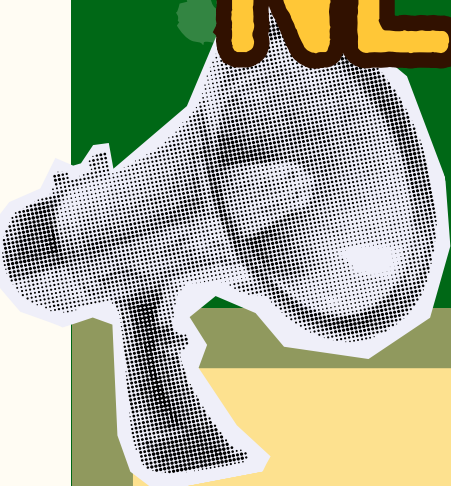


# NEW SERIES ALERT



**MADE BY NATURE – GUIDED  
BY US**

**HOW PLANT  
DOMESTICATION & BREEDING  
SHAPED THE FOOD WE EAT TODAY**

# PLANT DOMESTICATION!



DOMESTICATION IS BASICALLY NATURE ON A LEASH – GENTLY GUIDED BY EARLY FARMING SOCIETIES.

LONG BEFORE UNDERSTANDING MODERN GENETICS, HUMANS SHAPED PLANTS SIMPLY BY SAVING SEEDS FROM THE BEST ONES. THAT UNCONSCIOUS ACT BECAME THE FIRST FORM OF PLANT BREEDING → THE SLOW GENETIC TRANSFORMATION OF WILD PLANTS INTO FORMS SHAPED BY HUMAN NEEDS.

EARLY FARMERS SELECTED PLANTS THAT WERE:

- BIGGER
- TASTIER
- LESS BITTER
- EASIER TO HARVEST
- MORE RELIABLE

OVER GENERATIONS, THESE CHOICES TRANSFORMED WILD PLANTS INTO THE DOMESTICATED CROPS WE KNOW TODAY.



# PLANT BREEDING MILESTONES!

**First crosses:** Farmers grew the best-looking plants close together. Crosses happened naturally and selection was visual.

**Hybrid & Mutagenesis breeding:** Improved cultivars through choice of parental lines & random DNA changes (mutations).

**Modern Breeding:** Breeders use modern genetics, data & biotech tools to develop crops faster and more precisely.

APPROX. 10.000 YEARS AGO

4.000-6.000 YEARS AGO

1866

1920-1930

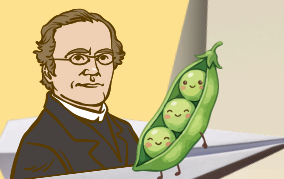
1930-1990

TODAY

**Early domestication:** Farmers chose seeds from the best plants → bigger, tastier, easier-to-grow.

**Mendel's discoveries:** Gregor Mendel uncovered the rules of heredity → modern breeding was born.

**Molecular breeding:** DNA was sequenced (1977) & DNA markers allowed faster and more precise selection starting in the early 90s.



# WHAT THIS SERIES EXPLORES!

EVERY POST WILL SHOW:

- WHAT WILD ANCESTORS LOOKED LIKE
- HOW DOMESTICATION CHANGED THEM
- WHAT MODERN BREEDING HAS ACHIEVED
- WHY FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IS STILL NEEDED

FROM A VARIETY OF PLANTS, WE'LL EXPLORE HOW PLANTS EVOLVED BOTH THROUGH NATURE AND HUMAN GUIDED INTERVENTIONS.

BECAUSE EVERY CROP HAS A HISTORY & A FUTURE.

