

Association for Breeding Research and Crop Maintenance **Based on Biodynamic Principles** 

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety



Winter leek, blue-green type

**AVANO** 

German Plant Variety Registry Code: PO 28

Updated: 15/02/2017

**Breeder:** 

**Horst RITTER** 

## **Variety Description:**

AVANO is a leek variety characterized by its blue-green leaf color. The leaf positioning is half-upright to horizontal, the length of the shaft is rather short, but can be "lengthened" by appropriate cultivation measures. Bulb formation is hardly present and the leek shaft can be easily cleaned.

The variety demonstrates a very good frost hardiness and can be harvested by overwintering on the field up to April. When allowed to stand on the field later, AVANO develops sturdy stalks with a medium to high overall yield.

## **Breeding History:**

AVANO is a variety that was further bred from BLAUGRÜNER WINTER STAMM L (Hild / Marbach). The selection work began in 1996 at the biodynamic vegetable farm, Piluweri. Particular attention was paid to the length of the shaft, yield, frost hardiness, leaf color, and vitality. Further criteria were a more upright leaf positioning and improvement on uniformity. Since the breeding work was embedded in Piluweri's market garden, the feedback from wholesale and retail vendors, as well as the experience of direct marketing, were included directly in the breeding work. During the entire breeding phase, the biodynamic preparations were used extensively.

The cultivar was approved in 2006 by the German Plant Variety Registry as a strain of the umbrella type BLAUGRÜNER WINTER. Maintenance breeding is carried out by H. Ritter at Piluweri Farm. The Bingenheimer Saatgut AG is responsible, among other things, for the organization of the multiplication and commercialization of the sale seed.