

h. Mutation rate of paramutant R^r .

The mutation rate to r^r of paramutant R^r genes ($R^{r'}$) has been measured in $R^{r'}R^{r'}$ plants (obtained by selfing $R^{r'}R^{st}$ plants) and compared with that of the standard non-paramutant form of \underline{R}^r (see table).

There is a significant difference between the two rates ($\chi^2 = 31.04$, $p < .001$), that of the paramutant being about 60% of the non-paramutant rate. Reductions of a similar magnitude have been observed also with a series of paramutant and non-paramutant R^g alleles.

R^r form	Putative mutants	No. tested	Verified as r^r mutants	Corrected population size	Rate of mutation
Non-paramutant	292	233	232	182353	12.72×10^{-4}
Paramutant	200	195	192	258325	7.43×10^{-4}

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