

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

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety



## Leek

## **FREEZO**

German Plant Variety Registry Code: PO 185

Updated: 15/02/2017

**Breeder:** 

**Christine NAGEL** 

## **Variety Description:**

FREEZO is a dark-leafed, later winter leek originating from the "Blue-green Winter" type with good frost hardiness for over-wintering. The long stalks, upright leaf positioning, and only slight occurrence of bulb formation at the base are typical characteristics of this variety. Over a longer on-field standing period FREEZO develops robust stalks and offers high yields.

## **Breeding History:**

This variety was bred out of stock of the umbrella variety BLAUGRÜNER WINTER VRIZO from the Hild company. Since the variety VRIZO was no longer available on the market, a grower from the W. Danzeisen Farm at Kaiserstuhl (with Naturland organic certification) took on selection in 2006 from an overwintering crop stand. The aim was to select specimens typical of the variety, which were with respect to cultivation characteristics impeccable in their expression. Some 100 plants were selected and in the same year allowed to flower and seed on a biodynamically-managed breeding garden. This seed served as the foundation for a renewed sowing on the above mentioned farm of W. Danzeisen in 2007. Thus a new selection was made in the spring of 2008. This selection process was carried out two more times. Selection was always based on the overwintering crop stand of some 5000 m<sup>2</sup> of the Danzeisen Farm. The subsequent cultivation of selected specimens for seed harvest was then always carried out under the biodynamic conditions of the breed garden. In several cultivation trials, the variety demonstrated its high cultivability as well as its noteworthy flavor.

The variety was approved in 2013 by the German Plant Variety Registry with the name FREEZO. Maintenance breeding is carried out by Ch. NAGEL in cooperation with the Danzeisen organic farm. The organization of the multiplication and commercialization of sale seed is, among other things, the responsibility of the Bingenheimer Saatgut AG.