

Straight from the breeder

A guaranteed better result!



Newsletter



Herewith we present the first 2015 edition of the newsletter. In the past few weeks, the highlights in the news were the record levels of onion exports and the question how the Russian sanctions and the rouble exchange rates will influence the markets.

Onion quality is good, and that is possible only based on excellent starting material. This is why this edition has an in-depth feature about the quality of the first-year onions sets.

We hope you will enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter!



Grow outs

Quality inside a Grow out-protocol before delivery of first year onion sets. [Read more on page 2.](#)



Select Plant Onion Sets

Most important requirements for participating at a glance. [Read more on page 3.](#)



Onion sets in Holland

Growing early onion sets, something for you? [Read more on page 4.](#)



Stur BC 20

- Attractive round bulb
- Good bolting tolerance
- Highly productive onion set
- High dry matter content
- Very suitable for long term storage
- Suitable for the processing industry



Red Ray

red, heat treated

- Uniform quality onion with excellent skin
- Beautiful ruby colour
- Productive because of strong root system
- Good keeping qualities

Unique genetics

The best varieties for you

www.qualityinside.nl



Grow outs



The crop of the Quality inside varieties has been in for some time now, and the onions are stored under good conditions. The first autumn yields of the Troy variety are a fact, and these onions are meanwhile growing in various places in Europe. Most of the onions sets are delivered between early January and late April, depending on the destination and weather conditions.

Before starting deliveries, we would like to know how our onions are doing. A Grow-Out protocol was developed for

this purpose within Quality inside, in collaboration with the Phytopathology department of Bejo Zaden in Warmenhuizen.

1,000 onions of each harvested batch are planted in clean potting soil in tablets at Bejo in autumn. After a few weeks, these onions are assessed for their 'germinating power' and the presence of false mildew. The protocol is followed based on how early the varieties are. After all, later-developing varieties may still be in their seed dormancy phase. The 1,000

onions are eventually all individually and manually assessed for rooting and any presence of fungal problems. Onions that are not sprouting due to certain circumstances are further assessed in the laboratory. This way, measures can be taken prior to delivering the batches. This ensures that the growers can plant out the planting materials with peace of mind.



Requirements for participating in the Select Plant Onions sets



The current requirements for the sector remain effective. The key requirements are:

- In principle, the contract issuer is responsible for the digital crop submission through My Naktuinbouw.
- Naktuinbouw tags and samples the seeds intended for growing onion sets and, and conducts research into the purity, authenticity and germination power of varieties for lots of maximum 1,000 kg.
- Seed lots must be tested for stem nematodes in lots of 250 kg.
- Prior testing on production plots must be completed on stem nematodes and white rot (per 20 ares). A plot is eligible for growing onion sets only



- The storage conditions must be adequate.
- Delivery takes place with Select Plant Onions sets labels. Participating trading companies that wish to print their own labels in the Select Plant lay-out are subject to Naktuinbouw's explicit prior permission. As an onion grower, please duly check the labels relating to variety information.

This high guarantee level makes all lots suitable for selling both within and outside the EU.

- Crops in geographically separate plots
- Registration of machine utilisation and wage workers in the journal
- Harvest demonstrably separated
- Demonstrable separation in storage, processing, cooling cells, silos, barrels. No contact with the soil
- Registration of processing order in journal
- Registration of cleaning





The Netherlands

Early onions sets, something for you?

The onion sector annually looks forward to the new harvest of second-year onions sets, in particular if the long-storage quality is disappointing. The start depends on various factors. At the time of harvesting, the onion must have the required bulb shape, otherwise the crop is not ripe enough and extensive losses will be incurred during the drying process. At times of high demand, harvesting takes place as soon as the leaves start to wilt down. The growth potential still present is then compensated by the high prices at that time. Another factor is the processing companies' estimate of the quantity of truly early harvest and development of demand. Once transferring to the new harvest, it is difficult to switch back to delivering old harvest to the customers.

The most popularly grown and known early onions sets are Jagro and Jetset, which are planted in spring. The harvest of these onions sets generally starts in the last week of June in the Netherlands. This may vary depending on the weather conditions during the growth season and the above-mentioned market forecasts of the processing companies. Jagro is slightly more coarse than Jetset, while Jetset has a slightly thinner neck and has slightly better storage qualities than Jagro. Jagro is generally slightly earlier than Jetset, although sometimes Jetset may be earlier in some years due to weather conditions. Forum, a planting onion from the Quality inside programme intended for the prime crop is earlier still. This allows benefiting from high prices in

spite of a lower yield potential. The fine neck also makes this planting onion quickly suitable for processing.

In the past few years, overwintering crops enjoy increasing interest. The variety Troy is popular - in fact a spring planting onion, which can easily be planted before winter due to its very high shooting tolerance. It can be harvested on average 1-2 weeks before the spring crop. This year, the first Troy plots were ready for harvesting as early as 10 June. The yield is higher than that of the spring crop and the growing season is twice as long. The soil should not be vulnerable to slaking; the ideal soil for overwintering crops has a lutum content between 25 and 30 percent.

For spring onions sets, it is important for the soil to support growth at an early stage. This will allow you to make optimal use of the generally high prices at the start of the season. Additionally, the availability of easily absorbable phosphates is vital, as this enables quick development of the roots and therefore quick grow-out.

The onion market can be highly capricious, particularly in summer. In some years, prices are high at first, staving off at a later stage; but depending on the weather conditions, it might well be the other way around.

This is why the Dutch onion sector extensively uses the proverb: 'It is and will remain onions'

For more information please visit our website:

www.qualityinside.nl

Or contact:

Broer B.V. T: +31(0)228 591 394
P.O. Box 61, 1619 ZH Andijk F: +31(0)228 591 725
Kleiakker 1, 1619 PD Andijk onion@broerbv.nl
The Netherlands www.broerbv.nl



PARTNERS IN ALLIUM