

the plant was potted in sterilized soil in a 10" pot and returned to the growth chamber. After 3 weeks it was placed in the greenhouse. A month later it was evident that the regenerated plant had a decussate leaf arrangement closely resembling the ABPHYLL syndrome reported by R. I. Greyson and D. B. Walden (Am. J. Bot. 59:466-472, 1972). The plant produced two ears, at opposite nodes, and had fully fertile pollen. There were 27 leaves on the plant compared to 12 to 14 leaves on other plants of the same background. Leaf width ranged from 3.5 to 4.5 cm and leaf length from 20 cm (the short, upper leaves) to 67 cm (the long, lower leaves). The plant, in a 10" pot, was 50 cm tall. It was selfed and also outcrossed to the genetic stock and to A188. The F<sub>1</sub> seed from these crosses produced plants with a distichous leaf arrangement and 12 to 14 leaves. These plants were selfed and the F<sub>2</sub> will be analyzed with a winter greenhouse crop. Chromosome counts of root tips prepared from seedlings grown from the seeds from the self of the regenerated plant revealed no chromosome aberrations or any deviation in ploidy.

Unfortunately, attempts for further successes at regeneration by mimicking the conditions that produced the "ABPHYLL" plant have been in vain. No plants have been regenerated by using the same procedures outlined by Green and Phillips. Experiments are being continued in this area.

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#### Pollen suspending media: A retraction regarding cyclohexane

In 1973 (MNL 47:144) we reported experiments in which cyclohexane appeared to be a promising medium for suspension of pollen if the solvent was volatilized before pollination. Experiments in three subsequent seasons have failed completely; no reasons for the difference between the original and subsequent tests have become apparent, and we have discontinued attempts to exploit this solvent. If anyone has succeeded with cyclohexane (or any other) in obtaining good seed sets following suspension and volatilization, please compare notes.

E. H. Coe, Jr.

#### Symbolization: Need for a generic form

The common practice in the past of using a to represent generically any or all of a (i.e., a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>, etc.) is precluded by the current rules, since the subscript 1 is no longer used. Ambiguity arises in expressing this generic meaning with a symbol rather than with words or a phrase (e.g., white seedling). A simple solution would be to use the asterisk, already stipulated for new isolates, without the isolation number: a<sup>\*</sup>, w<sup>\*</sup>, etc. In developing symbol listings and indexes, I plan to follow this practice, and would appreciate reactions from cooperators.

E. H. Coe, Jr.

#### Dating pollinating bags

To date bags rapidly, we have been using in our laboratory a simple binary-number system marked onto the bags with a soft graphite carpenter's crayon. Bags in groups of 50 can be fanned out uniformly in the lengthwise direction with a little practice, then marked in strokes along the stepped upper segments. Identifying five positions across the top of the bag as 16, 8, 4, 2, 1 (left edge, center, center right, right edge), markings in these positions identify 31 dates in typical binary notation: 00001, 00010, 00011, 00100, 00101, etc. The markings are unmistakable and remain until harvest if applied carefully and firmly.

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