

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

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety



Tomato for protected cultivation under glass or plastic

Updated: 15/02/2017

PILU

German Plant Variety Registry Code: TMT 1994

Breeder:

Richard SPECHT

Variety Description:

The tomato variety PILU is a light fruit type with round, two- to three-chambered fruits. The vigorous middle-early to early tomato is suitable for cultivation under glass and plastic greenhouses. It combines very good vegetative characteristics with consistent production for constant and high-quality harvests.

The plants form long internodes and therefore have a relatively open growth habit for good aeration; plant maintenance work is easy to carry out. The fruits are shiny, with strong red inner coloration, middle solid consistency, at 80-100 g are suitable for piece harvest with the dark green sepals. When fully ripe, the delicious, juicy fruits are particularly appropriate for direct marketing and when harvested semimature, also for delivery to retail.

The fruits ripen fast on the plant and mature quickly. They are distinguished by a balanced sugar to acid ratio. The fruits are relatively soft for 'modern tomatoes' and are prone to split in difficult conditions. The plants can be quickly harvested by the pronounced breaking points on the fruit stalks.

Very suitable for the cultivation period from March to October with the layering system. Resistances: Fusarium oxysporum (Fol 0,1), Cladosporum (Ff A-E).



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Breeding History:

The aim of the breeding was to breed a delicious, high-yielding tomato for organic farming. PILU was developed out of the hybrid variety PANNOVY. In the year 1997, the first seed was harvested and a year later the first selection was carried out on the F2. These plants expressed the types of their parents and their respective combinations. Through individual plant selection carried out over numerous generations, the spectrum could be narrowed further in the desired direction and the idea of the variety could be clearly grasped. The breeding lines were sustained over the years in biodynamic cultivation at Piluweri vegetable farm, accompanied by intensive use of the biodynamic spray preparations.

The variety was submitted for trial in 2008 at the Naktuinbouw registry in the Netherlands. Maintenance breeding of PILU, including production of stock seed, is carried out at Piluweri. The Bingenheimer Saatgut AG is responsible for the organization of the multiplication and commercialization of the sale seed.