

## 2001 Ornamental Corn Germplasm Evaluation

Bob Precheur, Extension Specialist, Vegetable Crops  
Ohio State University ~ Columbus, Ohio  
Thomas C. Harker, Horticulture Assistant  
Ohio State University Extension Enterprise Center  
1864 Shyville Road, Piketon, Ohio 45661  
Phone: (740) 289-3727 Email: harker.7@osu.edu

This Ornamental Corn Germplasm trial compared 16 cultivars using 3 replicates of each cultivar. Objectives were to rate and observe specific lines of ornamental corns for production and marketing characteristics.

### **Methods:**

**Planting:** Seeded to the field on May 11, 2001

**Spacing:** Each plot was replicated three times in the field. The plot size was 4 rows on 30-inch centers with 12 inches between plants.

**Soil Type:** Haubstadt Silt loam

**Fertilizer:** Applied 120 lbs. N, 120 lbs. P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and 120 lbs. K<sub>2</sub>O per acre .

**Weed Control:** 2.1 qt/a Bicep II Magnim applied on May 11, 2001

**Pest Management:** None

**Harvest:** October 9, 2001 harvested only the two center rows of the four rows of each cultivar.

### **Results:**

Some cultivars in this year's trial that look promising include RBVX 1402 B, RBV 1300 EXP, RBV 1303 R and RBV 1302 R. Marketable ears per plot ranged from 20.67 to 8.67. Many of the cultivars yielded multiple ears per plant. Ear length ranged from 8.94 inches to 8.04 inches long. There was a wide range of color schemes in this year's trial some of the colors included Reds, pinks, purples, blues, browns, and yellows. Some of the colors had a pastel appearance to them, others ears had a shiny appearance to them. There were several attractive color schemes in this year's trials. This year we rated the ears for tip cover on a scale of 1 to 4 with 1 being the worst and 4 the best. Most of the cultivars this year had very good tip fill, generally filled out to the end of the ears.

**Table 1.** Yields from the replicated Ornamental Corn Germplasm Evaluation, Ohio State University Extension Enterprise Center, Hillsboro

<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Average # Marketable Ears per plot</u>	<u>Average Ear Width Inches</u>	<u>Average Ear Length Inches</u>	<u>* Tip Cover</u>
RBVX 1402 B	20.67	3.46	8.94	2.67
RBV 1300 EXP	20.00	1.84	8.90	3.00
RBV 1303 R	17.33	1.71	8.06	3.33
RBV 1002	17.00	1.69	8.50	3.00
RBVX 1302 R	16.67	1.65	7.79	3.67
RBV 1018	16.00	1.69	8.27	1.66
RBV 1500	16.00	1.79	8.27	3.67
RBV 1005	15.33	1.67	8.65	2.33
RBV XMAS LIGHTS	15.33	1.73	8.27	2.33
AMX 1005	14.00	1.73	8.50	2.67
RBV 1012	13.00	1.81	8.65	2.00
RBV 1013	12.00	1.71	8.71	2.00
RBV 1003	11.67	1.88	8.27	2.33
RBV 1009 N	11.33	1.79	8.92	2.67
RBV 1017	9.67	1.54	7.55	2.67
AMX 1002	8.67	1.77	8.04	2.33
<b>LSD</b>	<b>4.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>1.51</b>

\* We rated the ears for tip cover on a scale of 1 to 4 with 1 being the worst and 4 the best.

**Table 2.** Weather data

Ohio State University Extension Enterprise Center, Hillsboro

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rain Fall</u>	<u>Average Max temp</u>	<u>Average Min temp</u>
May	5.58	73	52
June	3.65	77	59
July	4.79	81	62
August	4.8	82	65
September	2.86	69	54
October	4.52	64	44

**Thanks to Rainbow Valley seeds and Phil Short of Rispens Seeds for their contributions to this year's trial.**