

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

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety



Oak-leaf lettuce

BIJELLA

German Plant Variety Registry Code: **SAS 155**

Updated: 15/02/2017

Breeder:

Thomas HEINZE

Variety Description:

BIJELLA is a reddish-colored leaf lettuce that belongs to the group of oak-leafed lettuces. It grows rapidly and forms a firm, compact head. It's somewhat taller growth makes it stable against rot and allows for a faster harvest. Its resistance to mildew is good, although it can be more susceptible at certain locations. BIJELLA has an excellent flavor and a delicate, crisp leaf consistency.

Breeding History:

BIJELLA came from a single plant, found among a crop of the leaf lettuce TILL. In the year 2000, a reddish-colored plant with open stature and larger leaves appeared in the green-colored TILL. In the further propagation of this single plant, different lettuce types with differing colors appeared. By selecting specific plants and testing the offspring, the original diversity of types was reduced. Certain breeding lines developed that looked promising. Later on, breeding was carried out from groups of lines, and single plant selection was discontinued. The variety BIJELLA was developed over 9 generations by single plant selection and positive mass selection. Breeding was carried out under biodynamic conditions at Th. Heinze's breeding garden.

The variety was approved in 2011 by the Germany Plant Variety Registry. Maintenance breeding is performed by Th. Heinze. The organization of the multiplication and commercialization of sale seed is, among other things, the responsibility of the Bingenheimer Saatgut AG.