

4. Scutellum colour factor in short arm of chromosome 4.

Crosses of TB-4a on A158T reveal that a factor for scutellum colour is present in the segment of the short arm of chromosome 4 that is translocated to the B centromere region, namely the distal $3/4$ portion of the arm (the breakage point is proximal to su_1).

Table III. Results of crossing TB-4a on A158T.

No. of ears	No. of kernels			
	small		large	
	coloured scutellum	colourless scutellum	coloured scutellum	colourless scutellum
6	1899	0	369	437

These data suggest that the scutellum locus involved is possibly S_1 of Sprague (1932), whose data showed linkage with su ; from the available data it seems also that S_1 is distal to such a marker. It is interesting to note, also, that, among the large kernels, those having a colourless scutellum are slightly heavier than the other ones (mg 0.152 against mg 0.140): this indicates that, as expected, their endosperm is hyperploid, and that such hyperploidy results in larger endosperm.

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1. "Curing" maize of its cytoplasmic male sterility.

Lederberg (Physiol. Rev. 32 : 403-430, 1952) suggested that cytoplasmic male sterility could be the result of an alien virus in the maize plant, and that the male sterility was the symptom of the infection. Many experiments are suggested by this hypothesis. For instance, it is known that the shock of high temperature may inactivate or kill a number of plant viruses and thus rid the plants of their infection. An experiment in which cytoplasmic male sterile maize