

*Glycine max* (L.) Merr. (Fabaceae)

Seed.

**General shape:** round to oblong

**Normal size:** 6-11 mm L x 5-8 mm W x 5-8 mm D

**Color:** yellow, whitish, brown, black sometimes mottled black

**Texture:** smooth, dull or slightly shiny

**Distinguishing features:** seed globular or slightly ovoid. The hilum is situated in the middle of one longer side of the seed; rather big, elongated oval, about half of the length of the seed and 1 mm wide; either has the same color as the seed or sometimes darker with a clear, median line. At one end of the hilum the outline of the embryo is visible and the other end the micropyle is visible as a small point.

**Embryo:** curved accumbent; cotyledons are big and thick.

Note: the seeds vary greatly depending on the variety regarding the color of the seed and the color of the hilum.



Seeds of *Glycine max*



Seeds under magnification

Images by SNES-GEVES