

THE MECONOPSIS GROUP SEED EXCHANGE

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Dear Group Member,

It is my pleasure to run the seed exchange for The Meconopsis Group and to invite you to donate seed.

The Seed Exchange has now been established for a number of years and many members have reported fine results from seeds sown. As a Group, we do feel there is still a need to 'sharpen up' on the accuracy of our work with the seed exchange.

I would therefore ask donors to add any supporting information with seed donated from significant taxa. This is particularly important with closely related taxa such as *MM. grandis* and *simplicifolia*, or *MM. latifolia* and *aculeata* as well as *M. 'Lingholm'*. If any of you can support seed collection with a digital or traditional photo of the mother plant this would be most helpful.

A note of warning! If a well-known cultivar (other than *M. 'Lingholm'*) should set seed, as for example 'Willie Duncan', 'Evelyn Stevens' or 'Jimmy Bayne' can do – please do not submit this seed. The resulting seedlings may only add to the confusion that the Group is endeavouring to sort out. If any members feel they would like to carry out a private trial of such seedlings that is a matter of personal choice, we would welcome hearing about your results.

Please send surplus seeds to the above address. If you would like to receive seed, please send a stamped-addressed envelope and a £5.00 cheque, made payable to 'The Meconopsis Group' to cover costs. As is normal practice with seed exchanges, priority will be given to donors. A maximum of ten packets will be sent to each applicant. If anyone would like to receive further packets, there will be a nominal charge of £1.00 per packet subject to availability.

Once I have received a reasonable quantity of seed I will prepare a list of species and fertile hybrids, and **will send this to those who have requested it**. It should be noted that most fertile big perennial blue poppy hybrids will very likely be 'Lingholm' (Fertile Blue Group). If you are not sure of its status please label it Meconopsis Fertile Blue Group or if you are sure that it is distinct from *M. 'Lingholm'* please make this clear.

Please ensure that all seed has been sent to me for sorting by the end of **November 2011**. Many thanks in advance

Yours sincerely,

Jim Jermyn