

**Increase of chlorophyll deficient mutants in a maize line induced by ethyl methane sulfonate (EMS)**

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The action of EMS in a maize line was studied to see the effect on the number of chlorophyll deficient mutant seedlings after seven generations of open pollination.

Two hundred seeds of an inbred flint line were treated with EMS at two concentrations (0.5% and 0.75%) for 13 hours. The results for 300 ears harvested after seven generations, for each treatment and the same line without treatment as a check, revealed that the mean of chlorophyll deficient mutant seedlings was higher in both treatment groups than in the check (65.7% for 0.5%, 64.00% for 0.75% and 62.33% for the check). The check showed 100% white seedlings, while the seeds treated with EMS in different concentrations showed white, yellow and virescent seedlings (Figure 1).

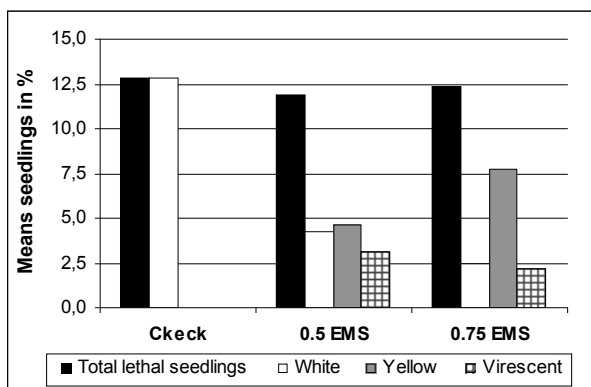


Figure 1. Mean lethal seedlings in % (white, yellow, virescent).