

### Crop manual Baselga RZ Yellow blocky pepper



Newsletter January 2009

#### **Keep an active climate – Baselga RZ is not a variety for a “soft” climate.**

Make sure your screen is open on time in the morning and that even on the dark days you have a boost period with the pipes. If you have a fixed screen, keep a minimum pipe in and vent above the screen if necessary. If you're in a setting period, this will also make it easier for you to give more CO<sub>2</sub> – because the plant will be more active. During the rooting stage, 400 to 500 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> was enough. For setting, 800 ppm with a boost to 1000 ppm on sun will help. Having a screen above the crop should be used as a tool to make a better climate (better control of humidity). Saving on energy is secondary to this. If you have a screen and the weather is dark and mild, where will the plant get its energy from? Heat radiation from the pipes is needed in this situation, so keep an eye on how the plant is looking. If you have a choice of pipes high in the greenhouse or down low close to the plants – consider using the pipes close to the plants. In this case it may be more important to look at the plant temperature rather than the air temperature. A grower with an energy efficient greenhouse has a much bigger challenge in keeping an active plant, compared to one that must use a lot of pipe temperature by necessity.

Maintain a high drip EC. Careful not to drip too much on a dark day – or even too late on a sunny day. Just as important however is to make sure the plants get enough water. We would prefer that you give enough total water volume and use the high drip EC as the generative action. Holding back on water volume for a generative action is too dangerous in the long and short term. The more generative you steer with CO<sub>2</sub> and pipe temperatures, the more you need to make sure you give enough water! The plant must keep growing and it needs water to do so.

Don't be too concerned about Baselga looking a little vegetative. This is normal. It's the flower quality that you need to focus on. The flowers should be bending down and not too large in size. The stem of the flower should have a good green colour. Use the afternoon boost period as much as the sun will allow with Baselga RZ. Comparing to some other varieties, you can add 1 or 2 degrees to this boost period. Then come down to your night temperature. A plant that looks vegetative can still be generative in producing flowers and setting fruits.

Aim for an active plant and maintain growth (speed). Only with growth do you have a chance to set fruits. If you miss some setting with Baselga RZ, keep the speed in and wait for the next setting. It pays to keep the early fruit load to reasonable level. Loading heavy with fruits early in the season will mean you have to slow down too much and you will lose fruit size and production later.

*The variety descriptions, sowing, planting and harvesting dates and growing advices in our catalogues, leaflets and letters or communicated in any other way, have been composed in good faith and as precisely as possible, based on the experiences in trials and practice. However, final results of a crop depend on various factors such as local conditions. Rijk Zwaan cannot, under any circumstances, be held responsible for the results of the crop of any customer.*

## More information

For more information you can contact our local advisor for greenhouse crops John DeVries by phone (519 324 6669) or e-mail ([j.devries@rijkszwaan.com](mailto:j.devries@rijkszwaan.com)). Please also visit [www.rijkszwaanusa.com](http://www.rijkszwaanusa.com)

---

You receive this newsletter because you have a subscription. Do you want to unsubscribe or do you wish to respond to the content of this newsletter? Then please send an e-mail to [export@rijkszwaan.nl](mailto:export@rijkszwaan.nl)