

2. Cold tolerance of the flint maize from high altitude and with higher content of anthocyanin.

Indigenous varieties from the region of 800 to 1000 m in the Julian Alps are of flint type and have mostly a light orange color of the pericarp. The germination of the kernels with this pericarp color has been, under conditions of 10°C. for 28 days, from 9 to 15% higher than kernels with colorless pericarp. The seedlings from the kernels with light orange pericarp have also been more resistant to late frost in the spring. A greater cold resistance is associated with and perhaps due to a higher content of anthocyanin in the seedlings.

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