Good quality seed must be grown, harvested, and processed correctly. 

Quality seed must be clean and dry. Dry to the recommended moisture content (e.g., 13% for maize).

Use hermetic containers (e.g., PICS bags, jerrycans, bottles, etc.) to store seed.

For small quantities of different seeds:

Pack each variety separately in small bags and put them inside a PICS bag.

Use small hermetic containers such as jerrycans or plastic water bottles. Fill to the top to reduce the amount of air, and seal.

For large quantities, use PICS bags.

For seed vendors, pack seeds in small bags (e.g., 1kg or more) and put them inside PICS bags to prevent insect attack.

Recommendations:
- Use 25 kg or 50 kg PICS bags to store seed
- Seed packing should be done near or in the storage facility
- Label all containers with seed variety name and year of harvest
- Stack PICS bags on elevated platforms
- Do not store PICS bags in direct sunlight
- Inspect the stored seed at least monthly
- Test germination before planting or selling

Seed Storage Facts:
- Hermetic storage is a safe viable way to maintain seed quality
- Seeds require minimal oxygen during storage—e.g., less than 2% oxygen after 6 months of storage
- Even when seed is infested, oxygen levels rarely fall below 5%, which is sufficient to maintain seed viability

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