SEED SAVING

SEED PACKETS & ACTIVISM

GARDENING

PRINTMAKING

HARVESTING FIBER

PAPERMAKING

COOKING FIBER

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LETTUCE

FIBER COLLECTION RECORD

Your Name	Melissa Potter and Maggie Puckett
Plant's Common Name	Seeds Savers Exchange Lettuce Mixture: Australian Yellowleaf, Forellenschluss, Pablo, Red Velvet
Botanical Name (Latin)	
Date Collected	Thursday August 28
Part of Plant Used	Stalk
How was Fiber Collected	Pulled from Seeds InService bed
Where was Fiber Collected	Seeds InService bed
Weight of Dry Fiber	Used wet, approx 2 lbs

SHEET MAKING RECORD

Length of Cook	First batch 4+ hours; second batch 3 hours
Caustic Used	Soda ash 4:1
Beating Method	Reina 2 lb beater
Sheet Formation Style	Western deckle box with PEO
Formation Comments	short fibers with longer strands throughout that ended up wrapped around blades and at the intake of bedplate
Couching	Pellon
Pressing	Standard, Reina
Drying	Standard, force dry
Sizing/Finishing	N/A
Sheet Size	5.5 x 8.5
Shrinkage	10%
Strength/Absorbancy/ Appearance	Strong, soft and pliable, not rattly

ONION

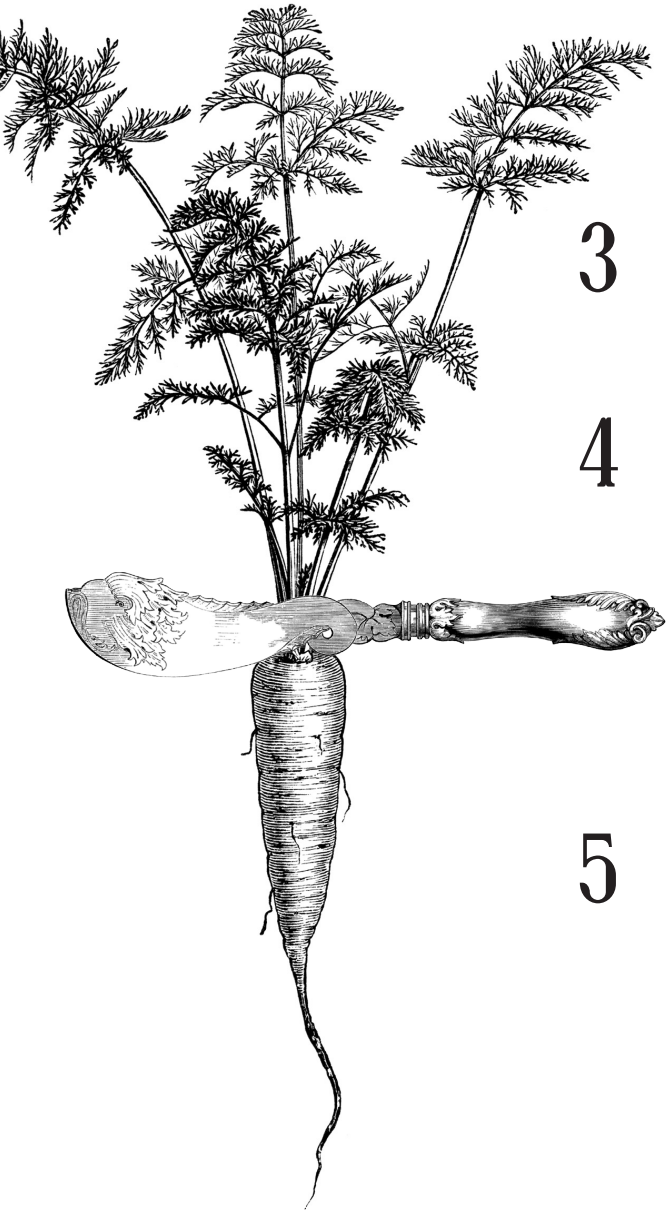
FIBER COLLECTION RECORD

Your Name	Melissa Potter and Maggie Puckett
Plant's Common Name	American Flag Leek and White Lisbon Scallion
Botanical Name (Latin)	
Date Collected	Monday September 15, 2015
Part of Plant Used	whole plant except bulb
How was Fiber Collected	Pulled from Seeds InService bed
Where was Fiber Collected	Seeds InService bed
Weight of Dry Fiber	Used wet, approx 1 lb

SHEET MAKING RECORD

Length of Cook	Two hours
Caustic Used	Soda ash 5:1
Beating Method	Hand beating, finished with blender
Sheet Formation Style	Western deckle box on brass mould 18 x 24
Formation Comments	long, shiny strands like Asian fiber, fairly pliable
Couching	Pellon
Pressing	Standard, Reina
Drying	Dried in heat press
Sizing/Finishing	N/A
Sheet Size	18 x 24
Shrinkage	5 - 10%
Strength/Absorbancy/ Appearance	Brittle, cracks easily / bright green, yellow and cream, lots of strands and fibers in all directions.

PAPER *from* KITCHEN SCRAPS



1 CUT

Save cuttings from woody plants in the freezer until ready to use. Cut plant material into 1-2" pieces.

2 COOK

Cooking plants softens the cellulose fiber and helps to remove non-cellulosic material. Increasing the alkalinity of the cooking water, using either baking soda, soda ash, lime, or lye, can soften even the toughest of plants.
Safety First: Don't get burned! Remember to follow all chemical instructions and rules of the studio when using caustics.

3 WASH

Using a fine-mesh paint strainer, massage the fibers under water to wash away any caustics and non-cellulosic material.

4 BEAT

Depending on the strength and amount of fiber, you can either beat with a flat mallet, in a blender, or in a critter/hollander beater. If using a beater, be sure to periodically check the intake for sunken bits of heavy plant material.
Safety First: Let's keep our fingers. Before checking the intake, remember to always raise the roller to 40, turn the beater off, then unplug the beater.

5 SHEET FORMATION TIPS

Some pulps may need formation aid to help slow drainage. Others may need a carrier pulp (abaca, linen, cotton) to add strength. Experiment and let the plants guide you.

Good Candidates for Paper: Artichoke, corn husks, pineapple tops, garlic and onion skins, green onion and leeks tops asparagus ends, banana peel, wheat grass, okra; plus the woody bits of various cruciferous vegetables such as: Broccoli, Brussels Sprout, Cabbage, Collard Greens, Kale, Horseradish, Rutabaga, Turnip, Cauliflower, Broccoli Rabe, Daikon, Bok Choy, Radish, Kohlrabi. Experiment! Every plant is different.

PAPERMAKING SEEDS *in*SERVICE INSTITUTE

Seeds InService, a project of Maggie Puckett and Melissa Potter, explores social practice and eco-feminism through experimental hand papermaking with fibers grown from heirloom seeds.

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