PARENT-PROGENY CORRELATIONS IN CORN

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The desire to find easily recognizable physical characters in corn which are associated with yield and which can be used as criteria in selection has prompted extensive experimentation. Many data have been secured and published concerning the correlation of ear characters with each other and with yield. The studies were made in connection with several systems of breeding, but in the main they concern ear-to-row methods. The results are somewhat conflicting, but, on the whole, have been disappointing in that no such characters have been found.

Prior to 1925, the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station began a system of plant-to-row corn breeding which is described fully below. Like many other systems, it uses the progeny yield to determine what shall be retained and what discarded, but it differs from others in certain respects, as will be observed from the description. The operation of this system offered an opportunity to collect additional correlation data between characters of the parent

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