

# The Resiliency of Hopi Agriculture *2000 Years of Planting*

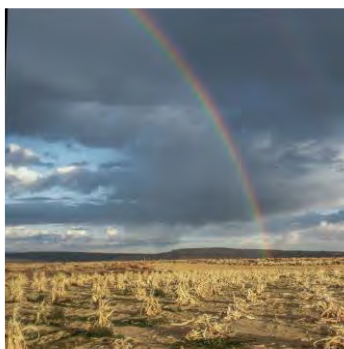


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*All photographs by Michael Kotutwa Johnson, Hopi Reservation, Arizona, 2015-2017, unless otherwise noted.*

# Community-First Agriculture



*Pictures above: Hopi children visiting Michael's fields. Maria Elena Peterson, photographer, 2010. Hotvela (Hotevilla) community members husking corn after a traditional corn roast.*

Hopi agriculture is a way of life. Farming is not just a physical action, it is also an act of faith that has sustained the Hopi people for generations.

Produced by Arizona State Museum with guest curator Michael Kotutwa Johnson, this photographic exhibit illustrates Hopi farming practices, which are based on spiritual beliefs, community values, and ancient, time-tested techniques. The exhibit story expresses the value of Hopi traditional knowledge about farming in an arid environment.

Michael Kotutwa Johnson is a Hopi farmer and a PhD candidate in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment at the University of Arizona. He is devoted to supporting the continuation of traditional values and practices in Hopi agriculture. This exhibit combines Michael's photographs of his own fields with historic photographs from the collections of the Arizona State Museum and other institutions.

Michael Kotutwa Johnson, exhibit guest lead curator  
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# Resiliency of Traditional Knowledge and Practices



*At one time, Hopi farmers grew 21 varieties of corn. Today, most Hopi farmers only raise blue, yellow, and white corn. I plant nine different types of corn. —Michael Kotutwa Johnson.*

We consider ourselves stewards of the land, not owners of it. Our farming techniques are environmentally friendly, low impact, and have sustained generations of our people. Hopi farmers continue to plant using traditional techniques honed over centuries. We continue to rely upon our holistic knowledge of the environment. This same knowledge in Western society encompasses the diverse scientific disciplines of agronomy, hydrology, ecology, and genetics.

For more than 2,000 years, Hopi farmers have saved the seeds from our ancient corn. Each year the seeds are planted in our fields using traditional techniques, resulting in beautiful multi-colored ears of corn. These are harvested for food, ceremonies, and seed. Hopi agriculture produces an abundance of diverse crops. Through careful selection of seeds and storage, this biodiversity is preserved for future generations.



Scan the QR Code to discover more about the resiliency of Hopi agriculture.



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# Tracing, telling sharing your tradition



The International Traditional Knowledge Institute, U.S. Chapter (ITKI US) promotes projects to support Local Communities in leveraging their unique Traditional Knowledge. ITKI US supports TRusT™, a Web App which consists of a storytelling and tracking platform. It is user-friendly and permits clear and direct communication among producers, chefs and consumers through the simple use of a QR Code.

TRusT™ for ITKIUS offers each visitor the opportunity to discover a world rich with tradition and information.

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