

Better Homes & Gardens

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THIS OCCASION CALLS FOR CAKE
Ina Garten's Favorite Chocolate Cake



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SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

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100 Ujamaa Seeds
ACCOKEEK, MD
UJAMAASEEDS.COM

Bonnetta Adeeb, co-director of Ujamaa Seeds, thinks of the company as a silver lining of the difficult past few years. Early in the pandemic, as interest in vegetable gardening was growing, Bonnetta's youth education and gardening nonprofit, Steam Onward, began accepting donations from seed companies and distributing them to communities in need. Unfortunately, "many of the seeds our communities were requesting were not [the ones] being donated," she says. So she put out a call to food justice activists and farmers asking for more culturally relevant seeds. The response was overwhelming—one Instagram post received over 2,000 replies—and soon the Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance, a group of BIPOC growers, came together. Ujamaa's first catalog includes First Nation, Latin American, and Southern seed collections. When asked to highlight a favorite, Bonnetta quickly says, "Heirloom collard greens. We've got over 25 types of the most gorgeous collards you'll ever see." **Above (from left):** Bonnetta Adeeb with Ujamaa leadership team Fatimah Hasan, Ira Wallace, Paul Lovelace, and Alexis Yamashita (not pictured: Chanda Robinson Banks and Nate Kleinman)

YOU CAN MAKE REAL CHANGE HAPPEN. 🎵 —RENEE SHEPHERD

More Good Seeds

These small companies are also affecting big change.

Adaptive Seeds

Short-season gardeners rejoice: This Oregon-based company offers a range of organic and often rare vegetable and flower seeds that grow especially well in the Pacific Northwest.

Kitazawa Seed Co.

Founded by Japanese immigrant Gijiu Kitazawa more than a century ago, the company sells Asian vegetable, herb, and edible flower seeds you rarely see elsewhere.

Row 7 Seed Company

A collaboration between renowned chef Dan Barber and plant breeder Michael Mazourek, Row 7 has a small catalog of organic vegetable seeds that put flavor first.

Select Seeds

For three decades, this family-owned farm has offered an ever-expanding collection of heirloom flower seeds.

Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Well-known for preserving heirloom crops from the South (including peanuts, roselle, and butter beans), this worker-run cooperative offers over 800 varieties of seeds. ■