

# Nieder Österreichische Saatbaugenossenschaft



**Central office and  
breeding-station:**  
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registrierte Genossenschaft mit beschränkter Haftung

## NÖS – REPORT

**Trial-station:**  
Naglern 1  
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The seedproducing co-operative of Lower Austria (NÖS) was founded in 1927 in order to produce high-quality seed potatoes. In 1950 the co-operative decides to start developing new varieties and maintenance breeding of seed potatoes. Therefore a breeding-station was built in Meires and fields surrounding the station were bought.

Now, the cultivated fields of the breeding station enclose 58ha own grounds and 51ha of leased grounds, which have been cultivated by the NÖS since 60 years without cattle.

Every year there are planted about 20 ha of potatoes; for the breeding of new potatoes about 7 ha are needed, for maintenance breeding about 12ha and the rest of 1ha is used for trials. Besides the usual yield-trials, also resistance-tryouts and other trials are made.

In addition to potatoes, elite seeds of rye, barley, oats and triticale are produced in Meires, as well as winter rape is planted.

Actually the seed potatoes are produced by 276 active members (farmers); 228 of these members work in the region called „Waldviertel“ (about 130km north west of Vienna in the districts Zwettl, Gmünd and Waidhofen/Thaya), the rest of the members work in the regions “Leiser Berge” (37 farmers) and “Mühlviertel” (11 farmers). Since 1996 also biological seeds are produced (40).

The seeds produced by the members are marketed by the co-operative. Storage and grading is not central but in the own cellars of each member.

### The following breedings of NÖS are at present in propagation:

Variety	Registration	Variety	Registration
Naglerner Kipfler	1956	Erika	2008
Hermes	1973	Martina	2009
Ditta	1989	Alonso	2011
Romina	1989	Diego	2011
Pluto	1992	Bojana	2012
Bionta	1993	Bosco	2012
Merkur	1994	Galata	2012
Evita	1995	Marizza	2012
Roko	1998	Valdivia	2013
Tosca	2002	Trabant	2013
Husar	2004	Sokrates	2014
Valeria	2005	Xerxes	2014
Fabiola	2006	Meireska	2015

The average area used for propagation is approximately 1.300 ha with an overall production of about 23.000 tons of seed potatoes. At present about 15% of this amount is used for export. Main countries for export are Hungary, Czech Republic, Republic of Slovakia, Germany and Italy.

Main varieties for export are FABIOLA, ERIKA, DITTA, TOSCA and ROKO.

The variety DITTA is one of the leading firm cooking varieties in Europe, with a propagation area of 453ha in Austria (347 ha conventional, 106 ha biological) and about 600 ha total propagation international. In consequence of the planting in Holland, DITTA reaches typical regions for early potatoes (Egypt, Israel and Cyprus) on sea route.

1992 the central office moved from Vienna to the breeding-station in Meires. In addition to this breeding-station there is a trial-station in Naglern (Leiser Berge) where every year there are tested about 700 clones provided by our dutch partner firm AGRICO and clones from our own breeding program. In breeding of new varieties, NÖS only cooperates with AGRICO (Holland).

### **Some facts about the station in Meires:**

Height about sea level: 510m over NN

Average annual temperature: 6,2°C risk of late frost until beginning of June  
risk of early frost from the end of August

Average annual precipitation: 510mm

Soil: sandy, in part a little bit loamy, number of stones is relatively high

Employees: the NÖS employs 15 salaried persons, 3 constant workers, 2 non-constant workers

### **Contacts:**

Chairman of executive Board: Erich Kaltenböck

Chairman of the supervisory board: Erwin Thaler

Management: Ing. Manfred Herynek und DI Felix Fuchs

Breeder: DI Felix Fuchs

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July 2016