Corn Hybrids and Varieties

Mississippi State University

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Corn Hybrids and Varieties

1956 TEST LOCATIONS

1 North Miss. Branch Station
2 Pontotoc-Flatwoods Branch Station
3 Northeast Miss. Branch Station
4 Central Station, State College
5 Delta Branch Station
6 Black Belt Branch Station
7 Brown Loam Branch Station
8 Coastal Plain Branch Station
9 Schaefer Plantation Yazoo City
10 South Miss. Branch Station

DEPT. AGR. ECONOMICS
REFERENCE ROOM

MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
CLAY LYLE, Director

STATE COLLEGE MISSISSIPPI
RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the performance of the hybrids in 1956, as well as in past years, the following hybrids are recommended for Mississippi. All have been tested for at least three years.

North Mississippi

Yellow: Dixie 22, Funk G 710A, Pfister (P.A.G.) 486, Pioneer 309A.
White: Dixie 29, Dixie 55, Dixie 11, Dixie 33, Pfister (P.A.G.) 653, Funk G 779W, Dixie 17, Pfister 631.

Central Mississippi

Yellow: Dixie 82, Pfister (P.A.G.) 486, Funk G 710, Dixie 22.

South Mississippi

Yellow: Dixie 18, Funk G 740, McCurdy 1003.
White: Coker 811, La. 521.

Silage

The best quality corn silage is made from hybrids that produce a high yield of grain. Choose a hybrid in your section recommended for yield and erect plants.

COOPERATIVE PROJECT

These corn tests are a cooperative project between the Mississippi Experiment Station and the Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Carl M. Campbell, agronomist, U.S.D.A., State College, Mississippi.
Donald H. Bowman, agronomist, Delta Branch Station, Stoneville.

S. P. Crockett, superintendent, North Mississippi Branch Station, Holly Springs.
Robert C. Albritton, superintendent, Northeast Mississippi Branch Station, Verona.
B. C. Hurt, superintendent, Pontotoc Ridge Flatwoods Branch Station, Pontotoc.
Levie Walton, superintendent, Black Belt Branch Station, Brooksville.
Burke C. Murphy, agronomist, Coastal Plain Branch Station, Newton.
Robert E. Coats, agronomist, Brown Loam Branch Station, Raymond.
T. E. Ashley, superintendent, South Mississippi Branch Station, Poplarville.
E. T. Schaefer, plantation owner, Yazoo City.
Tests comparing different hybrids were conducted at eleven different locations in Mississippi in 1956. The best guide to the desirability of a hybrid is its performance over a period of years at a number of locations.

For the 1956 corn variety tests the state was divided into three sections, North Mississippi, Central Mississippi, and South Mississippi. Holly Springs, Pontotoc, Verona, State College and Stoneville were placed in the northern section; Brooksville, Newton, Raymond, and Yazoo City, in the central section; Poplarville in the southern section.

Within a section entries were the same. The placing of corn hybrids in one of the sections was done on the recommendation of the breeder. The tests in the northern and central sections were balanced lattices of 25 entries with six replications. The test at Poplarville in South Mississippi was a balanced lattice of 16 entries with five replications.

Each plot was two rows wide and ten hills long except at State College where the plots were two rows wide and five hills long in four of the six replications.

With a perfect stand, the plants per acre were 7112 at Brooksville and Poplarville, 11,760 at Stoneville, 8688 at State College, and 7840 at all other locations.

Four seeds were planted per hill and thinned to the desired number of plants. An infestation of the true army worms produced an uneven stand at Stoneville soon after planting. The sugar cane beetles (rough headed corn stalk beetles) were numerous at Holly Springs and Raymond but were satisfactorily controlled with one pound Aldrin applied as a spray or granules at planting time.

The percentage of plants lodged as reported in the tables is based on actual counts. All plants broken below the top ear-bearing node (joint) were classified as stalk broken, while all plants leaning 30 degrees or more as root lodged. At Brooksville where almost all plants were lodged, some hybrids had plants sufficiently root lodged to be on the ground, whereas other hybrids had plants leaning, but off the ground. Each plot at Brooksville was graded on the basis of the grade of 1 for the least lodging, increasing to the grade of 4 where most plants were on the ground.

Ears infested with rice weevil (Poplarville) were rated on the percent of ears that were infested and, also, on the degree of infestation on the infested ears. The corn earworm damage grade is based on the number of kernels damaged, with the lowest grade best.

Ear height is reported as the distance in feet from the ground to the point where the top ear is attached to the plant. Husk length is reported as inches beyond the ear tip. Husk tightness is reported as a grade, with a low number loose, and a high number tight.

Central Mississippi

Resistance to the rice weevil is of minor importance in North Mississippi but becomes increasingly important the farther south corn is grown. Many hybrids recommended for North Mississippi yield well in Central Mississippi but cannot be recommended (except for early feed) because of their susceptibility to the rice weevil. Since rice weevil damage in Central Mississippi in 1956 was too light to measure, the information given on resistance of the recommended hybrids to this pest is based on past performance.

Coker 811 is more resistant to rice weevils than Coker 911, but has a smaller ear and yields somewhat less. Both have white grain and are recommended for
Central Mississippi. Coker 911 produced poor stands in some tests in 1956 with a resultant lower yield. Dixie 11 is an excellent yielding white hybrid of excellent quality grain but root lodges badly. It is moderately resistant to rice weevil and has excellent quality grain. Funk G 785 W yields well and stands better than Dixie 11. It is moderately resistant to the rice weevil.

Dixie 18, McCurdy 1003 and Funk G 740 are resistant to the rice weevil, stand well and have excellent quality yellow grain. These should be used, along with Coker 911, in areas where rice weevils are serious. These hybrids are not as high in yield as the recommended hybrids but their excellent weevil resistance makes them desirable where weevils are a serious problem.

Dixie 82 is a high yielding yellow hybrid moderately resistant to rice weevil. Pfister (P.A.G.) 486 is a low eared yellow hybrid that has yielded well and stood well.

The demand for yellow corn around broiler chicken areas has led to the recommendation of Dixie 22 and Funk G 710 although they yield slightly less than adapted white hybrids and may not be as resistant to the rice weevil as other hybrids. No readings could be taken on the tests because of light infestations of rice weevil.

### Corn hybrid tests, four locations. Central Mississippi, 1956.

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<tr>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Yield in bushels per acre</th>
<th>Percent plants erect at harvest</th>
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<td>47.4</td>
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<td>Funk G 779 W</td>
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<td>47.4</td>
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<td>53.0</td>
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<td>49.1</td>
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<td>Funk G 710</td>
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<td>Funk G 740</td>
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<tr>
<td>Station Mosby**</td>
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<td>McCurdy 1003</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td>34.2</td>
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</table>

*Experimental hybrid; no seed available.

**Open pollinated variety.

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### Average of data from hybrid corn tests grown at Brooksville, Newton, Raymond, and Yazoo City, Mississippi, 1956.

| Hybrid | Acre yield | 2-year average yield 1954-56 | Plants erect at harvest | Lodging | Ear- | Ears | Shell- | Moist. in grain | Stand |
|--------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|worn| damage | per| ing | grain |       |       |
|        | bu.        | bu.                           | %                        | %       | %   | %    | plant | %    | %     | %     | %     |
| Dixie 55 | 62.1        | 60.6                          | 60                      | 8       | 32  | 1.19 | 4.4 | 1.4  | 82    | 14.1 | 97    |
| Dixie 82 | 60.2        | 57.7                          | 50                      | 20      | 30  | 1.06 | 4.5 | 1.3  | 82    | 14.2 | 92    |
| Pfister (P.A.G.) 653 | 59.6      | 54.2                          | 47                      | 20      | 33  | 0.91 | 4.3 | 1.4  | 85    | 14.0 | 90    |
| Dixie 11 | 58.5        | 52.4                          | 47                      | 15      | 42  | 0.74 | 4.9 | 1.1  | 85    | 14.1 | 91    |
| Pfister (P.A.G.) 486 | 56.1       | 51.2                          | 56                      | 13      | 31  | 1.26 | 3.8 | 1.2  | 86    | 14.2 | 91    |
| Funk G 785 W | 56.1        | 50.9                          | 55                      | 17      | 28  | 1.11 | 4.5 | 1.3  | 84    | 14.5 | 95    |
| Funk G 779 W | 56.0        | 45.8                          | 46                      | 22      | 19  | 1.16 | 4.2 | 1.0  | 83    | 14.0 | 90    |
| Pfister (P.A.G.) 488 | 54.5        | 45.2                          | 46                      | 15      | 31  | 0.96 | 4.0 | 1.2  | 83    | 14.3 | 74    |
| Dixie 22 | 53.9        | 52.3                          | 56                      | 22      | 23  | 0.99 | 4.5 | 1.0  | 83    | 13.9 | 74    |
| Funk G 710 | 53.3        | 49.2                          | 49                      | 12      | 32  | 1.09 | 4.2 | 1.1  | 83    | 14.0 | 90    |
| Coker 811 | 50.2        | 45.7                          | 45                      | 15      | 31  | 0.98 | 3.9 | 1.2  | 82    | 14.0 | 90    |
| Funk G 779 W | 49.9        | 46.2                          | 44                      | 22      | 34  | 1.06 | 5.0 | 1.0  | 82    | 13.8 | 90    |
| Station Mosby** | 47.4        | 45.8                          | 45                      | 22      | 16  | 0.78 | 5.0 | 1.0  | 83    | 14.0 | 86    |
| Dixie 18 | 41.3        | 45.8                          | 45                      | 15      | 31  | 1.12 | 4.0 | 1.2  | 83    | 14.3 | 74    |
| Coker 911 w | 43.3        | 49.9                          | 56                      | 22      | 23  | 0.99 | 4.5 | 1.0  | 83    | 13.9 | 74    |
| McCurdy 1003 | 42.8        | 42.9                          | 56                      | 22      | 23  | 0.99 | 4.5 | 1.0  | 83    | 13.9 | 74    |

*Experimental hybrid; no seed available.

**Open pollinated variety.
North Mississippi

The State College, Verona, and Stoneville tests were high yielding while the tests at Holly Springs and Pontotoc had lower yields due to lack of rainfall. The Pontotoc Flatwoods test was the lowest yielding test and erratic because of the some yielded much more than others in tests at Holly Springs and Pontotoc had Flatwoods soil as well as lack of rainfall. Although a number of hybrids were recommended for North Mississippi, some yielded much more than others in tests with high yields.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Holly Springs</th>
<th>Verona</th>
<th>State College</th>
<th>Pontotoc Ridge</th>
<th>Pontotoc Flatwoods</th>
<th>Stoneville</th>
<th>Holly Springs</th>
<th>Verona</th>
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*Experimental hybrid; no seed available.  **Open pollinated variety.
The white semi-prolific hybrids, Dixie 55, Dixie 29, Dixie 11, Dixie 33, Pfister (P.A.G.) 653, Funk G 779W, Dixie 17, and the yellow semi-prolific Dixie 22, Funk G 710A and Pfister (P.A.G.) 486 will usually produce two ears per plant when next to a skip in the row. Single eared hybrids, such as Pfister (P.A.G.) 631 and Pioneer 309A, do not have the ability to make up as much yield in poor stands, as do the semi-prolifics, although they will produce a large ear.

### Average of data from hybrid corn tests grown at Holly Springs, Verona, State College, Pontotoc (2) and Stoneville, 1956.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Acre yield</th>
<th>Plants</th>
<th>Lodging</th>
<th>Ear-worm damage</th>
<th>Ears per plant</th>
<th>Shell-</th>
<th>Moist. in grain</th>
<th>Stand</th>
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*Experimental hybrids; no seed available.

**Open pollinated variety.
South Mississippi

On the basis of at least three years data, the yellow hybrids Dixie 18, Funk G 740, and McCurdy 1003 can be recommended for South Mississippi. All three have good weevil resistance and good quality grain. The lot of McCurdy 1003 tested in 1956 did poorly because of weak planting seed, but past performance indicates the hybrid is good genetically.

Coker 811 and La. 521 are weevil resistant white hybrids of excellent grain quality and are recommended for South Mississippi. Coker 811 is resistant to lodging and has relatively low ears.

Weather conditions at Poplarville were unfavorable due to a prolonged drought from shortly after planting to almost silking time. Good rains at silking helped the later hybrids more than the earlier hybrids.

Several experimental hybrids were relatively resistant to weevils, stood well and yielded well.

### South Mississippi hybrid corn test at Poplarville, 1956.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Acre yield</th>
<th>3-year average yield 1954-56</th>
<th>Plants erect at harvest</th>
<th>Lodging</th>
<th>Ears infested</th>
<th>Ears per plant</th>
<th>Husk</th>
<th>Shell</th>
<th>Moist. in grain</th>
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*Experimental hybrid; no seed available.

**Open pollinated variety.