

KULTURSAAT e.V.

Association for Breeding Research and Crop Maintenance
Based on Biodynamic Principles

Breeding Biography of a Biodynamic Variety

Updated: 15/02/2017



Swiss chard

ROSCHO

German Plant Variety Registry Code:
MG 39

Breeder:

Christina HENATSCH

Variety Description:

ROSCHO is a vigorous Swiss chard for multiple harvesting. The dark purple, rather smooth-leaved variety has a very upright leaf positioning. Its stalks are medium-wide, fleshy, and have a bright red color. ROSCHO has a good sweet and aromatic flavor.

Breeding History:

ROSCHO began from stock from the multicolored BRIGHT LIGHTS Swiss chard variety, from which red types were selected. Yearly selection since 2006 on the biodynamic Gut Wulfsdorf Farm near Hamburg was based on vigorous plants with upright leaf positioning and medium-wide, thick stalks. The intensive red coloration of the stalk and the uniformity of the leaves were further criteria. Yearly taste testing was carried out on selected plants and those with a high oxalic acid content – expressed as a bitter-earthy, sharp flavor – were rejected. Only those plants with a sweet-aromatic flavor were used for further breeding. In this way the variety remarkably improved as the unpleasant flavors no longer were expressed. In addition, attention was paid so that those selected retained and did not lose their stalk color during cooking.

ROSCHO was approved in 2014 by the German Plant Variety Registry. Maintenance breeding is carried out by Christina Henatsch. The organization of the multiplication and commercialization of sale seed is, among other things, the responsibility of the Bingenheimer Saatgut AG.