

6. Origin and distribution of flint corn.

Flint corn predominates in the coastal areas of the northern and southern Atlantic and in the Caribbean area where soft corn would probably be difficult to keep from moulding. Otherwise flint races appear sporadically though the situation in the Amazon Valley is not yet clear.

The origin of flint corn may be explained either by selection following hybridization of pop and flour corn, or by selection after mutation from Floury to flinty in the latter type only. There are so far at least the following flint races: North-Eastern Little Flint, Caribbean and South-American Orange-Yellow, Mountain Yellow from Colombia and Central America, and two more races from the slopes of the high Andes of Boliva-Peru. They have in common only the corneous endosperm, but differ otherwise very profoundly.