

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

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety



Butterhead lettuce for spring and autumn cultivation

Updated: 15/02/2017

ROLANDO

German Plant Variety Registry Code: **SAK 523**

Breeder:

Ulrike BEHRENDT

Variety Description:

ROLANDO is a middle-early, fresh green Butterhead lettuce variety that forms large, heavy heads with well enclosed under-side. The harvest window is especially wide. ROLANDO is flavorful, tender and buttery. The crop requires relatively low water and nutrient requirement.

State-run trials together with the German Plant Variety Registry demonstrated the variety has a good tolerance against powdery mildew under most conditions. It has vertical resistances against Bremia strains 12, 17, 18, 22, and 24.

Breeding History:

The variety ROLANDO was selected from 1994 from a variety with complete resistance against the then current mildew grades 1-12. It was bred by Ulrike Behrendt on the biodynamic Oldendorfer Seed Farm. Through each generation up to the cultivar's registration, it was sparingly fertilized with high-quality cow manure from the farm. Irrigation was also avoided during very dry phases, in order to select for dryness tolerance. Breeding took place with selection of individuals and trial of their offspring. Particular value was placed in the ranking on good flavor. To assess the tolerance to mildew, three sets of test parcels were prepared throughout the year, since mildew does not appear in spring.

The variety was registered in 2004 by the German Plant Variety Registry. The maintenance breeding and multiplication is carried out by Ulrike Behrendt at Oldendorfer Seed Farm. The Bingenheimer Saatgut AG is responsible for the organization of the multiplication and commercialization of the sale seed.