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Brochure, "Dortch's Southern Hybrid Seed Corn"

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Advantages

1. More vigorous growth.
2. Much higher yields.
3. Lower percentage nubbins.
4. Fast growing, quick maturity.
5. Fewer barren stalks.
6. Stronger root system.
7. Erect, strong stalks.
8. Highly resistant to drouth.
9. Resistance to insect damage.
10. Greater resistance to high temperatures.
11. Better quality of grain.
12. Highly desirable in every respect.

WRITERS' PROJECT
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



1-Bu. Bag Dortch's Genuine Hybrid

DESCRIPTION

STALK—strong, vigorous, about 7 to 8 feet high, medium leaves.

EARS—Medium to large, red cob, tip well filled out, tight, disease resistant.

GRAIN—Yellow, medium size, not too hard, very nutritious.

ROOT SYSTEM—Abundant, heavy, deep growing.

STORM RESISTANT—Highly storm resistant.

MATURITY—Exceptionally early.

HEIGHT OF EARS—About 3½ feet to bottom ear.

LENGTH OF SHANK—Medium to short.

HUSK—Ample, tight fitting, full coverage.

ADAPTATION—Well adapted to most Southern soils.

DROUTH RESISTANCE—Remarkably high.

SEED—Modern machine graded for uniform size and shape to permit precise planting.

Produced by

ROBERT L. DORTCH
SCOTT, ARKANSAS

DORTCH'S

Southern

HYBRID



SEED CORN

Produced by

ROBERT L. DORTCH

Scott, Ark.

DORTCH'S SOUTHERN HYBRID CORN



Corn is probably the oldest cultivated crop in America. Christopher Columbus found corn cultivated by the Indians when he first landed on the American shore. This corn, of course, was far different and far inferior to the present day commercial varieties. Corn is very responsive to the influence of scientific plant breeding and more progress has been made to better adapt it to the needs of modern agriculture than any other crop. The hybridization of corn other than in an experimental way is a very recent accomplishment of the plant breeder. Space here does not permit the full scientific explanation of how hybridization of corn is brought about, but can only be touched in a very general way.

HOW IS HYBRID CORN PRODUCED?

At first the breeder selects a number of different strains of corn with varying characteristics and inbreeds them for not less than five or six years into very uniform material known as inbred lines. This inbreeding produces marked uniformity and stabilization of genetic characteristics, at the same time reducing the size of stalks, ears and marked decrease in yields.



BEAUTIFUL UNIFORM FIELD OF DORTCH'S HYBRID

With this material to work with, the breeder makes countless numbers of hand crosses of the pure lines available. The resulting characteristics are carefully studied to determine the advantages gained with particular attention to higher yields. Then, the next step is to cross or hybridize two of these single crosses in order to combine the most desirable characteristics of at least four different pure lines. Along with these steps extensive testing is necessary to determine which combination will produce the most desirable results. The breeder never ceases his relentless search for new combinations that will bring together more desirable characteristics, the most important of which are vigor, earliness and higher field production.

HYBRID SEED

Tests have proven that all kernels from hybrid ears are equally valuable and one will produce just as well as another, large or small, round or flat. Each ear is carefully inspected and all inferior and irregular grains are removed, then the ears are carefully shelled and the entire process is a hand inbreeding and hand crossing process and only in the final hybridization can nature be permitted to produce the final hybrid of the two pure lines or single crosses. This is done by one row, which by intensive search has been found to best serve as the male parent and four

female rows from which the tassels are removed by hand just as they appear. Only the corn produced on the female rows is suitable for seed as the male rows will pollinate themselves and cannot be used as hybrid. Even this detasseling process alone requires going over the fields 14 or 15 times, more or less, to be sure that every tassel has been removed from the female rows. This hybrid will make its highest yield the first generation and is not considered suitable for replanting due to the fact it becomes open-pollinated during its first year of commercial production.

Modern corn grading equipment is utilized to accurately separate the different size grains into uniform grades to permit precise planting. No expense is spared in the careful grading, preparation and packaging of Dortch's Hybrid.

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