



Cauliflower for spring and autumn outdoor cultivation

ODYSSEUS

German Plant Variety Registry Code:
KOB 176

Breeder:

Julian JACOBS

Variety Description:

ODYSSEUS is an early, fast developing, medium-tall cauliflower. During cultivation the leaves are light- to middle-green colored, later becoming gray-green. The foliage is slightly wavy and stands half upright. Leaf development is sturdy, and the flower head only reaches a slight enclosing from the inner leaves. For the harvest, the flower head must be covered so that it remains white.

By the harvest, flower heads can be sorted into 8 to 12 per crate. The harvest can be carried out in only 3 stages, meaning the harvest point of the variety is relatively uniform. The flower head is white to cream-colored, relatively firm with no anthocyanin discoloration. Flower at pollination stage are yellow. The variety is suitable for both cultivation under protected conditions and for outdoor spring cultivation. Late autumn cultivation is also possible. It requires a fast and well-tended cultivation, is sensitive to incurring plants, and is slightly frost sensitive. The soil should be generously fertilized and well-prepared. Favorable planting distances are 75 x 35 cm in protected cultivation (also 50 x 50), and 75 x 40-50 cm outdoors.

Propagation dates:

		Sowing	Planting	Harvest
Tunnel / Greenhouse	early	05. January	25. February	20. May
	late	10. February	25. March	30. May
Outdoors	early	01. March	10. April	10. June
	late	20. June	20. July	01. October

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Association for Breeding Research and Crop Maintenance
Based on Biodynamic Principles

Characteristics of ODYSSEUS:

- early harvest
- definite flower head formation
- good flavor

Breeding History:

ODYSSEUS was developed from the conventional open-pollinated variety ERFURTER ZWERG. The initial seed stock was purchased in 1998 from Hild Family. The aim of the breeding was an open-pollinated cauliflower with guaranteed harvest and not so many harvest runs. Since 1988, ODYSSEUS has been cultivated on certified biodynamic farms (first in Buchbach, Oberbayern, then later on Obergrashof Farm, in Dachau near Munich) and selectively bred by J. Jacobs.

In addition to the common selection criteria based on general foliage quantity, degree of flower head enclosure, and flower head size, particular emphasis was also placed on the harmonious plant formation. The ratio of flower head size to outer leaves, the leaf positioning, and flower head curvature were intensively observed. Plants with earlier but flat, or late but small, flower heads were discarded. During the selection work, ODYSSEUS developed as if alone its excellent flavor. The stalks of the flower heads can have a light-green color. Both positive mass selection and selection from outstanding single plants and their progeny were used as breeding methods. The selection took place both in outdoor and protected cultivation conditions.

In research projects on the effect of sound and different star constellation sowing dates on the plant form expression, ODYSSEUS was shown to be very sensitive and expressive. On November 19th, 2003, ODYSSEUS was approved as a new variety at the German Plant Variety Registry. Maintenance breeding is carried out on Obergrashof. The Bingenheimer Saatgut AG organized the multiplication and commercialization of the sale seed.