



WHITE OPEN POLLINATED MAIZE

ZM1521

ZM1521 is a white semi-flint grain maize with excellent GLS resistance and was bred by CIMMYT for Sub-Saharan Africa. It has an intermediate maturity.

ZM1521 yields 30 – 50% more than traditional varieties under drought and low soil fertility. These are two problems that commonly keep smallholder farmers in a cycle of poverty. The economic return of these improved varieties over seasons, particularly when grown in harsh environments may therefore match that of expensive hybrid seed.

Many varieties were evaluated using “Mother-Baby Trials” followed by a large number of demonstration plots. Mother-Baby Trials very effectively assess the performance and acceptance of new varieties under smallholder farmers’ conditions.

ZM1521 excelled particularly under drought and low fertility conditions. The grain is more flinty than grain of commercial hybrids. Farmers perceive that flint grain dries more quickly and stores better than dent grain. Women farmers like the amount of flour produced when this flint grain is milled and the good stamp or mealie meal they get when it is pounded



- Intermediate maturity: 60 - 65 days to flowering
120 - 130 days to maturity
- White semi-flint grain with a modest frequency of semi-dent kernels
- High yield even under drought and low soil fertility conditions
- Moderate levels of tolerance to maize streak virus, grey leaf spot, common rust and northern leaf blight

