

1. Another Corn Grass Mutation?

Late in the summer of 1947, a field technician called to the attention of Professor L. C. Raymond an "off-type" plant in a planting of flint double crosses. This plant was weak, with a small tassel, many tillers, and narrow leaves. It produced a few seeds which were saved. A small progeny has been grown every year since this time; the past three years in comparison with Singleton's corn grass.

In all characteristics it is apparently identical with corn grass. Progeny of the original plant had no tassels and only during the past two years have small tassels begun to appear in the progeny of open pollinated plants; repeating the sequence described for Corn Grass.

The corn grass available to me has all been heterozygous for the dominant gene Cg. Similarly the Macdonald stock has existed only in the heterozygous form. This heterozygosity, the apparently identical phenotype of both stocks, the complications of male sterility and the problem of the identity of the homozygote and/or double dominant, have all made the test for allelism most difficult. Hence it is not yet known whether our find is a repeat mutation of Corn Grass or a new mutation.