

Variety Description

Variety

MOONLIGHT

Species	Fodder radish
Botanical name	Raphanus sativus
Ploidy	diploid
Seeding rate	25-30 kg/ha as catch crop
Distance between rows	as cereals
Sowing period	from July to late August
Sowing depth	2-3 cm

Agronomic figures*:

Susceptibility to Beet nematodes	2
Development after sowing	6
Inclination to flower	3
Tendency to lodging	-
Resistance to <i>Meloidogyne chitwoodi</i>	yes

Clarification of figures*:

1: very early, very low / 5: medium / 9: very late, very high

* **Source:** Bundessortenamt [Federal Plant Variety Office] 2020

Variety description

With its pleasing yellow-coloured flowers, MOONLIGHT adds a touch of novelty to the wide range of approved fodder radish varieties in Germany. In addition to this visually striking feature, MOONLIGHT exhibits good resistance to beet nematodes *H. schachtii* and very high resistance to root-gall nematodes *M. hapla* (even though the latter is currently not identified as an independently evaluated property in the Federal Plant Variety Office's Descriptive Variety List). It, therefore, belongs to the highly valued group of dual resistant fodder radish varieties. Moreover, MOONLIGHT exhibits a low inclination to flower combined with a moderate rate of development until the dormancy period sets in, thereby precluding the risk of spreading through seeds. Compared to other varieties, its reliable tendency to winterkilling sets it apart from the rest. This property is a key plus point for MOONLIGHT among fodder radish varieties considering the increasing probability of a complete ban on the use of glyphosate. Reliable winterkilling is crucial for enterprises practicing non-till agriculture using conservative cultivation systems, as it ensures that these enterprises are able to sustain catch crop cultivation.

Most important characteristics

Dual resistance against beet nematodes and root-gall nematodes
Very low inclination to flower, despite extremely high mass development after sowing
Excellent weed suppression
Low tendency to lodging

Usage

Fodder radish is examined for resistance to both beet nematodes and root-gall nematodes. A variety is designated a 'dual resistance variety' if it exhibits resistance to both the nematode species. In addition, almost all fodder radish varieties are resistant to free-living nematodes; however, this property is not closely examined by the Federal Plant Variety Office. The term 'multi-resistance', which consistently comes up in agronomic contexts, is not commonly used or defined from a scientific perspective.

