

A man in a blue sweater and black cap is shown in profile, looking over a vast field of green lettuce. The scene is outdoors under a cloudy sky. The man is leaning on a dark, reflective surface, possibly a car hood, which shows a reflection of him and the field.

Nasonovia Defense™

Together **against aphids**

Our contribution to a Nasonovia-free lettuce crop

 **RIJK ZWAAN**

Introducing Nasonovia Defense™

At Rijk Zwaan, we have discovered a new, natural source of resistance that helps defend your lettuce crop against both known types of Nasonovia ribisnigri (Nr:0 and Nr:1). This innovation is currently being introduced across our lettuce breeding programmes. The first varieties carrying this resistance have already shown strong results in commercial trials, offering high resistance (HR) and solid agronomic performance. Nasonovia Defense™ offers an extra layer of protection, helping you grow with more confidence, even when other control options are limited.

Why growers trust Nasonovia Defense varieties

Nasonovia Defense varieties naturally resist aphids by stopping them before they can cause damage. The aphids can't feed on the plants, so they don't reproduce or spread. This makes your crop less vulnerable and easier to manage.

For growers facing limited control options, this resistance provides a powerful and reliable solution. You can count on a healthier, more productive lettuce crop, giving you the freedom to focus on growing your business and meeting customer demand with confidence.

Field trials confirm strong results

Before we introduce a Nasonovia Defense variety, it goes through extensive testing. In both lab and field trials under high aphid pressure, the resistance has proven effective against both Nr:0 and Nr:1.

We also assess how each variety performs under real growing conditions. That means checking yield, quality and consistency in the field. The results speak for themselves. These new varieties match or even outperform today's market references.

Working towards a fully resistant assortment

The first resistant varieties are now available. We are steadily introducing this new resistance into more lettuce types, but availability still varies per region and crop type.



**Find your
local
assortment**



“Futureproof lettuce cultivation requires effort from every link in the value chain”



High
resistance
(HR) against
Nasonovia
ribisnigri
(Nr:0,1)

Understanding Nasonovia ribisnigri

Nasonovia ribisnigri (Nr:0 and Nr:1) is a common aphid species in temperate climates that feeds on healthy lettuce plants, stunting their growth and reducing overall crop quality and yield. These aphids often hide deep in the heart of the crop, making heads unmarketable. Even after cutting and washing, sticky residues may still be visible on the leaves.

By understanding how this pest behaves, you can make smarter decisions in your Integrated Crop Management strategy and better protect your crops.

Helping each other keep aphids under control

When growers work together to limit the spread of Nasonovia ribisnigri, the total aphid population stays lower. This reduces the chance

of resistance-breaking mutations and helps keep resistance effective for longer. Good hygiene and coordinated action are key to protecting your crop and preserving the value of resistant varieties.



Nasonovia
Defense
knowledge
page

Harvest the **benefits** of Nasonovia Defense™



Proven
protection

Our high resistance (HR) has been confirmed under real aphid pressure in both Europe and North America.



Field-tested
performance

Each variety is tested by leading growers to ensure strong results in yield, quality and consistency.



Reliable
supply

With better protection, you can count on stable production, even when other control methods fall short.



Read more
about our
solution

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