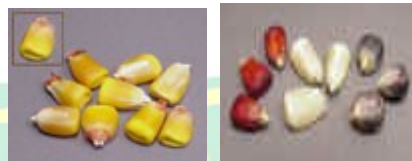


Introduction to Corn: Types of Corn

Dent corn, a tall growing variety of corn (*Zea mays* var. *indentata*) having yellow or white kernels that are indented at the tip.



Flint corn, a variety of corn (*Zea mays* var. *indurata*) having small hard grains



Waxy corn, corn that consist 95% or more starch. This is due to a single gene affecting the chemical composition of the starch, which in waxy cultivars is composed entirely of amylopectin, whereas in non-waxy cultivars, it is a mixture of amylose and amylopectin.



Sweet corn, a variety of corn (*Zea mays* var. *rugosa*) the common table and canning corn having kernels that are sweet when young, also called sugar corn.



Pop corn, this was present in wild maize and the early domesticates. The grains are small with a high proportion of very hard corneous endosperm with a little soft starch in the center. On heating, the steam generated inside the grain causes it to pop and explode, the endosperm becoming everted about the embryo and hull to produce a palatable white fluffy mass.



Pod corn, the most primitive form of maize in which the grain is enclosed in floral bracts or glumes. It is not grown commercially, but turns up as a freak or monstrosity in some South American cultivars and is preserved in some localities by the Indians who believe it to have magical properties. Wild maize, now extinct, and the earliest domesticated maize were pod corns



Sources and Links

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