

generations depleted the paramutagenic action of  $\underline{R}^{st}$ . The seed used in grading aleurone pigmentation ranged from 1 (colorless) to 7 (self-colored). There is no evidence from the results obtained, summarized in the accompanying table, that continued heterozygosity for a paramutable  $\underline{R}^r$  reduces the paramutagenicity of  $\underline{R}^{st}$ .

Male parent in testcross	No. plants tested	Mean aleurone color score
$\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^r$ - stock	7	6.43
$\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^{st}$ - F <sub>1</sub>	3	4.47
$\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^{st}$ - Bx 1 to $\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^r$	7	4.08
$\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^{st}$ - Bx 2 to $\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^r$	8	3.40
$\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^{st}$ - Bx 3 to $\underline{R}^r \underline{R}^r$	16	3.59

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#### 6. An unstable $\underline{R}$ allele from Bolivia.

A highly unstable  $\underline{R}$  allele has been isolated from a colored aleurone strain of maize originally collected in Bolivia (Bolivia 724). The allele simulates  $\underline{rmb}$  in that coarse patches of pigment are normally observed in the aleurone following backcross to W22  $\underline{A} \underline{C} \underline{r} \underline{b} \underline{pl}$  stocks. Unlike  $\underline{rmb}$ , however, aleurone pigmentation varies in intensity within patches. Likewise ears vary in frequency of kernels with the spotted pattern. The allele mutates with a relatively high frequency (approximately one per 100 kernels) to a form which produces dilute aleurone pigment uniformly distributed over the kernel. Apparently concomitant with the mutation of spotted to dilute aleurone is alteration of a plant color component at the  $\underline{R}$  locus, since all 12 dilute kernels grown so far have produced mature plants with intensely pigmented leaves and stalks. Plants grown from sib spotted aleurone kernels were uniformly green.

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