

HAVE YOU EATEN THIS PLANT BEFORE?



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2.5. EDITED FOR LAYOUT.

 *swipe to find out*

YOU VERY LIKELY HAVE!

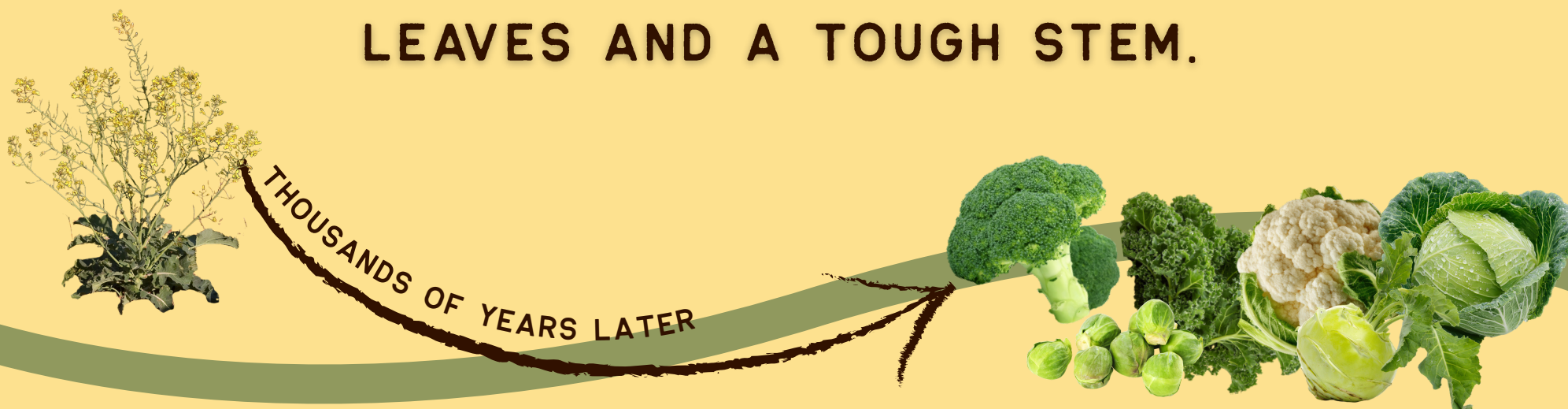


swipe to learn more

CRUCIFEROUS VEGETABLES

MADE BY NATURE - GUIDED BY US

ALL MODERN CRUCIFEROUS VEGETABLES TRACE BACK TO WILD CABBAGE (*BRASSICA OLERACEA*), A ROUGH MEDITERRANEAN PLANT WITH SMALL LEAVES AND A TOUGH STEM.



OVER THOUSANDS OF YEARS, HUMANS SELECTED TRAITS FROM THIS SINGLE ANCESTOR, CREATING ALL MODERN BRASSICAS—TURNING A WILD COASTAL WEED INTO A WHOLE FAMILY OF VEGETABLES.

WE ARE THE SAME SPECIES BUT SELECTED DIFFERENTLY

WHAT STARTED AS A WILD COASTAL WEED
BECAME A WHOLE FAMILY OF VEGETABLES,
SELECTED OVER GENERATIONS FOR DIFFERENT
PARTS AND TRAITS.



OLD TRAITS

- Tough, fibrous leaves
- Bitter flavor (glucosinolates)
- Small plant with loose rosette
- Tall, branching flowering stalk
- Adapted to coastal cliffs and rocky soils
 - Low yield, low edible bulk




NEW TRAITS

- Cabbage: Tight heads, milder taste, better storage
- Broccoli/Cauliflower: Enlarged & dense flower structures
- Kale: Bigger, tender leaves, less bitter, more leaf yield
 - Kohlrabi: Swollen stem, mild, crunchy flesh
 - Brussels Sprouts: Many small heads per stem



WHY WE CAN'T STOP HERE!

MODERN BREEDING IS STILL NEEDED TO DEVELOP CRUCIFEROUS VEGETABLES THAT ADDRESS TOMORROW'S NEEDS BECAUSE:

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- Heat causes loose, open sprouts & poor formation.
 - Black rot & downy mildew pressure increasing.
 - Sprout uniformity and sweetness need improvement.
 - Reduced bitterness is still a key breeding goal.
 - Machines need sturdier, more even stalks for harvest.

BECAUSE THE CRUCIFEROUS VEGETABLES WE ENJOY TODAY WEREN'T BUILT FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GROWING CONDITIONS. BREEDING GIVES US BRASSICAS THAT WON'T BOLT IN HEAT, COLLAPSE UNDER STRESS, OR FALL TO NEW PESTS, ENSURING FUTURE-PROOF HARVESTS.