

Fusarium-resistant

cucumber varieties



For DEFENSE





Rijk Zwaan is now introducing For Defense: fusarium-resistant cucumber varieties.

Our For Defense cucumber varieties have intermediate resistance (IR) to *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cucumerinum*.

Fusarium is a soil and substrate fungus infecting the root system. This fungus may persist for long periods in the soil. After infecting the plants, Fusarium initially causes just a few leaves to wilt slightly and plants might be able to recover in the first days under dark conditions. A few days after initial infection, however, the plants are no longer able to recover and will wilt completely. These plants are subsequently a source for infecting other plants in the greenhouse.

Fusarium-resistant rootstock

Disinfection of the soil and grafting plants has been the only solution so far. For grafting, we have been offering Affine RZ for several years now. Affine is easy to graft and can be used for both substrate and soil growing.

Fusarium-resistant varieties

With our Fusarium-resistant varieties we offer a new solution to prevent infection with Fusarium.

All our new varieties with this resistance can be recognised by the For Defense logo. They are also identifiable thanks to their names.

All Fusarium-resistant varieties start with 'For', just like one of our first varieties, Forami RZ.



Fusarium-resistant cucumber varieties



Hygienic working remains important

Our Fusarium-resistant varieties showed very good results in all the tests: our For Defense varieties did not become infected, whereas we saw total wilting of the susceptible plants.

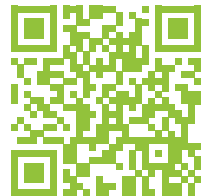
However, our varieties are intermediate resistant, meaning they are not totally immune to Fusarium. Therefore, hygienic working remains important. This entails:

- Disinfection of the soil
- Cleaning the greenhouse after each cycle
- Disposing of infected plants in plastic bags

Trials show great differences

Placing our resistant varieties in a greenhouse with infected soil showed very clear results (see video). Throughout the entire greenhouse we planted our resistant variety mixed in among a susceptible variety. The picture on the front of this brochure shows the outcome: all susceptible plants became infected while the resistant crop stayed green and healthy.

Scan the QR code
to see the
time-lapse video.



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Meet our Cucumber Team

For more information please contact your local specialist or one of our experts below.

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