



**Carrot for fresh marketing,
storage, or industry**

LEIRA

German Plant Variety Registry Code:
MOG 259

Breeder:
Dietrich BAUER

Variety Description:

LEIRA is a somewhat cone-formed carrot variety with a distinctive, characteristic shoulder. It is a delicate, smooth-skinned carrot, with consistent inner coloring. It has the upright, dark-green, somewhat bushy and compact foliage as with the descendants of the RODELIKA variety from seed originating from 1998.

LEIRA has a characteristically strong, but sweet appealing flavor, that makes it recommendable as a carrot for children. What is also particular is that the flavor in the development of the carrot is already from very early on noticeable, and increases further into the maturation, but then found to be stable in storage. LEIRA reached yields of more than 700 dt/ha in the years 2007 and 2008.

Breeding History:

The first selection work was carried out in 1997 on an organic farm in South Tyrol at an altitude of 1,300 m. It was selected out of the variety RODELIKA, a biodynamic breed originating from the variety ROTHILD that belongs to the ROTEN RIESEN ("Red Giant") group. Particular carrot forms were at first observed. Thereafter, since 1998, it has also been selected on the biodynamic Dottenfelderhof Farm. Since the form originally targeted proved not to be stable, the breeding objectives were then modified and adapted to the given possibilities.

As with all other carrot varieties, taste was also selected here. It yielded a particularly nutty, strong, yet appealing sweet, full-bodied flavor. At first, the selection rate was 25%, but by 2006 it was over 50%. In the last two years, only a few specimens had to be culled after the taste-tests.

KULTURSAAT e.v.

Association for Breeding Research and Crop Maintenance
Based on Biodynamic Principles

The breeding progress is a result of a Goethanist-anthroposophic outlook on plants, taste selection, and the biodynamic farm surroundings. Analysis with picture-forming methods were applied in 2001/02 and in 2005: LEIRA was attributed to have high forming force and a characteristic, strong, fruit-like, root-bearing organization; the variety shows vigorous and clear forms, which are very stable, but not congested. At the same time, the forms were described to be “soft”, “mobile” and “young”.

Formative force examination from 2002/03:

Pronounced quartz sheath in the lower part with weavings of light and warmth. Sheathing-forces are pulled into the body and spread a “loving” mood. The soul-feeling is stronger than the living-forming. The extremities are connected with the mineral of the earth. The positive effect on the body organization can also be experienced by the untrained person.

The variety LEIRA was approved and protected by the German Plant Variety Registry on the 16th of December, 2008. Maintenance breeding is carried out on Dottenfelderhof Farm. The seed stock is also produced there or assigned to other Demeter farms. The Bingenheimer Saatgut AG is responsible for the organization of the seed multiplication and commercialization of the sale seed.