

It was not possible to bulk up the six inbreds, mentioned in the 1954 News Letter as adapted to local growing conditions in England, owing to inclement weather; and only five were able to withstand the severe conditions in the field. The  $F_1$  hybrid trial between the six inbreds crossed reciprocally showed that considerable heterosis was obtainable. Hybrids generally had good germination and plant characters, but unfortunately were often eight-rowed. The row number might be increased by crossing the better combining inbreds with inbred C 13 already used in producing the John Innes Topcross Hybrids. The idiograms of these inbreds and hybrids all revealed a flint pattern, demonstrating that good heterosis is available between sweetcorn inbreds that are flint maize derivatives.

G. Haskell