1. Collect only fully ripe fruit. It’s better to be over ripe than under ripe.

2. Remove calyx and clean by rinsing with tap water.

3. Fill blender 3/4 full with fruit and top off with tap water and pulse fruit and water until blended (no more than 10 seconds). Do not over blend, may damage seed.

4. Pour mixture into a clean five-gallon bucket.

5. Repeat steps 2 to 4 until all fruit is blended. Do not fill bucket more than half way as it is difficult to remove the pulp when the bucket is too full.

6. Label and cover bucket for several weeks in a dark place at about 25° C for fermentation. A foul smell and a fungus mat will appear, this is normal. Mash with a potato masher to help break down the skins. When the seeds fully separate from the pulp the process has done as much as it can. This can take up to 5 weeks in some cases. It is ok to occasionally stir the mixture to speed up the process.

7. At the end of the fermentation period, carefully scoop as much fruit pulp off the top as possible using a strainer. As the mixture ferments the fruit pulp rises to the top and the viable seeds sink to the bottom. It is often possible to strain nearly all the pulp off the top without disturbing the seeds on the bottom. You can stir the mixture, but allow the bucket to sit for an hour or more to allow the seeds to settle to the bottom again.

8. Once nearly all the pulp has been strained off the top, add tap water and pour off remaining pulp. It may take several pour offs to get the pulp out of the bucket. It is often useful to pour the mixture onto window screen to separate the seed from the water. The seed and pieces of pulp can then be washed by spraying with a water from a hose at moderately high pressure.

9. Once all the pulp is removed collect all the seed in a flask. The size of the flask depends on the amount of seed harvested. Add 10 grams of Tri-Sodium Phosphate (TSP) per liter of deionized water. Place on a stir plate and mix for 10 minutes to further clean the seed and remove remaining germination inhibitors that are bound to the seed coat.

10. Rinse the seed thoroughly with tap water to remove all residual TSP. It can help to put the seed on window screen for rinsing.

11. Place the rinsed seed on window screen at room temperature next to a fan for 2-3 days to dry the seed. The seed will form a mat as it dries, but it will crumble easily when dry.

12. Place the dry seed in an envelope, label it, and place the envelope in an air tight jar in a freezer with a bag of desiccant. It is usually good to do a germination test of a small sample of the seed to establish initial seed viability and vigor. Put the date and germination percentage on the envelope for storage.