

TRUE STORIES

Are Seeds Useful to Men?

For lunch last Sunday Rosa had the following: boiled rice, *lumpia*, chicken stew, corn-on-the-cob, and chocolate ice cream. Some of the ingredients in the *lumpia* are *chicharo*, soya bean cake, cabbage, pork, and shrimps. Her dessert was *palitao* with sugar, coconut, and *liñga*.



Can you make a list of the different kinds of seeds in Rosa's meal? Think of the seeds you had for breakfast and other meals. Now, state one use of seeds to men.

Later winged males and females come. They develop into kings and queens. These have to leave the nests for mating purposes, but they must do so when the weather is mild and sunny. The workers who guard them decide when they should go out.

Once out of the nest, the winged males and females climb up some plant stalks where they can spread and try their wings. Then they fly to great heights and the males and females make love to one another. Shortly after this enjoyment of freedom, the males die. The females who are ready to become queens either start new colonies or go back to the old nest to add to the population of the old colony.



Rosa's father keeps chickens and pigeons. The family can thus have fowl meat whenever they need some. Their chickens are fed with corn and palay; the pigeons with mongo and rice. Give another use of seeds.

How would it feel to take a bath without soap? Oil is an important material in soap-making.

Name a few seeds from which oil is obtained. Can you name other things in the making of which oil is needed?

People who live in the country use plants to relieve pain or heal diseases. Have you seen old-fashioned midwives apply roasted *calumbibit* on babies' navel? Castor oil is made from the seeds of a plant called in Tagalog *tañgan-tañgan*. Ask your grandmother about other seeds used as medicine.

Have you seen baskets and ornamental curtains made from *tigbi* seeds? Fanciful necklaces have been made by girls from ipil seeds.

Write down the different ways in which seeds are useful to men.

