To Maize Geneticists:

As was the case last year, this laboratory will again attempt to act as a clearing house for information and a distributing point for genetic stocks.

This letter is a call for information to be used in succeeding corn letters. It is thought it would be appropriate if the first letter in the fall of each year presented new and pertinent information of value to all maize investigators, such as new linkages, revised or corrected linkage maps, new combinations of genes, new allclomorphs, reoccurrences of known mutations, etc. So we are, therefore, requesting all maize geneticists to send us any information they deem of value to others. It is understood that any information or data which appear in this series of corn letters can not be cited in publications without the direct consent of the contributor. As an example of the kind of information we would like to have for the first letter, we will give the following unpublished facts:

1. Emerson has a new glossy seedling which is linked with fine-striped1 (f1). Seed available.

2. Hayes reports that argostripe (ag) is allelomorphic with ioljap (ij) and that lazy (la) shows linkage with the su-Tu group.

3. Lindstrom has a new recessive sun red plant color. Seed available.

The above are sample items of a type that will interest everyone. We want more of them for the first corn letter. We would like to have this letter in your hands before the Christmas meetings at Boston so the dead line for contributions will be December 15th. Everyone is urged to contribute so that these letters will be of real value.

This winter we hope to make an inventory of all the genetic stocks in maize. The stocks will be listed under two categories: (1) Combinations of factors belonging to the same linkage group and (2) combinations of genes belonging to different linkage groups. It should be of great help to all investigators to know whether a desired combination of genes is already in existence or whether you must spend several years in
building it up. For that reason we are asking that you go over
your genetic material and list the different combinations under
the two categories. Care should be taken that the proper sub-
script is used for the different glossies, etc. If possible
state whether of early or late season. We should like to have
these lists as soon as possible. We hope to have the complete
list ready for mailing by February 1st, so January 15th is set
as the dead line for receipt of this information.

You will be interested in knowing that the Drosophila
workers have recently decided to start a cooperative group modeled
after the one for maize. The following paragraph is taken from
the letter calling on the different laboratories to organize:

"For several years now workers on genetics
of maize have been receiving mimeographed circu-
lars prepared in Professor Emerson's laboratory,
containing information contributed by various
investigators. This service proved to be so use-
ful that steps are being taken to extend it and
make it a permanent institution."

We are glad that the success of the maize group has stim-
ulated the Drosophila investigators to undertake a similar
cooperative enterprise and we hope they find the same generous
spirit of cooperation which you maize workers have shown.

Remember we would like to have the requested information
as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

M. M. Rhoades

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