

I'm guessing - About 10-15 years ago, at a family gathering, my brother held up a small baggie of these Lima bean seeds and asked if anyone wanted them. We all said no. He continued with this story:

From Ohio A gentleman came up to Hart/Shelby (Mich) to pursue a love interest he met online. This love interest was a very good friend of my brother's wife. They did indeed fall in love and socialized often with my brother. Some time during their friendship, he gave my brother these beans and explained that his family has been growing these for as long as anyone can remember. There was no one left in the family to grow them and he was done with a garden (he was not a young man then). Butch took them (he gardens, but didn't want them) and didn't know what to do with them. Well, I ended up taking them, reluctantly, because up here in NW Mich' I have never had a successful crop of Limas tho I've tried many times. I also was curious about the variety. - They were darker than they are now. I know that it's because the seeds

were at least a couple years old by then - and mine darkened after a year or so waiting for the soap pot.

Anyway - I was just getting into OP varieties - so I searched the 'net to find out what they are - I couldn't find them anywhere, I planted them - and to my profound surprise - they thrived! I lost most of that first crop due to them popping open and getting moldy. which is their only downside - mold - if left to suffer the late fall cold rains - the plants can get pretty moldy - but harvested before the cold rains come - they are fine.

Over the years, I've not had any luck finding this bean anywhere else. A couple years ago, I contacted Baker Creek and asked if they'd be interested in some seed. My biggest fear is that these beans will go extinct when I do. They took them and wanted to know as much as they could -

I asked my sister-in-law if she

Could get more info. AFTER some trouble, she finally DID get in touch with the fellow that PASSED the Seed to my Brother.

His name is J.C. Trussell (sp?) AND she Reached him in FLA. She told me that she wasn't sure if he was hard of hearing or had some Dementia but IT WAS A very difficult conversation - she saying that she's sure he never really understood what she wanted, AND NO, she wouldn't pass the phone # to me, lol. He is considerably older than me (I'm 62)

He told her that his pappy lived in Choctaw, MS AND that his Family HAD been growing these beans for longer than his grammar knew.

So the Traveller part comes from the fact that they traveled from Choctaw, MS TO HART, MI, VIA AT LEAST Ohio - the other part of the "Traveller" is the part about the pods flinging the seeds.

That's all I know. I plant them around the LAST FROST DATE, thin them to no less than 12" (gonna space them further apart this year) AND forget them.

About  
mid-Sept.

RIGHT AFTER The Wheatland Music Festival, I wander Down AND START pulling up plants AS They Are just STARTING to pop. For my Seed, I save Seed from only Those Plants That Are Covered with Pods - AND - IF not All, Then Certainly Almost All The Pods Are Dry (selecting for early and productive). I only save The Seed from 4-bean Pods. Most pods Are 2 And 3 Seed pods. They Are Trouble Free And Vigorous plants. Wet Summer, Dry Summer, Hot Summer, Cool Summer, Cool Spring, etc. They Are not bothered by Anything but Late Season COOL RAIN.

I AM currently shucking my Crop - I'm About 60% done And have 8 #<sup>s</sup> of Dry BEANS - I planted A 100' Row. Others may do better, but These beans Do better Than Any Dry bean I've ever grow - oh, And I'll eat fresh limas until harvest - The green ones go in The Freezer at harvest. This year IT WAS one one gallon Zip lock full.

The beans I'm sending you are just MAIN-CROP beans. The Smallest Baggie is a sample of the beans I have selected to be my next year beans. The earliest and most productive plants from 100 foot of Row.

I also threw in some Velour green bean seeds - just in case you might enjoy them. They are a Purple French Filet bean that are absolutely yummy and profoanply productive - almost all summer long. They cook up green, not purple. Some of these plants are so productive that the plant breaks off from the weight of the beans. They are long and thin and need to be picked early and often. A fifty foot row of these puppies produces enough beans for two families - for a year.

Good Luck and Thanks for passing these out. If you know of any seed company that might like to offer them, I would like to send them a starter supply.

Thank you!  
Doug