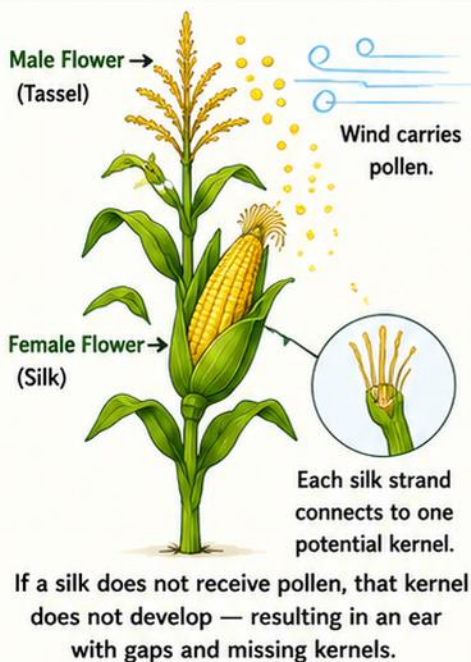


CORN POLLINATION

Know It, Grow It!

Understanding pollination is essential to growing corn successfully. Corn is unusual among vegetables in that it requires wind to carry pollen from the male flowers (tassels) at the top of each plant to the female flowers (silks) emerging from each potential ear.

HOW POLLINATION WORKS



PLANT IN BLOCKS FOR BEST POLLINATION



Planting corn in a block (4 or more rows) maximizes pollination success.

SMALL GARDEN TIP

If you can only grow one or two rows, shake the tassels each morning over the silks when both are active.



HOW POLLINATION AFFECTS YOUR EARS

GOOD POLLINATION



Well-pollinated silk strands produce full, even kernels.

POOR POLLINATION



Unpollinated silk strands result in gaps and missing kernels.

AVOID CROSS-POLLINATION BETWEEN VARIETIES

Planting different varieties too close together causes cross-pollination. Pollen from one variety can affect the sweetness and texture of another.

★ REMEMBER

- Wind is the pollinator.
- Plant in blocks for best results.
- Help pollination in small gardens by shaking tassels.
- Manage varieties to avoid cross-pollination.

STANDARD & SUPERSWEET VARIETIES

Must be separated by at least 250 feet OR timed to tassel at least 10 days apart.



SUGAR-ENHANCED (SE) VARIETIES

Less sensitive to cross-pollination but some separation is still a good idea.



ONE VARIETY ONLY

If you are only growing corn of one variety, cross-pollination is not a concern.



HEALTHY POLLINATION = FULL EARS = SWEET SUCCESS!

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