

Tatsoi: Rainbow—Landrace (*B. rapa* subsp. *narinosa*)



Seedling & early growth

Rogue plants:
Low vigour (5-10% of population)
Off-type leaf shape, colour



Plant maturity

Select plants:
Pink veins & purple leaves
Mild, non-bitter flavour
Rogue plants:
Early bolting
Bitterness
Thick, hairy leaves



Seed harvest

Select plants:
Thick, tender stalks
Rogue plants:
Poor seed set



Starting & Ending Population size

Starting population size: 150-500+

Harvest population size: Seeds should be harvested from a minimum of **80 plants**.

Isolation:

Tatsoi will cross with any and all *B. rapa* crops including turnips, bok choy and napa cabbage. Isolate by at least 1.5km or by ensuring they aren't flowering at the same time.

Rainbow tatsoi can be grown as an annual (transplant to the field early May) or biennial (sow late summer and overwinter in tunnels) Expect brighter colours if grown through the winter.

Further Rogueing & Selection Information

At seedling and early growth stage: Remove any plants with low vigour, late germination or slow growth. As plants develop, select for leaf & stem colouration and remove any plants with off-type leaf shape, green colour, or hairiness.

At plant maturity: Plants should have rounded leaves in various shades of greens and purples. Taste should be mild and non-bitter. Breeder Dan Brisebois has been selecting for purple leaf colour, pink stems, and thinner leaves. Plants should also be selected for flavour and tenderness. Continue to rogue out plants displaying any hairiness.

Special note: Rainbow Tatsoi is still very variable and you should expect a fair number of off-types within your population. The photo to the right shows the full spectrum of variation that still exists within this variety. You're welcome to select for any characteristics that you find appealing or suit your farm. Please make note of it if you do so.

