



STORY 5 – WELD (*Reseda luteola* L.)

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

The Weld, *Reseda luteola* L. native to Central Europe, is a deciduous one to two year old plant from the Resedaceae family. The plants have narrow, elongated leaves alternately arranged. In May to August *Reseda* shows its yellowish-white flowers arranged in flower clusters, which are very attractive for bumblebees, butterflies and bees. *Reseda luteola* L. has no special location requirements and thrives on loamy sandy soils with sufficient sunlight.



For harvest in the full bloom stage, the dyer's plant reaches a height of 1.20 m to 1.50 m. The whole plant is harvested, the above-ground herb is then chopped and dried. A yellow dye can be extracted from the dry material, which contains luteolin and its glycosides as well as other dye molecules. The dye content is approx. 2.0 - 3.0% in the dry matter, with the flower capsules having the highest levels.

Reseda luteola L. has been used as a dye plant for textiles for centuries. In Middle Ages the dyestuff was very popular because it produced the purest and most permanent shade of yellow at this time.



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The plant was also grown in Germany until the 19th century and was of great importance as a commercial crop. Now Reseda is grown again for us, organised with our contract farmers in Italy and in Germany.

NIG GmbH Magdeburg developed a patented extraction process that guarantees the highest possible dye concentration in the extract.

The special feature of the NIG Reseda extract **WAU-COLOR** is the standardization of the dye content, the basis for reproducible color results in the dyeing industry.

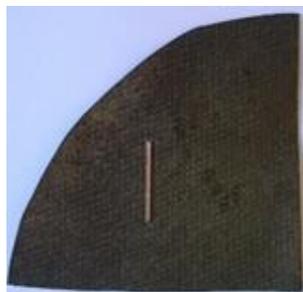
WAU-COLOR contains 190.0 - 220.0 g/kg dye, making it the strongest Reseda extract on the market.

In the meantime, our long-term development work has opened up the application areas outlined below for our Reseda extract.

- Dyeing of natural fibers such as silk, wool, cashmere, linen, cotton



- Dyeing of wet-white and wet-blue leather or vegan leather





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- Dyeing of synthetic fibers



- Dyeing of bioplastics



- Paper and wood staining

In cooperation with the Dermatology Clinic in Freiburg, the anti-inflammatory and photoprotective effects of our fortified Reseda extract has been proved. This extract is successfully used in dermatological products e.g. in the treatment of neurodermatitis or in cosmetics as a skin protection cream.

<https://www.physioderm.com/hauschutz/protexsan>

Do you have any questions or ideas? We would be glad to support you with our technical expertise in your projects.

Don't hesitate to contact us!