

Zea mays L. (Poaceae)

Caryopsis

General shape: rounded triangular; in cross-section round to dorsal-ventrally compressed

Size: 5.0-20.0 L x 3.0-18.0 W x 3.0-7.0 D mm

Color: yellow (white or red to purple) the scutellum (1) is lighter

Texture: smooth, sweet corn varieties wrinkled

Distinguishing features: rounded at the cotyledon side, where some indents can occur on the tip depending on the variety.

Embryo (2): straight, lies under the dorsal testa in the middle; the root-shoot axis about 3/4 the length of the caryopsis.

Endosperm: semi-solid to solid.

Hilum: oval



Caryopsis of *Zea mays*

Note: the seeds vary greatly depending on the variety regarding the shape, size, color and texture.

