



Beginner Breeder Tips

GrowPass Advice for Breeding

Breeding cannabis can seem daunting, but here at GrowPass we believe that growers can make breeding easy and fun, and everyone should try their hand at breeding at least once during their career.

That's why we've created **GrowCast** Tips for Breeding. This guide will aid you in your journey to create a truly unique variety of cannabis. Happy breeding GrowPass Members!

General Tips:

-Decide Your Values: As a breeder, people will identify with the things you focus in on within your breeding. Do you want to breed balanced, medicinal strains? Or hard hitting, intoxicating ones? Uplifting pinene rich strains? Or couch lock buds full of myrcene? Decide what you're "going for," and let your audience know what your values are!

-Breed For Your Taste: When you're the breeder, you're in control! If you're always chasing the new hottest strain, you'll never express yourself uniquely. Add genetics into your work that speak to you personally, don't just follow the hype or folks might not follow you!

-Be Generous: So many breeders have said the same thing, give value, and the following will come! Make sure to be generous, focus on the community over profit, and the abundance will come. When a breeder gives out freebie seeds, discounts for veterans, or does follow up chats to make sure their customers start off on the right foot- that could make all the difference in their sustained success!

Technical Tips:

-Neutralize Pollen With Spray Bottle: Pollen is pesky, it's designed to travel, spread, and contaminate. You can reduce overall pollen spread by dampening it a few minutes after application. A simple spray bottle with plain, clean water will dampen pollen and prevent it from becoming airborne.

-Pollinating Individual Branches: Got only one female to pollinate, but want to breed multiple strains? No problem! Just place your different pollen in an envelope or baggie, and carefully slip them one at a time over different

branches. Tag the branches to label which males pollinated which branches, and voila! Multi branch breeding!

-Find a Special Male: Put time and effort into your male selection, select males based on vigor and plant structure- rub the plant to gather a scent, gather any info you can to work on. You won't really know if it's a keeper until you breed with it, but male selection is one of the most important factors to successful breeding!

Things to Avoid:

-Take Your Time Getting Started: Make sure you have enough space and all the needed equipment, don't rush into getting started, study and planning pays off! It's not a race, it's a lifelong journey!

-Lack of Space: Obviously, spacing is critical. If you are growing for bud and also breeding genetics, make sure that there's no chance your little hobby project could pollenate your main room and ruin your harvest!

-Don't Overprice Yourself: If you plan on distributing, don't overprice yourself, especially in the beginning. Focus on giving value and making valuable connections in the breeding space- the profit will eventually come, as you benevolently build a following!

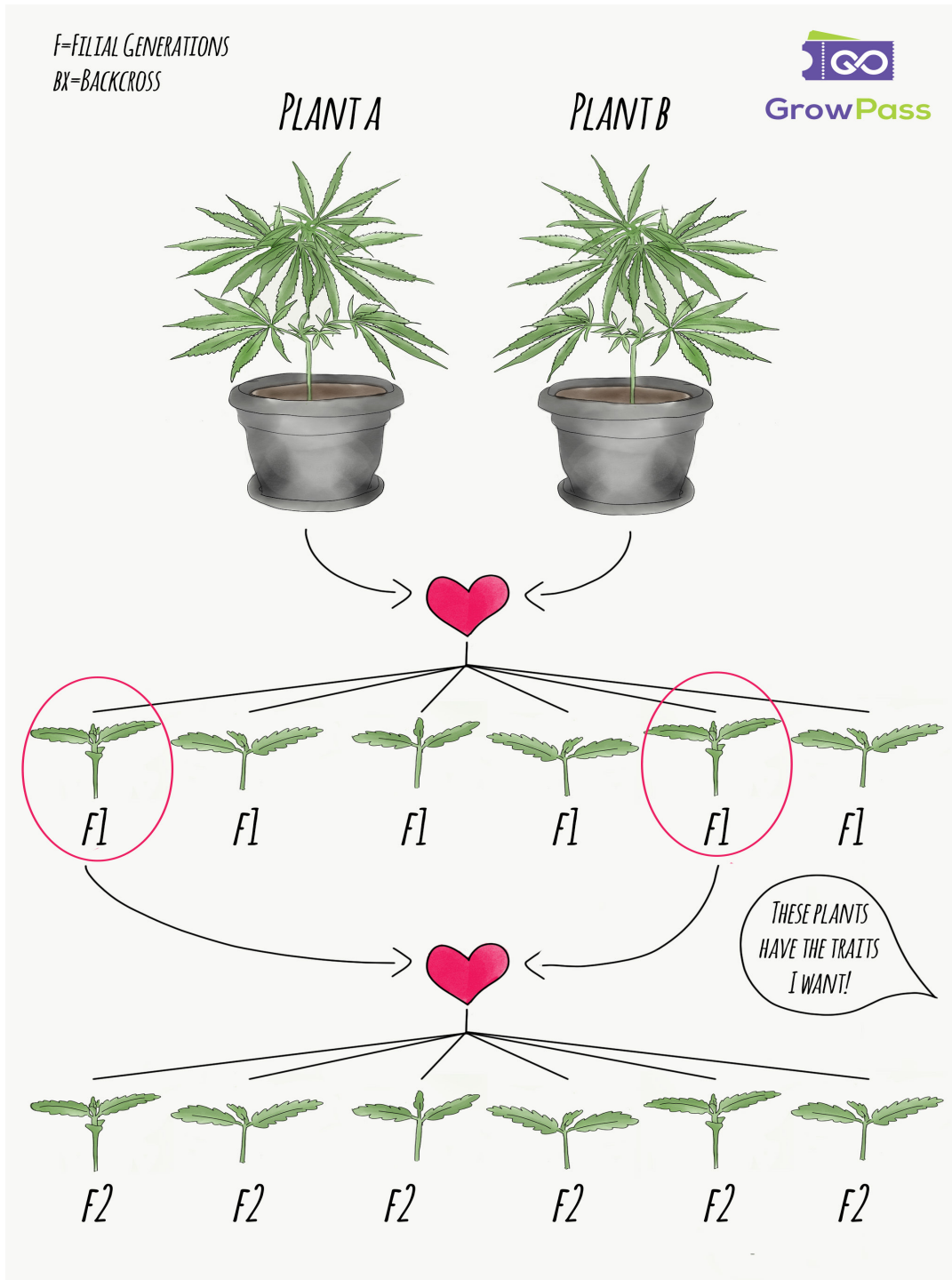
-Be Patient When Stabilizing: Don't rush your inconsistent product to market and regret it later- take your time, and make sure that when you launch a line, it's 100% ready! There's no taking it back once it's out in the world!

Breeder Terminology

F = Filial Generation

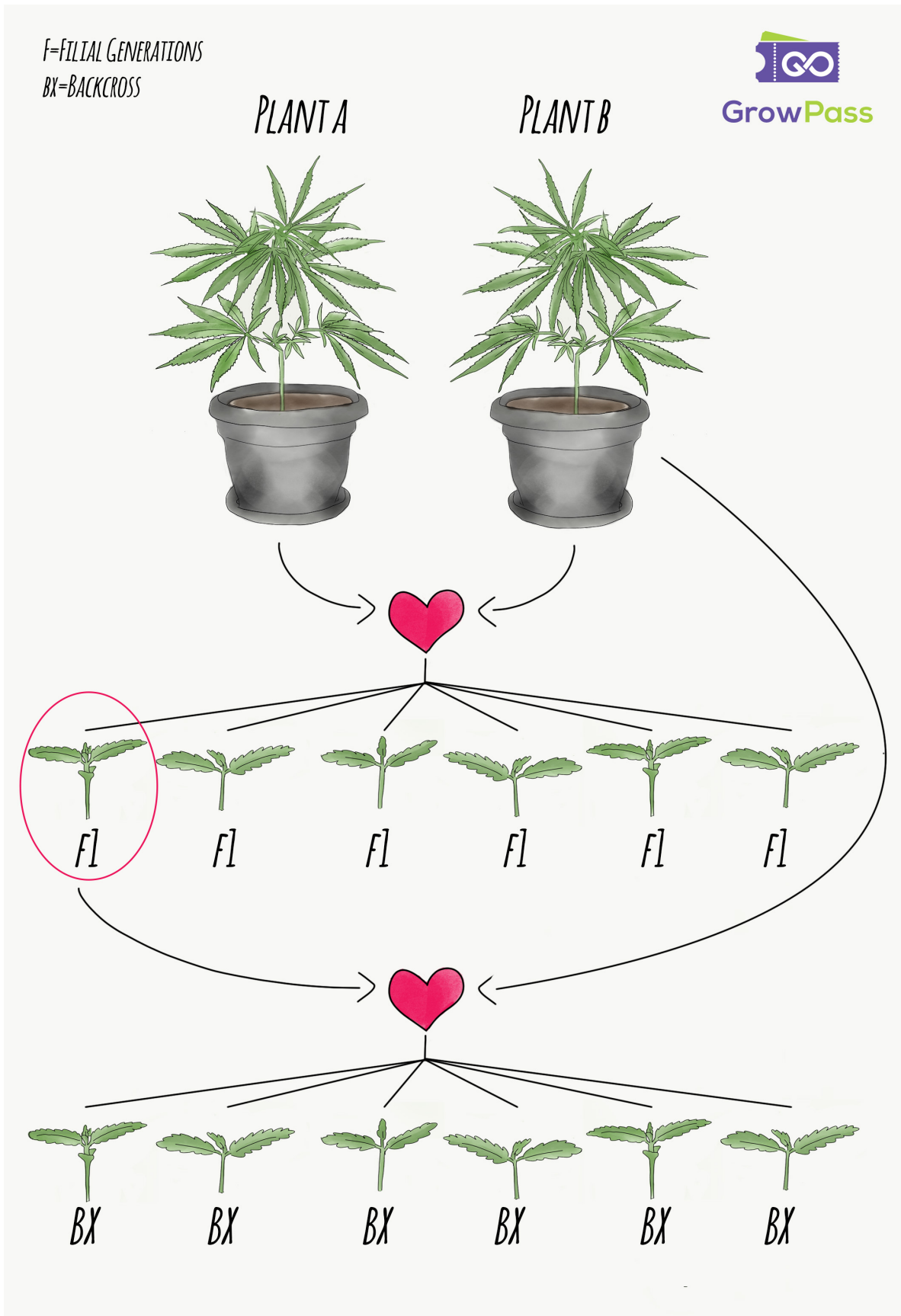
When breeding new cannabis strains, the product of the two parents (plant A and plant B) creates the next generation, known as the first filial generation, or F1. If two F1 plants are then bred for the next generation, that generation is considered F2.

The further the filial generation, the more uniform the plants expressions will be (assuming they were selected correctly). Some breeders prefer to bring their strains to F5 and beyond for uniformity, while others stay at F1 and F2 as to not lose possible special expressions.



BX = Backcross

Backcrossing is a simple breeding process where an F1 plant is selected, and then bred back into one of its parents (plant A or plant B). This is specifically useful when you're trying to take one specific trait from one parent, and incorporate it into a new strain.



S = Self (feminization)

Selfing a plant is the act of pollinating a female with feminized pollen from an intentional hermaphroditic female plant. Breeders nowadays usually apply a special spray -often containing colloidal silver - to a female plant in order to get the plant to "reverse" and produce pollen missing the Y chromosome. Once this pollen is applied to another female plant, the resulting seeds should all come out female when cultivated!