

6. Chromosome-knob numbers of Peruvian coastal maize.

A survey of chromosome-knob numbers has been started on local material. It has been suspected that most coastal flint varieties are rather recent introductions from Colombia and the Caribbean area. An analysis of chromosome knob numbers of such material, as compared to the highland or typical Andean maize varieties should provide a definite clue to this problem.

Counts are being made on one to three tassels of the original varieties, propagated at La Molina, kept in acetic acid-alcohol, using four check cells per anther at zygotene-pachytene. The first twenty varieties which were examined are distributed as follows:

Chromosome-knob numbers	0-3	1-4	2-5	3-6	7-8
Number of varieties	3	11	3	1	1

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