

way of corn seedling preparations.

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1. Dwarf prolific corn.

Our work with the multiple-eared strains of corn is showing enough promise that we are going back to teosinte again to make a wide variety of crosses. In 1958, we had 105 first-generation hybrids. For the most part, these were crossed back to maize.

We are about ready to conclude that a stalk with 6 to 8 ears, five to six feet tall, would be ideal either for silage or for grain. Crosses with dwarf lines have been made to shorten the tall normal plants to a more desirable height.

W. J. Mumm

2. Twin shoot.

This past year we had a number of F2 crosses between twin-shoot and Inbred Hy. The twin-shoot character failed to reappear. We do not understand why it failed to appear, but we are going to try another approach. A characteristic of the twin-shoot we are using is a double groove in the internode of the stalk where the twin ear buds appear.

W. J. Mumm

3. Dwarf hybrids.

We are multiplying our inbred seed stocks this year in preparation for commercial production of intermediate dwarf hybrids. Up to now we have called them semi-dwarf. The stalks themselves are six to eight feet tall and the ears are from 18 to 30 inches above the ground. These hybrids will fit in situations where high fertility and thick planting rates causes normal hybrids to break over badly.

W. J. Mumm