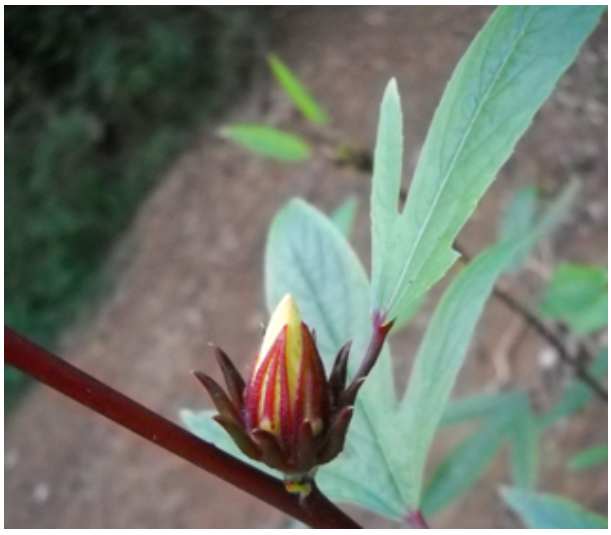
Sorrel Breeding



➔ **At sunset and earlier evening to 10 pm, floral petals start to emerge from the calyx of the sorrel floral bud. The calyx needs to be removed to get access to the petals. The calyx can be removed by bending backward.**

➔ **Floral bud with calyx removed exposing petals.**

➔ **Petals removed exposing anthers and stigma. Anthers need to be ALL removed to ensure no self-pollination. Anthers can be between stigmas and need to be carefully removed. A jeweller's magnified head band with light can be helpful.**

➔ **Anthers removed exposing dark red stigmas. Some anthers are loosely sticking on edges. Cover the emasculated flower with a paper coin envelope and paperclip (paper condom) to protect the exposed flower bud.**

➔ **Emasculated flower covered with coin envelope.**

➔ **In the early morning 5-7 a.m., collect open flower of another variety and pollinate by rubbing pollen on the stigma.**

➔ **Cross pollinated flower with pollen on stigma. Tag flower to identify cross and recover with coin envelope for 24 hrs.**

➔ **Tagged and cover cross-pollinated flower for 24 hrs. to let seed pod develop.**

➔ **Tagged developing seed pod from a sorrel cross after a week.**

➔ **Seed capsules near maturity. Seeds mature in ~4 weeks. Seeds are mature when capsule cracks. Remove cracked capsule from plant with scissors or pruning shears. Air-dry the seed capsule from 4 days to a week so the capsule fully opens. If capsule is left on the plant seeds can be lost or rain can cause germination. One to 25 seeds can be obtained per capsule. Because sorrel self-pollinates naturally, autogamous, it is an inbred and controlled crossing can lead to hybrids with vigor in the F1 generation and larger fruit.**