

PRESENT STATUS OF SUGAR BEET BREEDING IN MICHIGAN

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Accomplishments

- A. Developed hybrid 125. Its chief characteristics are:
 - 1. Higher yielding than any commercial variety in this area
 - 2. Resistant to leaf spot
 - 3. Resistant to black root

Problems Yet to be Solved

- A. Get hybrid 125 into commercial production.

Immediate Future Objectives of Breeding Problems

- A. Index individual plants for male sterility.
- B. Develop more inbred lines with male sterile equivalents.
- C. Making and testing as many hybrids as possible from our present breeding stock.

Breeding Methods Which Have Been Used and Which Will Be Used

- A. Inbreeding with selection followed by crossing inbred strains to develop improved hybrid varieties.

What Material and Information Would Be of Most Value to You in Enabling Your Breeding Program to Meet the Objectives You Have Set Up?

- A. New inbred strains, having:
 - 1. High sugar
 - 2. Resistance to cold
 - 3. Resistance to diseases
 - a. Leaf spot
 - b. Black root
 - 4. Round roots
 - 5. Monogerm seed
- B. Information on how to induce parthnogenesis in beets.