

Association for Breeding Research and Crop Maintenance Based on Biodynamic Principles

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety



Broccoli

CALINARO

German Plant Variety Registry Code: **BRO 91**

Updated: 15/02/2017

Breeder:

Thomas HEINZE

Variety Description:

CALINARO is a short to medium tall growing broccoli with relatively large and heavy heads (about 350 g. each). The heads are dark-green and medium-coarse grained. With good irrigation and nutrient supply, the heads become firm and develop rapidly (about 50 days) to maturity. It has a wide harvest window. CALINARO is particularly suitable for autumn cultivation and in some locations for spring cultivation. Its flavor is exceptional.

Breeding History:

The original seed stock was the variety CALABRESE NATALINO. Breeding began in 1999, first with positive mass selection in large crop stands. Unfortunately, these breeding steps did not bring about positive developments with regard to uniformity and flower head formation. Individual plant selection did not yield the desired results. Breeding lines remained variable in color, grain, size, and maturity when compared to the requirements of the professional vegetable farmer.

Only a very strict selection in 2010 on early and late harvest maturity showed a marked improvement on the uniformity of many characteristics. The variety CALINARO could be guickly bred out from the breeding line "early harvest maturity" as sufficiently uniform and suitable for cultivation.

A special feature of this variety is the excellent flavor, which many people always remark upon. It is most suitable for the hobby gardener, as well as for direct marketing, and CSAs, given the possibility to convey the good qualities directly to the customers.



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In spring cultivation, faster than hybrids, the variety shows a yellow coloration of the flowering head. This is unfavorable for marketing. In variety trials of the last years, however, it has performed well for an open-pollinated variety. Feedback from professional farmers confirm these results.

The variety was registered as an amateur variety in 2015 by the German Plant Variety Registry. Maintenance breeding is carried out by Th. Heinze. The organization of the multiplication and comercialization of sale seed is, among other things, the responsibility of the Bingenheimer Saatgut AG.