

# KULTURSAAT e.v.

Association for Breeding Research and Crop Maintenance  
Based on Biodynamic Principles

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety

Updated: 15/02/2017



**Butterhead lettuce for heated and unheated, glass and plastic, green- houses, for spring cultivation**

## **BRIWERI**

German Plant Variety Registry Code:  
SAK 546

**Breeder:**

**Richard SPECHT**

### **Variety Description:**

BRIWERI is a flavorful Butterhead lettuce for heated and unheated, spring cultivation under glass and plastic greenhouses. It is middle-early, medium-sized, very mildew tolerant, with sturdy green outer leaves. It forms rather smaller but middle-heavy, well-enclosed, solid heads with fairer inner leaves.

Recommended planting dates are from mid-February to mid-March and early September. It is resistant to *Bremia lactucae* (downy mildew): 12, 17, 18, 22, 24, 25. The variety carries its particular strength in its significant field tolerance to false powdery mildew and remains, even after infection onset, marketable for a few days; this is normally not possible with comparative varieties with a performable full resistance.

BRIWERI is a Butterhead lettuce with a pronounced head formation and very good flavor. The good head formation gives bleached, fair inner leaves, for a typical, mature heading lettuce type. Due to the lettuce's relatively high mounted outer leaves, even in large crop stands it remains well-ventilated under, which makes it very robust against rotting.

The variety develops to a good to very good size if it is supplied with enough space and nutrients. Nevertheless, it appears to be "smaller" than modern standards. The guarantee for a crop is very good, and comparable modern varieties (with so-called full resistance) would not hold out as well through the more risky autumn cultivation. The harvest quantities have been constant for years and reaffirm the breeding aim efforts.

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## **Breeding History:**

The variety BRIWERI was originally selected out of the variety VERDI. The work on the selection began with the Kultursaat breeders B. von Wistinghausen and W. Friedl and later carried on by R. Specht beginning in 1998. All breeding activity took place under the conditions of biodynamic farming.

Since then, the breeding stock has been propagated continuously through early and late annual cultivations at the biodynamic market gardens of Piluweri. Throughout the years, biodynamic preparations were intensively applied and the crop cared for with devotion. Trials with overwintering plants were also carried out, but this did not succeed. The breeding lines were obtained by single plant selection, and further propagated and tested in large stands.

BRIWERI was approved in 2005 by the German Plant Variety Registry and maintenance breeding is managed by the Piluweri farm. The Bingenheimer Saatgut AG is responsible, among other things, for the organization of the multiplication and commercialization of the sale seed.