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SUMMARY OF THE CORN DISEASES

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1965

In the previous years, the diseases encountered in corn most often were the killing of the sown seeds and of the sprouts, blister smut, bacteriosis, ergotism and white-corn disease. Gray rot developed less intensively. The blight was caused by a complex of microorganisms and also diplodia disease and red rot had a limited occurrence.

The killing of the seeds and sprouts was caused by fungi of the genera *Penicillium* and *Fusarium*. Owing to a late spring it was less severe than usually in 70% of the regions. An appreciable development of the disease was observed in Cherkasya (Cherkasya and Tovskaya oblasts and Altayskiy Kray) and also in Luhanska-Potiskaya (5.2-15.5%) and Voronezhskaya (1.1-4.1%) oblasts, in Kurskoborod'kiy Kray (6.3%) and other regions of the USSR. Cases of severe molding of the seeds were observed in Kievskaya Oblast in the hybrid Bukovinskiy 3 (up to 27.6%). The low-quality and poorly treated seeds molded very badly. An improvement in the quality of the treatment at the plants largely reduce the manifestation of the disease in the following year. Blister smut (Ustilago maydis Coss.) gained considerable occurrence.

The data according to zones are given in the article by G. E. Zel'marova (see page 147).

Ecological conditions for the development of the disease were favorable in 1971. Arid weather in the first half of the vegetation which changed to a wetter period in the second half contributed to an increase of the smutty smut in many regions (Table I).

According to the data of All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Corn Research and its network and also according to the data of the object experiment stations of Ukrainian SSR the highest number of the attacked plants was observed in Poltavskaya Oblast in the hybrid Zukovskiy 3 at the kolkhozes "Poremoga" in Luhenskiy rayon (22.0%) and "Druzhba" in Dilman'skiy Rayon (2.0%), and somewhat less at some kolkhozes in Chernovitskaya (11.5%) and Zhitomirskaya (12.0%) oblasts. In RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] the disease sharply increased in Kurskaya, Astrakhan' and Stavropol' Belokar ASRR (up to 70% of the diseased plants), in Voratovskaya (up to 64%), Moscow (up to 13%) and Tyanovskaya (up to 12%) oblasts. Isolated attacks on the plants were encountered in other localities.

The preservation of high viability of the smut spores in the galls toward the beginning of the corn harvesting in many zones indicates that with favorable ecological conditions the development of the disease may increase next year, especially in the regions with a large reservoir of infection.

The loose smut (*Sorosporium reilianum* McAlpine) was seldom encountered on maize farms owing to the adoption of a centralized treatment of the

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Table 1

СТАТИСТИЧЕСКАЯ ТАБЛИЦА ПОДАЧИ СОРТОВЫХ ДАННЫХ

1) республика, край, область 2)	(26) Сорт или гибрид	(36) Средневзвешенный процент поражения
(1) Узбекская обл.		15,3
(2) Афганская обл.		12,3
(3) Бахчисарайская обл.		10,6
(4) Черкасская обл.		9,2
(5) Тернопольская обл.		9,0
(6) Тираспольская обл.		8,3
(7) Чечено-Дагестанская обл.		6,5
(8) Херсонская обл.		5,5
(9) Днепропетровская обл.		3,0
(10) Кировоградская обл.		2,3
(11) Винницкая обл.		0,7
(12) Ровенская обл.		3,6
(13) Николаевская обл.		2,7
(14) Луганская обл.		2,5
(15) Геническая земская общ.		2,5
(16) Одесская обл.		1,7
(17) Запорожская обл.		1,2
(18) Кировоградская обл.		1,2
(19) Сумська обл.	Ніжинський 6 (29)	1,8
(20) Дніпропетровська обл.	Дніпропетровський 56 (30)	4,4
(21) Волгоградська обл.	Ракета (31)	2,2
(22) Воронежская обл.	Буковинський 2 (32)	2,2
(23) Закарпатська обл.	ВІР 117 (33)	0,4
(24) Ставропольский край	ВІР 42 (28)	4,6
(25) Грузинская ССР	Буковинський 3 (27)	5,0
	Кременістая біла (34)	7,5
	Алазанськата біла (35)	2,0

Key to Table 1: 1) Republic, kray or oblast; 2) Poltavskaya Oblast; 3) Kievskaya Oblast; 4) Zhitomirskaya Oblast; 5) Cherkasskaya Oblast; 6) Ternopol'skaya Oblast; 7) Chernovitskaya Oblast; 8) Chernigovskaya Oblast; 9) Irpin'ivtskaya Oblast; 10) Vinnytskaya Oblast; 11) Volynskaya Oblast; 12) Rovenskaya Oblast; 13) Nikolayevskaya Oblast; 14) Luganskaya Oblast; 15) Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast; 16) Odesskaya Oblast; 17) Zaporozhskaya Oblast; 18) Kirovogradskaya Oblast; 19) Sumskaya Oblast; 20) Penzianskaya Oblast; 21) Volgoogradskaya Oblast; 22) Voronezhskaya Oblast; 23) Zakarpatskaya Oblast; 24) Stavropol'skiy Kray; 25) Georgian SSR; 26) Variety or hybrid; 27) Bukovinskiy 3; 28) VIR 42; 29) Kievskiy 6; 30) Dnepropetrovskiy-56; 31) Raketa; 32) Bukovinskiy 2; 33) VIR 117; 34) Kremnistaya belaya; 35) Adzhinatskaya belaya; 36) The average weighted percentage of the disease.

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seeds at the corn processing mills. Not more than 0.4-0.7% of the plants were attacked in the crops of the steppe zone of the Ukraine and in a number of regions of RSFSR. A high rate of the disease was observed in the separate fields, for example at the Kolkhoz imeni Zhdanov (3.8%) and at the Kolkhoz imeni Michurin (2%) in Kagarlykskiy Rayon of Kievskaya Oblast (see the articles by T. I. Zakharova), and also in Ryazanskaya Oblast, in North Ossetian ASSR and Chechено-Ingush ASSR (4-7%). Because of the high rate of the affection of corn by the loose smut it is necessary to tighten up the quality control of the seed treatment.

The corn stalk diseases are caused chiefly by species of the genera Fusarium and Sclerotium. In most of the regions the stalk rots were observed in an insignificant amount. The decline of the disease was helped by favorable conditions for the growth and development of the plants in the second half of the vegetation. Thus, in Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast not more than 0.4-2.0% of the plants were affected in the production-scale sowings of the hybrid VIR 42 as compared with 17% in 1963.

The intensity of the disease development depends in many respects on the degree of the resistance of a variety or hybrid. Thus, while in the separate numbers of the sweet corn the diseased stalks amounted up to 30-50%, in the varieties Risovaya 645 and Grushevaya 380 they amounted up to 19% and 17% respectively.

Breaking and lodging of the plants — characteristic symptoms of fusarium stalk rot — were observed in isolated cases in Nikolayevskaya, Kievskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts. The possibility is not excluded that under the conditions more favorable for the development the disease will progress in the repeated plantings.

Table 2

THE PERCENTAGE OF THE CORN CARS
ATTACKED BY DISEASES IN 1964

(1) Место проведения учета	Сорт или гибрид (12)	Всего пораженных (27)	28% том числе поражено болезнями					
			(29) фузариоз зох	(30) никроспора рот	(31) серая гниль	(32) бактериоз зох	(33) белые засох листья	(34) плесневые засох
(2) Днепропетровская обл.	ВИР 42 (13)	33,5	4,0	0	0	25,0	13,2	10,0
	Днепропетровский 90(14)	23,8	3,8	2,8	0	6,2	11,3	12,3
	Пламя (15)	7,7	1,5	0	0	0,2	0,2	3,5
	Ракета (16)	27,6	0,4	6,0	0	11,2	19,0	8,5
	Днепропетровский 98(17)	26,0	28,4	0,1	0,8	10,8	14,5	7,0
(3) Одесская обл.	Рисовая 645 (18)	29,3	10,3	3,6	0	2,5	11,0	7,4
	ВИР 42 (13)	10,1	21,6	0,4	—	25,3	20,8	8,9
(4) Киевская обл.	Буковинский 3 (19)	52,7	19,1	1,9	3,8	30,8	19,3	—
	Гlorия Яненского (20)	61,0	53,7	3,4	4,9	32,0	24,3	—
	Кievskiy 8 (21)	38,4	27,9	2,2	1,1	6,7	26,2	—
(5) Волгоградская обл.	Днепропетровский 98 (17)	51,1	3,9	—	—	16,2	10,9	2,7
	Ракета (16)	28,4	0,8	—	—	27,4	5,8	1,0
(6) Ставропольский край:	ВИР 42 (13)	41,0	5,0	1,0	—	19,0	4,0	8,0
	ВИР 42 (22)	63,0	19,0	0	—	37,0	4,0	10,0
(7) восточная зона (8) центральная зона (9) Грузинская ССР:	Картули Круги (22)	—	6,4	8,0	—	1,9	0,7	0,4
	Картули 1 (23)	—	7,8	5,5	—	1,6	2,2	0,7
	Иммеретинский (24)	—	4,5	1,6	—	1,1	1,3	0,3
	Кремнистая белая (25)	—	2,0	1,5	—	1,0	1,2	0,7
	Аджаметская белая(26)	—	2,8	5,0	—	0,9	0,3	0,8
(10) восточные районы	27) The total of the attacked ears;							
	28) Including those attacked by the following diseases; 29) Fusariosis;							
(11) западные районы	30) Nigrospora cob rot; 31) Gray rot; 32) Bacteriosis; 33) White-ear disease; 34) Molding.							

Key to Table 2: 1) The locality where the count was made; 2) Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast; 3) Odesskaya Oblast; 4) Kievskaya Oblast; 5) Volgogradskaya Oblast; 6) Stavropol'skiy Kray; 7) Eastern zone; 8) Central zone; 9) Georgian SSR; 10) Eastern regions; 11) Western regions; 12) Variety or hybrid; 13) VIR 42; 14) Dnepropetrovskiy 90; 15) Plamya; 16) Rakota; 17) Dnepropetrovskiy 98; 18) Risovaya 645; 19) Bukovinskiy 3; 20) Gloriya Yanetskogo; 21) Kievskiy 8; 22) Kartuli Krugi; 23) Kartuli 1; 24) Immeretinskii hybrid; 25) Kremnistaya belaya; 26) Adzhametskaya belaya; 27) The total of the attacked ears; 28) Including those attacked by the following diseases; 29) Fusariosis; 30) Nigrospora cob rot; 31) Gray rot; 32) Bacteriosis; 33) White-ear disease; 34) Molding.

Fungi of the genera *Helminthosporium* and *Nigrospora* were observed in the steppe zone of the Ukraine. They had not been observed here before.

Diplodia dry rot (*Diplodia zeae* Lev.) and the red stalk rot (*Gibberella zeae* Sacc., *Sclerotium bataticola* Taub) had a limited occurrence in Georgia only in the regions with a plentiful amount of precipitation

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in the late summer. In the western regions the development of the disease remained at the 1963 level; dollar leaf blight attacked from 14.5% to 20.2% of the plants and the red stalk rot -- from 7.5% to 9.5%. In the eastern regions the attack of the stalks by the red rot increased to 7%. This was connected with a large amount of precipitation in August and September in comparison with the same period in 1963.

Brown spot (*Phytophthora maydis* Miyab.) was observed only in Georgia. Its incidence was from 2.5% to 22.5% in the eastern regions of this Republic and up to 10-12% in the western regions.

Corn rust (*Puccinia sorghi* Schw.) gained appreciable development in Georgia. Plants having the disease symptoms were observed most of all (from 15 to 65%) in the eastern regions. The degree of the infection by the disease varied from 15% to 58%. In Vinnitskaya and Volynskaya oblasts the plants affected to a slight degree amounted to from 2% to 6%.

Isolated plants with the fungus pustules were observed in Kirovohradskaya, Clesckaya, Luganskaya, Ternopol'skaya, Kievskaya, Chernihivskaya and Dnipro-Petrovskaya oblast and also in Voronezhskaya Oblast on the sections located on the bottom land of the Dnepr River. The disease was not detected in Zakaryatskaya, Rovenskaya, Chernovitskaya, Zhitomirskaya, Cherkasskaya, Sumskaya, Zaporozhskaya, Kirovogradskaya, Irynskaya, Lvovskaya, Nikolaevskaya and Volgogradskaya oblasts and in Stavropol'skiy Kray.

Helminthosporium corn leaf blight (*Helminthosporium turcicum* Pass.) usually occurs in the south of the Ukraine, in Northern Caucasian and in the Transcaucasian region. In 1964 the disease developed very intensively in the mid western regions of Georgia. In the late and after-harvest sowings not infrequently one out of every 10-12 plants would prove to be

The main corn diseases are caused by the following widely occurring
and common fungi: *Fusarium niviforme* Schlecht., *Microspora oryzae* Fitch.,
Aspergillus De Baryi and *Bacillus subtilis var. vulgaris* Flügge (Table 1).

Unfavorable weather at the end of corn vegetation in the Ukraine con-
tributed to an increase of fusariosis, microspora cob rot, white-ear dis-
ease and late molding of the ears. An increase of fusariosis was also ob-
served in the central regions of Stavropol'skiy Kray and of the white-ear
disease in Voronezhskaya Oblast (up to 1.5% in the hybrid Bukovinskii 2).

A decline of bacteriosis was recorded in the Ukraine and a decline
of fusariosis and white rust -- in the Volga region. *Diplodia* ear rot (up
to 1.2%) and the red ear rot (up to 6.5%) were recorded only in Georgia.

Observance of the agricultural-engineering methods aimed at the
destruction of the infectious matter, the sorting and grading of the seeds
and also a high-quality treatment of them will contribute to a decline of
the corn diseases and to a decrease of the crop losses from them.

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