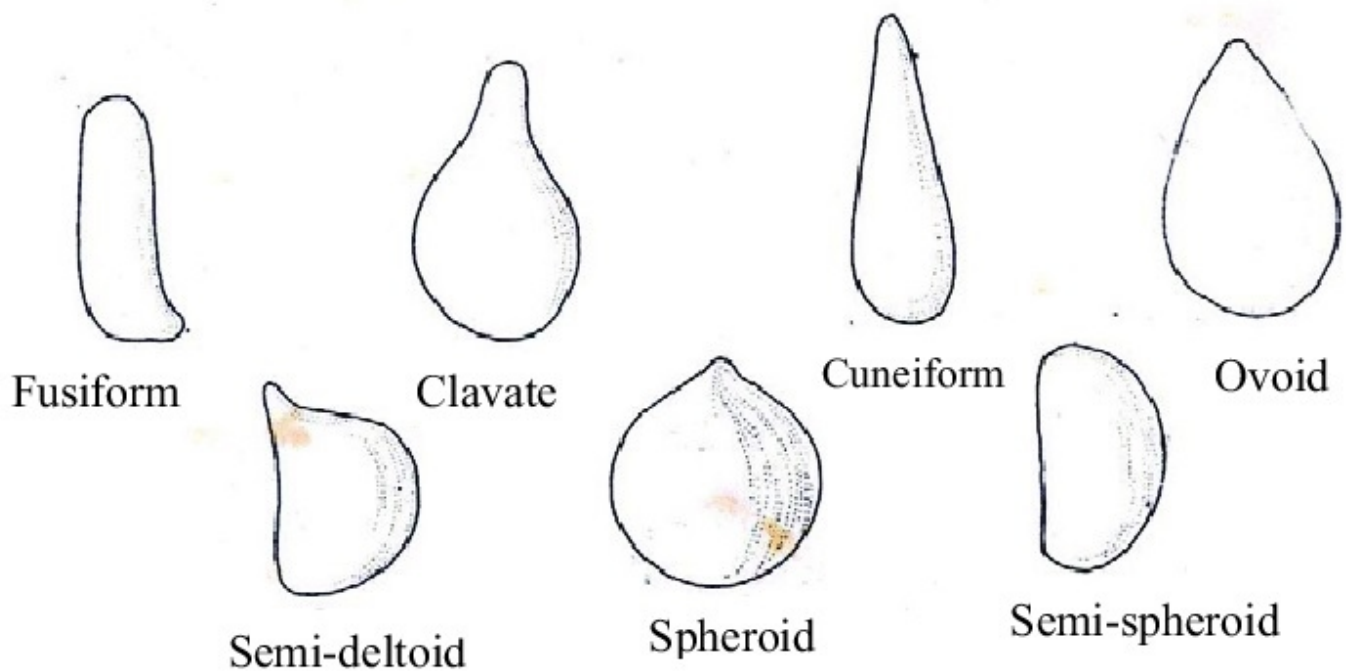


# MICROSCOPICAL EXPLORATION TWENTY ONE

## SEEDS UNDER THE 'SCOPE

It is not the intention of this short microscopical exploration to give a detailed description of the morphology of its subjects, namely, seeds: but it is, however, worth noting that seeds, broadly speaking, can be said to fall into one or other of seven morphological categories, as shown in the diagram below.



As will be seen, there are many variations to the seven seed shapes shown, and I leave you, my valued reader, to decide which category each of the seeds illustrated below belongs to.

For my exploration I have chosen culinary (my designation) seeds, which were bought at the supermarket for use in the kitchen, and horticultural (my designation) seeds which will be sown in the garden and grown into plants.

For the observations a few of the seeds were placed in a plastic Petri dish and viewed using my 1960s Olympus VA-II stereomicroscope fitted with its x1 objective pair. Specimen illumination was provided by a 280 Lumen LED gooseneck spotlight with a colour temperature of 5000K, giving measured illuminance of 500 Lux at the microscope stage.



The images shown below were captured using a Brunel Eyecam Plus eyepiece camera (as shown in the photo above) and Swift Imaging 3.0 software, and are stacks of between three and ten images stacked using Helicon Focus 8 stacking software.

### **CULINARY SEEDS**

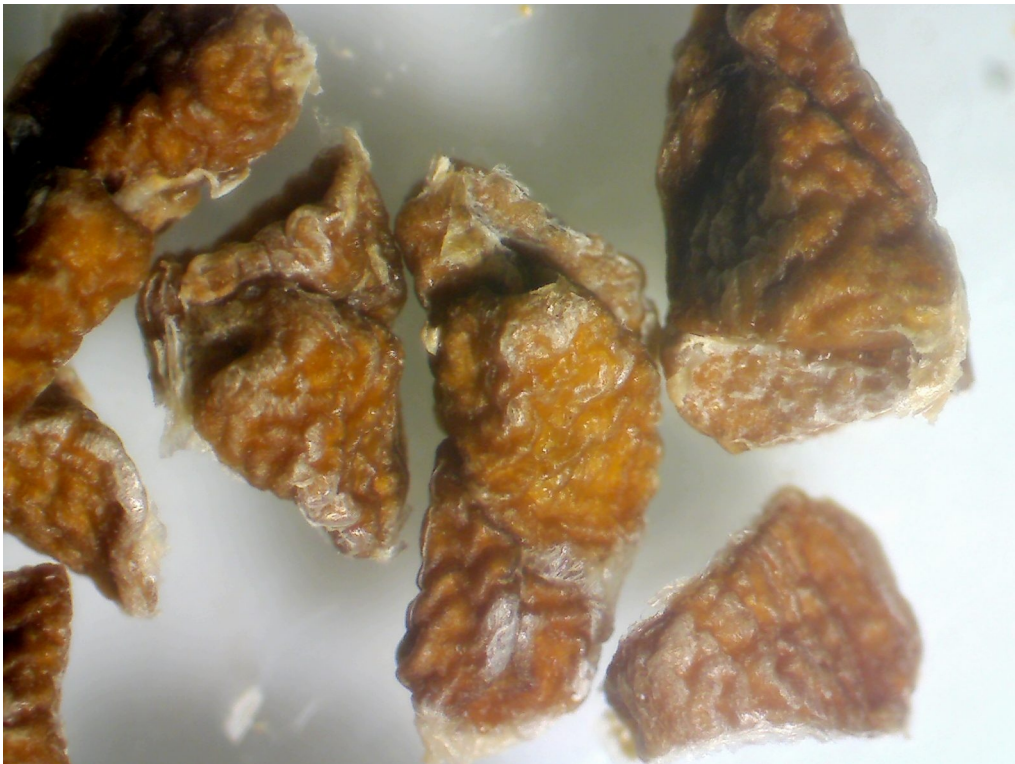
Black Onion seeds AKA Nigella Seeds



Caraway Seeds



Cardamom Seeds



Coriander Seeds



Cumin Seeds



Fennel Seeds



Poppy Seeds



Yellow Mustard Seeds



**HORTICULTURAL SEEDS**

Basil (Sweet) Seeds



Chilli Pepper Seeds



Chives Seeds



Cress Seeds



Dill Seeds





Fenugreek Seeds



Lettuce Seeds



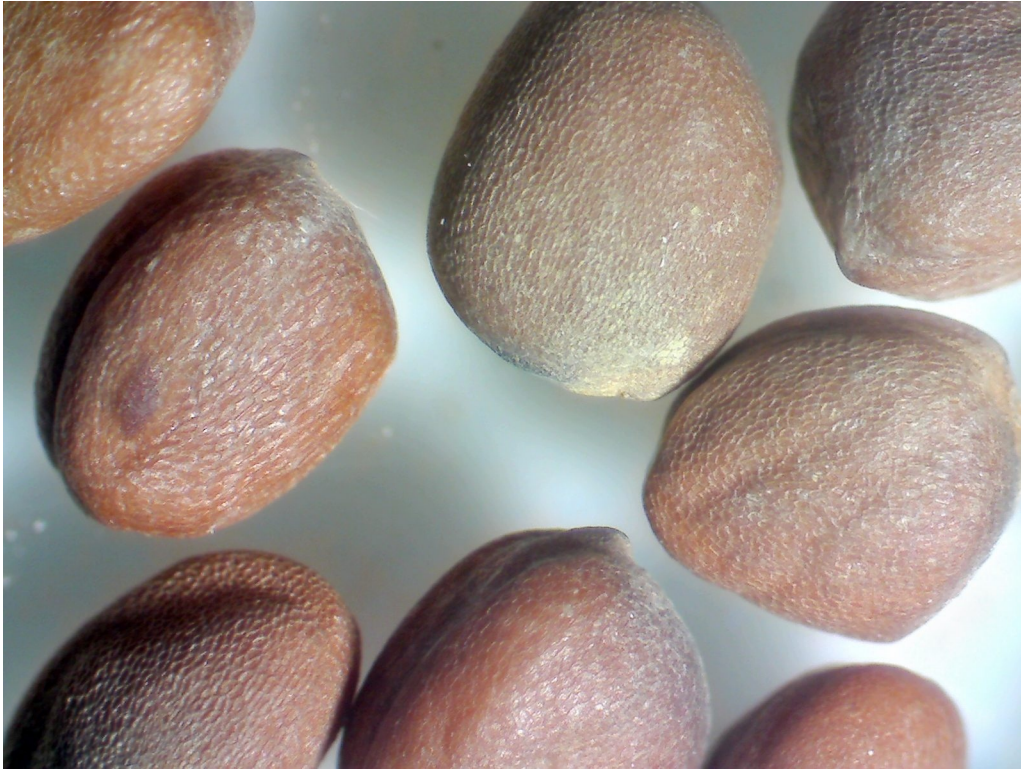
Marjoram Seeds



Parsley Seeds



Radish Seeds



Sunflower Seed



Tarragon Seeds



Thyme Seeds



## Tomato Seeds



**As we say here in Cumbria:**

**‘Ave a go yersel’!**

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