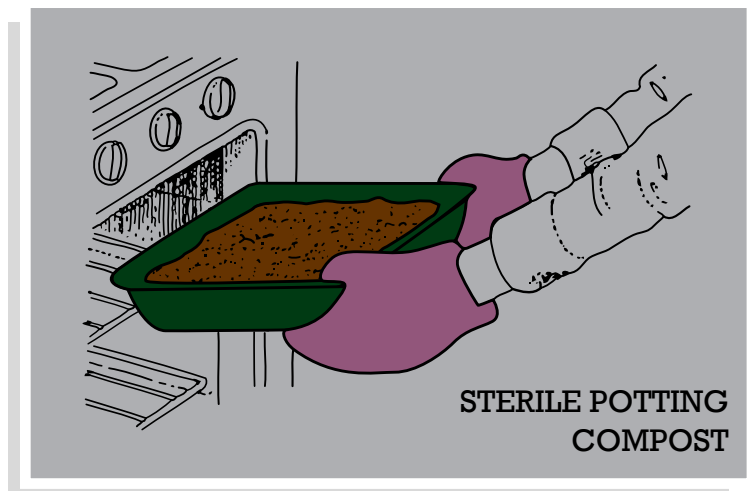
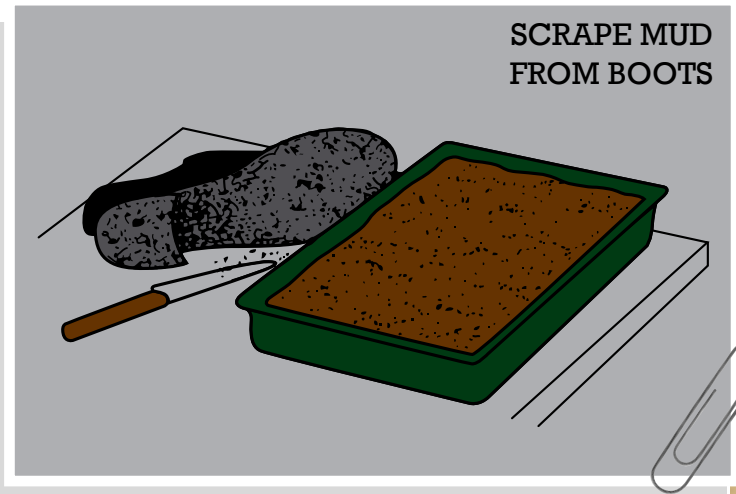
You will need:

- Mud
- Plant pot or heat proof seed tray
- Potting compost
- Sheet of glass or clear plastic bag

1. After a country walk scrape mud from your boots and mix it with water to a semi-liquid consistency and leave overnight to soak
2. Sterilize a tray of potting compost by baking it in the oven. This will make sure it does not contain any other seeds that could grow and spoil your experiment.
3. Add your mixture of mud and water to the compost and cover with a piece of glass in a clear polythene bag. Leave in a warm place, keeping it moist but not wet.
4. After 2 or 3 weeks several seedlings will appear. See if you can identify them

For lots of other plant growing experiments, read:

Gerald Durrell's book *The Amateur Naturalist*
(pub. Penguin)



SEED TRAY

COVER WITH GLASS

