

'Quer-rich', a New Variety of Hybrid Red Onion with High Quercetin Content

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Summary

'Quer-rich', a new long-day red onion variety, was co-developed by Nippon Norin Seed Co. and registered in 2008. 'Quer-rich' is a hybrid of 'NOR-1A' and 'SRG-12'. The long-storage male sterile line 'NOR-1A' was bred by Nippon Norin Seed Co. 'SRG-12' was bred from a North American open-pollinated variety, 'Southport Red Globe', at National Agricultural Research Center for Hokkaido Region in 1998. It is adaptable to Hokkaido and has good bulb quality. 'Quer-rich' has the highest quercetin content of varieties cultivated in Hokkaido, about 20% higher

quercetin content than that of the major var. 'Super Kita-momiji'. 'Quer-rich' is superior to the long-day red variety 'Kurenai' in bulb skin color, Brix and bulb storage capability. The yield of 'Quer-rich' is generally 20% lower than that of 'Super Kita-momiji' but is equal to that of 'Kurenai'. 'Quer-rich' is adaptable to areas in which spring-sown onions are cultivated, and the added value of its high quercetin content is expected to make the new variety popular among health-conscious consumers.

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