

The Y-5 strain of BYMV was isolated from bean plants in the field where natural infection readings were made. It is not clear why the differential exists; several strains of BYMV are known to occur in the field, many of which are less virulent than Y-5; involved also are environmental and virus transfer differentials. The data indicate clearly, however, need for care in interpreting greenhouse resistance to a virulent isolate in terms of field resistance to several strains of BYMV.

Sterile Bean Lines

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Occasional sterile plants have been noted, for several years, in breeding lines of Phaseolus vulgaris grown in the field. They have been observed late in the growing season when fertile plants have produced mature, dry pods, while steriles have remained green and have produced none, or very few, seed-bearing pods. Many small pods, however, bearing no seeds, have been noted on sterile plants.

In the past two seasons--1965, 1966--a few selections of OSU 9161 line have shown many sterile or near-sterile plants. A selection of OSU line 172, grown in the greenhouse in the spring of 1966, stayed sterile for some time, then set a large number of pods.

Other near-steriles have been noted for the past several years in derivatives of the interspecific cross of Phaseolus coccineus and Phaseolus lunatus made originally by S. Homma.

At the present time, in the greenhouse, an additional sterile plant is noted. It came from seed of a single flat pod found on an otherwise round-podded wax bean plant. Many flat pod mutants have been noted in green podded Blue Lake poles or bush green pod lines derived from Blue Lake. None of the flat green pod mutants have been sterile.

Nature, or inheritance, of the various steriles has not yet been explored here.

Inheritance of Silver Mutant - A Correction

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In the B.I.C. 9 report, gene symbol for a silver leaf mutant was inadvertently suggested as dgs. The symbol should have been sil. The symbol dgs was suggested in B.I.C. 9 for the dark green savoy mutant.