

Let's Liberate Diversity 2012

CELEBRATING CROFTER'S SEEDS & BREEDS

The Crofters

Scotland's 17,000 crofts provide a home for over 30,000 people in the Highlands and Islands. One tenth of Scotland, three quarters of a million hectares, is in crofting tenure. The Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) is the only member-led organisation dedicated to promoting crofting and it is the largest association of small - scale food producers in the UK. The SCF works to safeguard and promote the rights, livelihoods and culture of crofters and their communities, including the recognition, endorsement and promotion of native crops and breeds and the recognition of non - market goods produced by the maintainers and keepers of the crofter's native seeds and breeds



Scottish Highlands 9th to 11th March 2012

The Let's Liberate Diversity forum is an annual gathering of farmers and associations from all across Europe, brought together in a European seed network. The next forum is the seventh and will take place in Strathpeffer from 9-11 March 2012. The theme of next year's event is Celebrating Crofter's Seeds and Breeds and how these contribute to sustainable land use, agricultural biodiversity and the high nature value of the crofting counties – also known as the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The draft programme includes a poster exhibition, seed exchange, film festival, and workshops on Keeping seeds alive: linking on-farm

and ex situ (genebank) conservation and use; EU legislation on seeds; Alliances with consumers and environmentalists; Sustaining Native Breeds and North-South Exchange of pastoralists; The international agenda: international treaty on plant genetic Resources, Earth Summit 2012; Realising food sovereignty – struggles for land, diversity and farmers' rights.

The event is being organised by the European Coordination of Let's Liberate Diversity in conjunction with the Scottish Crofting Federation, Heritage Seed Library/Garden Organic, Practical Action and other members of the UK food group . With support from the EU



If you are interested in attending or for more information visit www.Liberate-Diversity-Scotland2012.org

