1. Record Nr. UNINA9910457174603321

Titolo Histories of maize: multidisciplinary approaches to the prehistory,

linguistics, biogeography, domestication, and evolution of maize //

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Pubbl/distr/stampa London;; New York:,: Routledge,, 2016

ISBN 1-315-42733-8

1-59874-782-7

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (706 p.)

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Disciplina 574.87328

Soggetti Maize chronology

Molecular biology -- Miscellanea

Molecular biology

Sociocultural development

Electronic books.

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali "First published 2009 by Left Coast Press, Inc."--T.p. verso.

Nota di contenuto Table of Contents; Contributors; An Introduction to the Histories of

Maize; Part I: Histories of Maize: Genetic, Morphological, and

Microbotanical Evidence; 1: Differing Approaches and Perceptions in

the Study of New and Old World Crops; Introduction; Different

Emphases in New and Old World Agriculture; Reasons for the Difference

in Emphasis; Outcomes of the Difference in Emphasis; Different

Perceptions of the Role of Science; 2: Maize in the Americas; Purpose and Scope of Review; Introduction; Genetic Evidence of Teosinte

Domestication; Genetic Evidence of Population Manipulation

Archaeological-Macrobotanical-Evidence of Teosinte Domestication and Maize AgriculturePollen Evidence for Use of Zea and Climate

Change and Phytoliths Document Neotropical Plant Domestication;
Juxtaposing the Archaeological and Genetic Evidence for Early Maize: 3:

Origin of Polystichy in Maize; Abstract; Introduction: The Origin of

Maize; The Maizoid Eve- An Emphatic Restatement; The Maizoid Eve

Concept Is Useful and Should Not Be Rejected; First for Sugar, Then for Grain: Reflections on Corn Domestication Chronology
The Cupulate Fruitcase and the Ear Cluster: Adaptive Marvels of
Coordinated Sequential MaturationThe Origin of Polystichy in Maize; An
Abbreviated History; The "Twisted Cob Hypothesis" of Collins: Its Merits
and Follies; What Happened After Tga 1 Caused the Maizoid
Revolution?; Collins' Figure, With All of Its Faults, Is a Classic
Illustration; The Origin of Polystichy in Maize: The "Second Bifurcation"A Reappraisal; The Shank and Its Husks - The Key to Maize Ear
Polystichy; Maize Polystichy-With Its Roots in the Shank to Its Glory in
the Ear

On the Inexcusable Neglect of the Shank and Its HusksA Note on Twisting, and the Basic Bilateral Dorsiventrality of Zea; Edgar Anderson and the Shank-The Story of an Unconsummated Love Affair; The Condensation in the Maize Shank and Its Husks and Preconceived Notions; From Teosinte Distichy to Maizoid Polystichy: Or How to Study Husk Phyllotaxy in Nine Easy Steps; Iltis and His Gigantic Footnote; S. G. Stephens and the Shank Condensation Theory - Sharp-Eyed, Unsung, Uncited, and Unequivocally Correct; Postscript; 4: Dating the Initial Spread of Zea mays; Introduction

Temporal Frameworks for Zea Mays' Early DispersalDirect Dating of Maize; On the Indirect Dating of Maize; Dating the Early Distribution of Zea Pollen; Dating the Early Distribution of Maize Phytoliths; Dating the Early Distribution of Moderate-to-High Stable Carbon Isotope Ratios; Comparing the Different Lines of Evidence; Discussion of the Social Implications of Maize's Early Spread: Initial Uses of Maize; 5: El Riego and Early Maize Agricultural Evolution; Introduction; Domestication and Agriculture; Methods; Results: Calibrating and Averaging AMS Dates Results: Morphological Trends and Rates

Sommario/riassunto

Maize has been described as a primary catalyst to complex sociocultural development in the Americas. State of the art research on maize chronology, molecular biology, and stable carbon isotope research on ancient human diets have provided additional lines of evidence on the changing role of maize through time and space and its spread throughout the Americas. The multidisciplinary evidence from the social and biological sciences presented in this volume have generated a much more complex picture of the economic, political, and religious significance of maize. The volume also includes ethno