



Exploring nature never stops



ASPARAGUS PROGRAM

2020 - 2022





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BEJO, BREEDER OF VEGETABLE SEEDS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL GROWER

Bejo is a leading company in breeding, production and sales of vegetable seeds. With operations in more than thirty countries, we are an internationally oriented family business. Our 1,800 employees are dedicated to developing the best vegetable varieties for the present and the future.

We've expanded over the years in an organic, ongoing process, shaped by interaction between growers, dealers, supply chain partners and our own employees. All our partners have the freedom, within their own local market, to get the most out of our products.

Together for the long term

We build long-term relationships with our customers rather than going for quick wins. Our representatives are in close communication with growers, exchanging views and listening to their concerns. By keeping our ear to the ground, we can provide better support and advice for real and lasting crop results.

We learn every day from experience. We want to know what is happening on the field and in the market. We use this practical knowledge to develop new varieties and produce seeds with better characteristics for growers and the chain.

Raising the bar with innovations

We invest considerably in research. Just as we were ahead in the 1960s in applying modern breeding

techniques, we never stop actively exploring all new technologies. The more we learn about plants, right down to the DNA level, the more able we are to develop new varieties faster and more accurately than ever. This means varieties with even better growth characteristics that are well suited to sustainable farming. And it results in crops that meet growers' needs and vegetables that appeal to consumers.

Harvesting now and fifty years from now

As the world population increases and more mouths need to be fed, there is a steadily growing need for good, healthy food. We contribute with our expertise and by further improving our breeding methods.

We stay close to nature. We feel that the world's scarce natural resources deserve protection, so that growers can harvest from healthy, fertile soil, now and in fifty years' time. That's why we are always looking for new, more sustainable farming methods and why we invest in a broad range of organic vegetable seeds.

Quality: the best seeds and the best varieties

We look with confidence to the future. As a family business, we continue to do what we have always done: produce the best seeds and create the best varieties for healthy, flavourful, sustainably grown vegetables.



ASPARAGUS INTRODUCTION

Bejo is breeding in asparagus for almost 2 decades. Asparagus is considered a perfect addition to the wide range of Bejo crops. Our breeders, Bart Arends and John Theuws, are both responsible for our global asparagus breeding program, and they are supported by a team of specialists who are dedicated to breeding the best new varieties.

The Bejo asparagus program focuses on white and green, green anthocyanin free and purple varieties. We only develop 100% male varieties as this means there are no berries and no volunteers, so all energy from the plant goes from the fern into the roots, resulting in a higher yield. Purple varieties are also a part of our breeding program, and we are proud to introduce our variety Erasmus, the first 100% male, purple variety in the world.

In order to achieve ambitious breeding goals, our asparagus breeders conduct trials in the major asparagus growing areas worldwide. For the colder areas, there is a screening station in the south of the Netherlands, and for the warmer areas we have a research centre in Murcia (in the south of Spain). For the (sub) tropical areas, asparagus trials are conducted in Peru and also in our new screening fields in California. After three years of screening, the new crosses are tested for at least another three years before the variety is introduced to the market. The result: promising new hybrids with excellent quality, taste, endurance and yield.

Specialist team Asparagus



Breeding team Asparagus

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Asparagus officinalis

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* Cold areas: areas where you can expect a winter chill of more than -5°C.

* Intermediate areas: areas with a warm climate with a mild winter chill down to maximum -5°C.

* Warm areas: areas with a warm climate and no winter chill.



WHITE/GREEN, COLD AREAS



PRIUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ For white: excellent for growing under black and white film, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ For green: as a double-purpose variety also very suitable as a productive green asparagus for the early segment.
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 4 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male asparagus
- ▶ Prius is the earliest variety on the market in Northern Europe and produces a high yield
- ▶ Nice tight heads and strong against physiological rust

Foliage

- ▶ Strong foliage



CUMULUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Excellent for growing under black and white film, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 4-5 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male, very white asparagus
- ▶ Early variety with a high percentage of Class 1
- ▶ Thick, smooth spears with an excellent quality
- ▶ Good tip closure and strong against hollow spears and physiological rust
- ▶ Excellent taste

Foliage

- ▶ High branching vigorous foliage with a fairly open structure

* Cold areas: areas where you can expect a winter chill of more than -5°C



WHITE, COLD AREAS



CYGNUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Excellent for growing under black and white film, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 5-6 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male white asparagus
- ▶ A mid early productive variety giving high yields
- ▶ High quality thick spears
- ▶ Good tip closure and strong against hollow spears

Foliage

- ▶ Solid fern, that is strong against foliar diseases



FINALUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Suitable for the cultivation of white asparagus in south-west France (Les Landes)
- ▶ Excellent for growing under black and white film, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 4 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male white asparagus
- ▶ Mid early variety with a very nice quality
- ▶ Smooth spears with an excellent quality
- ▶ Good tip closure and strong against physiological rust

Foliage

- ▶ Strong foliage

* Cold areas: areas where you can expect a winter chill of more than -5°C



GREEN, COLD AREAS



CANTICUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Suitable for growing under poly-tunnels
- ▶ Recommended plant density: 4-5 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male green asparagus
- ▶ Early variety that produces high yields
- ▶ Uniform spears with an excellent quality and taste
- ▶ Good tip closure

Foliage

- ▶ Strong upright foliage



SPARTACUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Recommended plant density: 3-4 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male green asparagus
- ▶ Late variety
- ▶ Uniform, straight spears
- ▶ Good tip closure

Foliage

- ▶ Very strong and high upright foliage
- ▶ Strong against foliar diseases

* Cold areas: areas where you can expect a winter chill of more than -5°C



GREEN, COLD AREAS



BACCHUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Suitable for growing green anthocyanin-free asparagus, can be grown in mini tunnels
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 5-6 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male anthocyanin-free green asparagus
- ▶ Early variety that produces high yields
- ▶ Uniform spears with an excellent quality
- ▶ Good tip closure

Foliage

- ▶ Very strong, high upright foliage
- ▶ Strong against foliar diseases

ASPARAGUS, PURPLE, COLD AND INTERMEDIATE AREAS

Asparagus officinalis



ERASMUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Excellent for growing of purple asparagus, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 5-6 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ The first 100% male purple asparagus
- ▶ High quality thick spears with an intense purple colour
- ▶ Early variety that produces very high yields
- ▶ Good taste

Foliage

- ▶ High upright foliage

Purple asparagus is a high upright growing crop. We advise you to take cultivation supporting actions, such as ploughing up the ridges after harvest.

Erasmus is an excellent variety to be used fresh and unpeeled in salads, stir fries and on the BBQ. This super sweet salad asparagus is best left uncooked, in order to keep the bold purple colour, which can be lost during the cooking process.



GREEN, INTERMEDIATE AREAS



RADIUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Recommended planting density: 4-5 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male green asparagus
- ▶ Early variety that produces thick uniform spears
- ▶ Good tip closure (advised altitude > 150 meters)
- ▶ Nice green color

Foliage

- ▶ Strong, foliage



ATTICUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Recommended planting density: 4 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A mid early 100% male green asparagus
- ▶ Produces high quality spears and a high yield
- ▶ Good tip closure (advised altitude > 150 meters)
- ▶ Nice green spears with a good taste

Foliage

- ▶ Strong foliage

* Intermediate areas: areas with a warm climate with a mild winter chill down to maximum -5°C.



GREEN/WHITE, INTERMEDIATE AREAS



MAGNUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ For white: excellent for growing under black and white film, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ For green: excellent for growing of green asparagus, also in mini tunnels
- ▶ Recommended planting density: 4-5 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A mid early 100% male asparagus
- ▶ Produces good quality thick spears and a high yield
- ▶ Closed tips and very strong against hollow spears.

Foliage

- ▶ High branching, tall upright crop
- ▶ Strong against foliar diseases

GREEN, INTERMEDIATE AND WARM AREAS



AMADEUS F1

Cultivation

- ▶ Recommended plant density: 3 plants per meter

Product

- ▶ A 100% male green asparagus
- ▶ Pale green color
- ▶ Very uniform thin spears

Foliage

- ▶ Strong healthy foliage

* Intermediate areas: areas with a warm climate with a mild winter chill down to maximum -5°C.

* Warm areas: areas with a warm climate and no winter chill.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Provision of Information

Information provided by Bejo Zaden B.V. in any form whatsoever is without commitment. Descriptions, recommendations and illustrations in promotional publications like websites, catalogues and brochures are based as closely as possible on experiences in tests and in practice and are intended for general information purposes only and not as an indication of quality and/or guarantee. Bejo Zaden B.V. in no event accepts any liability, however, on the basis of such information for different results obtained in the cultivated product. The buyer must determine whether the products are suitable for the intended horticultural crop and/or can be used under local conditions.

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The general terms and conditions of sale and delivery can be found at www.bejo.com

RESISTANCE TERMINOLOGY AND CODES

Definitions of the terms describing the reaction of plants to pests¹

In the information provided by the Seller, the following meaning is given to the terms below:

- **'Susceptibility'**: the inability of a plant variety to restrict the growth and development of a specified pest.
- **'Resistance'**: the ability of a plant variety to restrict the growth and development of a specified pest and/or the damage they cause when compared to susceptible plant varieties under similar environmental conditions and pest pressure.

Resistant varieties may exhibit some disease symptoms or damage under heavy pest pressure.

Two levels of resistance are defined:

- I. high resistance (HR)**: plant varieties that highly restrict the growth and development of the specified pest under normal pest pressure when compared to susceptible varieties. These plant varieties may, however, exhibit some symptoms or damage under heavy pest pressure.
- II. intermediate resistance (IR)**: plant varieties that restrict the growth and development of the specified pest, but may exhibit a greater range of symptoms or damage compared to high resistant varieties. Intermediate resistant plant varieties will still show less severe symptoms or damage than susceptible plant varieties when grown under similar environmental conditions and/or pest pressure.

It is to be noted that if a resistance is claimed in a plant variety it is limited to the specified biotypes, pathotypes, races or strains of the pest.

If no biotypes, pathotypes, races or strains are specified in the resistance claim for a variety, it is because no generally accepted or relevant classification of the biotypes, pathotypes, races or strains of the cited pest exists. New biotypes, pathotypes, races or strains that may emerge are not covered by the original resistance claim.

- **'Immunity'**: a plant variety is not subject to attack or infection by a specified pest.

¹ FAO defines a pest as: any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants or plant products. Pathogens (microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses and fungi that cause a disease) are, therefore, included in the term 'pest'.

Resistance codes

Resistances in our varieties are coded with a crop-specific resistance code (see the coding list on this page for the explanations), unless indicated otherwise. In situations where a variety is resistant to more than one pest, the individual resistance codes will be separated by the symbol '/ '.

For the latest information on resistances and the interpretation of resistance codes, please see www.bejo.com

		Code	Scientific name	English common name
Asparagus	Fungi	Pa	<i>Puccinia asparagi</i>	Rust
		Bc	<i>Botrytis cinerea</i>	Botrytis blight
		Sv	<i>Stemphylium vesicarium</i>	Purple spot



BEJO'S CROPALYSER APP

is a practical search tool for growers to help identify pests and diseases.

The app provides information about the health and growth of your crop!



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