

Maize Production Environments Revisited

A GIS-based Approach

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CIMMYT

The Maize Program

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(Centerfold: A simplified map of maize mega-environments created by removing precipitation criteria.)

Executive Summary

To improve the targeting of germplasm by its staff and partners, in the 1980s CIMMYT defined a set of global maize production environments known as “mega-environments” (MEs). Center staff interviewed research partners in approximately 70 maize producing countries of the developing world. Based on the results, the major, non-temperate maize production ecologies were subdivided into 30 large, not necessarily contiguous areas according to such factors as maturity, preferred grain color and texture, and important production constraints (drought, low N conditions, diseases, insect pests). These ME definitions are very useful for targeting and priority setting, but also have shortcomings. They are based on expert knowledge and are therefore subjective. Crop losses due to diseases, pests and abiotic stress factors are estimated and not based on trials. The timing and severity of common stresses are not defined, thus precise aggregation of areas with similar stress ratings is difficult. Furthermore, definitions focus on regions where CIMMYT has strong contacts, leaving some areas poorly characterized. In some regions, different MEs overlap, making the system difficult to use. Finally, maize cropping locations, circumstances, and systems have changed considerably since the original ME study, but updating of MEs has been sketchy for lack of resources to do a complete, methodical revision.

This publication presents a revision of the maize MEs that draws on geographic information systems (GISs). A cluster analysis was performed on climate data, representing a four-month growing season, for key maize producing locations. The onset of the growing season was determined based on the month when the ratio of precipitation over potential evapotranspiration exceeds 0.5, assuming rainfed production conditions. Diagnostic criteria for mapping MEs were based on cluster analysis results and expert knowledge, and resulted in divisions based on daylength, mean temperature, and precipitation. The resulting maps and classifications can be used to select appropriate target environments for maize germplasm and trials at the regional level, as well as in priority setting and site selection for global maize breeding programs. The full ME classification and map (Table 5 and Appendix H) is more detailed than many users will want to deal with, so a simplified map (**Centerfold**) and table of criteria (Table 1) were prepared that eliminate the subdivisions based on precipitation. In any case, the creation of surfaces for precipitation is more problematic than for temperature. Variation in precipitation often shows no relation to elevation, and precipitation amounts may change rapidly over relatively short distances (e.g., in rain shadows). We expect that users of the map will usually have a good understanding of such local variation.

The ME definitions need further refinement using actual maize production¹ and distribution data; long-term trial results that represent genotype-by-environment interaction and the incidence and severity of stresses; improved data on soils; information on consumer preferences; and the identification of irrigated maize areas in developing countries, to name a few important factors.

¹ Including planting dates for main and secondary seasons.

Table 1. Descriptions, regions, countries, and key sites associated with global maize mega-environments.

ME	Name	Daylength (h)	Mean temperature (°C)	Description *
1	Tropical lowland	11-12.5	≥ 24	Equatorial Central and South America and Southeast Asia, as well as coastal regions of Africa. Largely high humidity, rainfed systems. Includes some winter season regions at higher latitudes. Key sites: Suwan (W), Thailand; Bangalore (W), India; Tarapoto, Peru; Mvuazi, DRC; Kwadoso, Ghana.
2	Tropical midaltitude	11-12.5	$\geq 18 < 24$	Much of inland equatorial sub-Saharan Africa, Central and South America. Key sites: Sete Lagos, Brazil; Palmira, Colombia; Turrialba, Costa Rica; Nazareth, Ethiopia; Embu, Kenya; Poza Rica (W), Mexico.
3	Tropical highland	11-12.5	< 18	Equatorial highlands, typically over 2,000 masl. Key sites: Rio Negro, Colombia; Ambo, Ethiopia; Cajamarca, Peru.
4	Non-equatorial Tropical - Subtropical lowland	12.5-13.4	≥ 24	Major environment of Central and South America, sub-Saharan and West Africa and Asia. Key sites: Ludhiana, India; Chiredzi, Zimbabwe; Santa Cruz, Bolivia; La Ceiba, Honduras; Poza Rica (S), Mexico; Tlaltizapan (S), Mexico; Suwan (S), Thailand.
5	Non-equatorial Tropical - Subtropical midaltitude	12.5-13.4	$\geq 18 < 24$	Major environment of sub-Saharan Africa and the Mexican highlands. Typically less than 1,800 masl. Usually rainfed but with large variation in rainfall. Key sites: Harare, Zimbabwe; Celaya, Mexico.
6	Non-equatorial Tropical - Subtropical highland	12.5-13.4	< 18	Many scattered highland regions of Central and South America and Africa. Typically over 1,800 masl. Key sites: El Batan, Mexico; Thaba Seka, Lesotho.
7	Subtropical winter hot	< 11	≥ 24	No regions fit these criteria. The category is included only for completeness. Key sites: None.
8	Subtropical winter warm	< 11	$\geq 18 < 24$	Typically irrigated regions at lower elevations. Key sites: Los Mochis (W), Mexico; Joydebpur (W), Bangladesh.
9	Subtropical winter cold	< 11	< 18	Very limited area with cool, subtropical climate, but no frost in winter season. Key sites: Good Hope, Botswana.
10	Subtropical -Temperate hot	≥ 13.4	≥ 24	Ranges from very dry irrigated to humid rainfed environments. Key sites: Sakha, Egypt; Chokwe, Mozambique; Rampur (S), Nepal; Islamabad, Pakistan; Temple, Texas.
11	Subtropical -Temperate warm	≥ 13.4	$\geq 18 < 24$	Major temperate maize production regions of USA and China. Key sites: Kunming, China; Lumle, Nepal; Potchefstroom, South Africa; Toulouse, France; Ferrara, Italy; Pyongyang, North Korea; Ames, Iowa, USA; Davis, California, USA.
12	Subtropical -Temperate cold	≥ 13.4	< 18	Highest latitude regions where maize production is possible. Key sites: La Platina, Chile; Guelph, Ontario; Orleans, France.

* For key sites, S = summer season and W = winter season.

Maize Production Environments Revisited: A GIS-based Approach

Introduction

In agricultural research and development, priorities are often set and promising technologies targeted within particular crop production settings, taking into account spatial variation in biophysical and socioeconomic factors. Agricultural production environments vary by climate (a function of latitude, altitude, and other factors), soil and related aspects, consumer and producer preferences, accessibility, and input use, among other things. The effectiveness of agricultural interventions – improved cultivars, agronomic management practices, decision support systems – depends on these factors. Thus, researchers often define the limits of an environment within which a given technology is applicable.

When the CIMMYT Maize Program began developing germplasm for maize production environments in the developing world 35 years ago, it adopted a strategy for efficiently applying resources to a range of needs and problems. That strategy involved grouping the world's maize production regions into major ecologies: the lowland tropics, the subtropics, midaltitude regions, and the highlands. By the late 1980s, the Program had subdivided these ecologies into 30 areas called mega-environments (MEs) in 70 countries. MEs were defined as the largest subunits of a crop's growing or target environment within which a particular variety or related practice was useful (Pham and Edmeades 1987; CIMMYT 1989b; Delacy et al. 1994). For the Maize

Program at that time, it involved such factors as maturity, preferred grain color and texture, and production constraints (e.g., drought, low N conditions, diseases, insect pests) to which the germplasm must be resistant or tolerant. The typical ME encompassed large (in excess of 1 million ha), not necessarily contiguous areas in several countries (CIMMYT 1989a).

Use of the ME concept at CIMMYT

Mega-environments were originally intended to help crop breeders manage genotype-by-environment interaction and extrapolate successful varieties and results from one site or region to other locations where they might have potential use. The relative size of each ME — together with considerations such as impact on the poor, likeliness of success, and the presence of alternative suppliers — was a key criterion in strategic planning and the subsequent allocation of resources during the late 1980s and early 1990s (CIMMYT 1989a). Since then, the concept has also been applied in designing and testing new crop management practices (Sayre and Moreno Ramos 1997; CIMMYT Annual Report 1999) and other products of research by CIMMYT and its partners. The ME concept has proven useful for setting priorities, planning strategy, and collaborating with researchers worldwide (CIMMYT 1990).

Refining ME definitions

CIMMYT initially characterized maize and wheat production environments through consultation with regional staff and scientists in national programs (CIMMYT Maize Program 1988;

CIMMYT 1989b). The criteria used were semi-quantitative, and there was frequent discussion about whether the classification of environments could be revised using more objective and easily reproducible measures. The development of geographic information systems (GIS), as well as improved coverage and reliability in data for factors such as climate, soils, and topography, offered a way to achieve this, as demonstrated in preliminary work by Pollak and Corbett (1993).

This paper describes a GIS-based approach for refining the definition of maize MEs. It reviews the origin of the ME concept in more detail, summarizes various iterations of maize MEs, and concludes with a version that uses daylength, temperature, and season rainfall as classification criteria.

Previous ME Classification Methods

The first global ME study: 1985-1988

The first initiatives at CIMMYT to assemble ME information started in 1977 for wheat. Regional and national program staff were asked to identify major production regions by country, setting a lower limit of harvested area of 100,000 ha annually. These regions were described in terms of area; crop type; moisture conditions; incidence of heat, cold, and drought; maturity requirements; and the average annual loss to specific diseases and insects. By 1985, after several iterations of data collection and analysis, rough maps of national production regions were available and a computerized database was produced (CIMMYT 1989b).

Tropical maize is grown over a wider range of environments than wheat and interacts more closely with its environment, making the ME approach potentially more useful for maize. When CIMMYT began to define global maize MEs in 1985, it used the same approach as for wheat, except that losses from pests and diseases were considered and greater attention paid to preferences for grain texture and color. The main criteria were elevation and climate zones (Appendix A). The information was computerized and rough maps of 30 MEs, as drawn by the numerous contributors, were published in 1988. This reference, often referred to as “The Yellow Book” (CIMMYT Maize Program 1988), has since been an important tool for CIMMYT and its partners. A summary table was developed (CIMMYT 1989c) in which not only area but yield level and grain production were estimated (Appendix A). Production data could be weighted by factors such as utilization (food vs feed), per capita income, relative strength of a national program, or emphasis on a particular region (e.g., sub-Saharan Africa).

Updating the global ME 1985-88 survey results

The construction of a database from expert knowledge was very expensive, making it impracticable to update the ME definitions comprehensively on a regular basis. Because biannual updates of maize area, production, and yield were needed, the 1985-88 estimates were increased with correction factors derived from FAO country level statistics. The areas of all MEs in a given country were automatically increased at the same ratio as the increase for the country’s entire maize area.

Table 2. Agroclimatic criteria used for the maize environment classification by Dowswell et al. (1996).

Environment	Mean growing season temperature (°C)			Altitude (masl)	Latitude
	Min.	Max.	Mean		
Tropical	22	32	28	<1,000	33° or lower
Subtropical	17	32	25	<1,600	23-33°
"	17	32	25	1,000-1,800	23° or lower
Temperate	14	24	20	<500	34° or higher
Highland	7	24	16	>1,800	23° or lower
"	9	25	18	>1,600	23-34°

In publications on the impact of international maize breeding (Lopez-Pereira and Morris 1994; Morris 1998), the 1985-1988 ME classification was updated with information from the FAO AGROSTAT (FAO 1990) database (see Appendix B; Tables B.1 and B.2). Dowswell et al. (1996) suggested a more expanded table with agroclimatic criteria (Table 2). Using information from the 1985-1988 study, they produced an area table by region (Appendix B; Table B.3).

Classification of testing sites with point based meteorological data

In 1989, an attempt was made to classify maize testing sites in sub-Saharan Africa (Pollak and Pham 1989). Forty-two sites from sub-Saharan Africa were used to create seven clusters. Fifty-two monthly agroclimatic variables from ten years of meteorological data from those sites were used. The classification used Ward's method of cluster analysis and canonical discriminant analysis. They identified four lowland regions, two midaltitude regions, and one highland region. Lowland regions were separated into 1) high rainfall, 2) warm temperatures and high rainfall, 3) low minimum temperature, and 4) very high temperature.

The 1991 classification attempt

In 1991, an interdisciplinary group was formed at CIMMYT to redefine maize MEs using more objective criteria. An initial effort resulted in the criteria shown in Table 3. These classification criteria were to be sent to CIMMYT outreach staff and collaborating national programs, as was done in 1985, but with the hope of obtaining more objective and reproducible area estimates. The effort never went further, due to funding constraints.

Limitations to previous classification approaches

The 1985-88 study is still widely used in international maize research, including the private sector (McCarter 1998, personal communication). This testifies to the overall utility of the ME concept and the robustness of the maize MEs defined largely on expert knowledge. However, several limitations of this approach are apparent.

The definition of environments is subjective. For example, terms such as "midaltitude" and "subtropical" are sometimes used interchangeably where germplasm requirements are similar, so

Table 3. Maize Mega-Environment Update Committee classification, 1991.

Ecology	Mean growing season temperature (°C)	Elevation (masl)	Latitude
Lowland tropics	>24	0-1,000	30°N-30°S
Midaltitude tropical	20-24	800-1,800	30°N-30°S
Subtropical	20-24	-	>20°N & >20°S
Tropical highland transition	17-20	1,500-1,800	30°N-30°S
Tropical highland	12.5-17	>2,000	30°N-30°S
Temperate	20-22	-	>30°N & >30°S
Highland temperate	15-20	-	>30°N & >30°S

results are not easily reproducible, and the two types of ME are not separated well enough. (The 1985-88 classification created many overlapping subdivisions in certain regions.) Crop losses due to diseases, pests and abiotic stress factors are estimated, rather than being based on trial results. The timing and severity of common stresses are not defined, even though they may strongly affect the extent of crop losses. As a result, an assessment of one stress factor in a given region may not really be comparable to the same level of stress identified in another region. This makes the aggregation of areas with similar ratings for various stress factors imprecise. The same applies for the use of elevation: perceptions of “lowland,” “midaltitude,” and “highland” can vary among maize researches, especially across regions and where countries have established their own classifications. Moreover, the ME definitions described above focus on regions where CIMMYT has strong contacts, leaving certain areas in Asia, for example, poorly characterized. Finally, maize cropping locations, circumstances, and systems have changed considerably since the original ME study, but updating of the definitions has been sketchy for lack of resources to do a more complete, methodical revision.

GIS-based Approaches

To avoid confusion in terminology, update area and production data, identify non-overlapping MEs, and introduce more useful, diagnostic variables, CIMMYT proposed in 1996 to redefine global maize MEs using geographic information systems (GIS). Use of a GIS can ensure that criteria are applied consistently across regions. Furthermore, a GIS can combine or link many types of data (climate and soils, pests and diseases, socioeconomic factors) by overlaying and merging them.

The availability of environmental data has improved greatly with the development of GIS. Elevation data on a 1-km grid are available for the entire globe (USGS 1997). Climate data, including long-term monthly means for maximum and minimum temperature and totals for precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, are available as interpolated surfaces with a grid cell size typically of 5 to 10 km² (Corbett and O'Brien 1997). The interpolation procedures used can allow for elevation effects and normally offer more accurate results than simple estimations of climate based on reference to the nearest station (Hartkamp et al. 1999). Obtaining detailed and reliable soil and crop distribution data is still problematic. The best global soil database is the FAO digital soil map of the world (FAO 1996) at a 1:5,000,000 scale. Crop distribution data are available for Latin America (Hyman et al. 1998) and efforts to obtain similar data for Africa are under way (P. Thornton, personal communication).²

A first attempt to define maize ecologies using GIS-based approaches was made by Pollak and Corbett (1993) for Central America and Mexico. They clustered grid cells based on elevation and mean monthly precipitation and temperature data during the growing season (April through October). Ten ecologies were identified: three lowland, three highland, two subtropical, and two transitional from subtropical to highland.

Gebrekidan et al. (1992) and Corbett (1998) proposed a geographic approach to define maize production environments for Kenya. The ecologies (lowland, midaltitude, transitional, and highland) are based on altitude and a cutoff between moist (> 550 mm) and dry (< 550 mm) for the growing

² Crop distribution data are critical sources of information on area and production, essential to the definition of maize production environments.

season (March to August). The moist transitional zone (1,200 to 2,000 masl, > 550 mm) accounts for the largest portion (41%) of the total maize area.

Criteria from the aborted 1991 study were later used at CIMMYT to create global maps representing maize production zones. An example is given for South America in Appendix C. The growing season was determined using the Spatial Characterization Tool (SCT) “optimal season” climate model (Corbett and O’Brien 1997). The optimal season is defined as the five-month period with the largest ratio of precipitation over potential evapotranspiration. Mean growing season temperatures were replaced by minimum and maximum temperature ranges (-6°C and +6°C from the mean temperature). This approach is only approximate, because diurnal temperature ranges in lowland tropical areas are typically smaller than in the highlands. Data on the start and length of the onset of the growing season were estimated by assuming that the ratio of precipitation to potential evapotranspiration exceeds 0.5 during the season (“trigger season” climate model). This approach has proven useful in targeting different maturity classes of maize in sub-Saharan Africa, although the 0.5 limit appears to be too high for most drier areas where maize is sown at low densities (Hodson et al. 1999).

In a regional refinement to this global classification, maize areas were assigned to ME climatology zones in Latin America, based on maize production data. A crop distribution database for Latin America was developed by the GIS group at the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT; Hyman et al. 1998). Disaggregated, municipality-level maize production information was reclassified to identify municipalities where at least 10,000 ha of maize was grown, applying a probability model that included infrastructure, transportation access, and

location of populated areas. The crop distribution information for maize was then overlaid on the ME zonal maps for Latin America by country (Appendix D).

Methodology for this Study

About 150 representative sites were selected from records for international maize trials, and approximately 70 sites were added to cover regions where trials had not been conducted (Appendix E).³ Information on planting dates was compiled from international trial reports and in consultation with maize researchers. A separate set of planting dates was obtained using the climate models for the trigger and optimal seasons, as defined in the SCT environmental database (Corbett and O’Brien 1997). Monthly climate data for the selected sites were obtained using the climate surfaces. For Africa and Latin America, gridded climate surfaces were derived from Corbett and O’Brien (1997). For Asia, gridded climate surfaces were derived from Jones (1998). Starting with the reported month of planting, variables from the first four consecutive months were taken. This interval was chosen to represent a 120-day maize crop cycle.

Daylength (d) was estimated using the algorithm of Goudriaan and Van Laar, (1994):

$$d = 12 * [1 + (2/\pi) * \text{asin}(a/b)]$$

$$a = \sin(\text{lat}) * \sin(\text{om}) \quad b = \cos(\text{lat}) * \cos(\text{om})$$

$$\sin(\text{om}) = -\sin(\pi * 23.45/180) * \cos$$

$$(2 * \pi * (\text{td} + 10)/365),$$

where :

lat = latitude

td = day of year.

³ The geographical coordinates of these sites were carefully checked.

To represent the daylength that affects floral initiation, three values for *td* were used: 15 days, 30 days, and 45 days after planting date.⁴

For the hierarchical cluster analysis, Ward's clustering procedure (Ward 1963) within SAS 6.12 (SAS Institute 1998) was used. All variables (daylength, temperature difference, mean temperature, precipitation and evapotranspiration) were standardized by subtracting the mean and dividing by the standard deviation. Cluster distance was not stable enough to determine an optimal number of clusters, so a maximum of 15 clusters was allowed, since this was considered to provide a manageable number of MEs. Clusters were estimated based on daylength and the first four monthly mean climate variables derived from:

- Planting dates as reported in the CIMMYT Maize International Testing Unit database or compiled through consultation with maize scientists.
- Planting dates as estimated based on start of the trigger season.
- Planting dates as estimated based on the start of the optimal season.

Criteria were derived from evaluating the values of the environmental variables of members within each cluster. Maize production environments were mapped and feedback from experts was sought. After several iterations this resulted in a revised set of criteria for defining maize MEs.

Results and Discussion

Planting date and clusters

Each approach to define planting date and growing season (reported, trigger season model, optimum season model) resulted in different cluster compositions. Site clusters using planting date from trigger season resembled site clusters from reported planting date more than site clusters from optimal season (data not shown). A set of "best bet" planting dates was compiled from the reported planting dates, trigger planting dates, and expert knowledge. These climate data were clustered again, giving the clusters shown in Appendix F. Mean cluster values are shown in Table 4.

Determining criteria

Classification criteria were determined from the range of values for environmental variables of the individual sites within the clusters. This was done iteratively; e.g., assuming a daylength of 13.5 h for high latitude to temperate areas and checking the sites that segregate at this criterion. This proved to segregate better at a daylength of 13.4 h. This process resulted in the use of three classification criteria: daylength, mean temperature, and seasonal rainfall over the four-month growing season (Table 5). After this process of determining the criteria based on membership of the selected sites to specific clusters, another application of the criteria involving maize scientists took place. For instance, analysis of the clusters suggested a different temperature criterion for distinguishing non-equatorial subtropical lowlands from non-equatorial subtropical midaltitude environments (22°C) than for distinguishing equatorial tropical lowlands from equatorial tropical midaltitude environments (24°C). Upon mapping, however (see next paragraph), this did not provide a

⁴ The 15th day of the planting month was considered the planting date.

Table 4. Cluster mean values for variables: daylength, temperature difference, mean temperature, precipitation and evapotranspiration. M1, M2...refers to month of growing season.

Cluster	Frequency	Daylength (h)			Tdifference (°C)				Tmean (°C)				Precipitation (mm)				Evapotranspiration (mm)			
		M1	M2	M3	M1	M2	M3	M4	M1	M2	M3	M4	M1	M2	M3	M4	M1	M2	M3	M4
1	5	12.2	12.0	11.8	7.3	7.7	8.2	8.7	27.4	27.0	25.6	23.9	243	125	66	41	170	172	166	156
2	28	12.5	12.6	12.7	10.0	9.1	8.3	8.1	28.0	27.7	27.4	27.1	116	161	196	233	190	181	169	165
3	7	10.7	10.5	10.5	14.5	15.4	15.8	16.4	21.1	18.1	17.7	20.0	16	10	12	13	142	126	126	152
4	19	12.1	12.2	12.1	7.8	7.6	7.7	8.2	25.7	25.7	25.8	26.0	182	196	177	166	109	105	107	114
5	25	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.8	10.8	10.6	11.0	21.8	21.2	20.9	20.9	95	135	119	89	117	108	104	107
6	15	12.6	12.6	12.6	9.9	9.3	9.4	9.5	26.8	26.3	26.1	26.3	279	352	364	322	131	122	120	119
7	9	12.1	12.1	12.1	9.4	8.8	8.9	9.5	15.3	15.2	15.2	15.1	172	233	190	124	89	86	82	86
8	23	12.7	12.8	12.9	11.2	9.6	9.5	9.7	22.7	22.0	21.9	21.9	145	251	244	210	137	121	117	112
9	39	13.0	13.0	13.0	12.5	11.6	11.4	11.6	24.1	23.9	24.0	24.3	129	171	163	138	144	140	135	130
10	12	13.3	13.1	12.9	14.3	13.6	14.0	14.8	21.3	20.6	20.4	20.6	97	113	97	73	149	139	125	108
11	17	12.7	12.9	13.1	14.0	13.0	12.8	13.0	14.3	14.9	15.5	16.0	81	110	119	115	112	114	118	120
12	11	13.7	13.7	13.5	9.1	7.2	7.3	7.7	26.8	26.4	26.2	25.2	218	359	348	240	228	209	210	197
13	2	13.5	13.7	13.8	9.1	6.9	5.8	6.1	23.1	24.0	24.0	23.9	327	735	1133	1061	215	200	195	200
14	5	13.5	13.5	13.4	14.1	13.3	13.2	12.8	25.4	26.8	27.2	25.8	1	3	10	22	196	204	195	171
15	4	14.1	13.9	13.7	13.9	10.4	10.5	13.7	32.5	31.0	29.8	27.8	74	139	144	53	355	295	280	280

satisfactory distinction between lowland and midaltitude environments, so we reverted to a uniform temperature criterion of 24°C to distinguish between lowland and midaltitude environments in both the equatorial tropics and non-equatorial subtropics.

Finally, locations were classified according to the new criteria. To compare classification methods, the sites were also classified using the previous classification criteria. This is depicted in the first columns of Appendix G.

Mapping maize MEs

Because the actual planting date for each map cell was not available, we used the planting date surface as defined by the trigger season model of the SCT (Corbett and O'Brien 1997) for mapping maize MEs. Moreover, planting dates as reported by collaborators conducting international maize trials may not necessarily follow the actual growing season, because they may plant late due to late arrival of seed shipments or use irrigation (which allows them to plant outside the normal season). Farmers in contrast are more dependent

on the actual start of the growing season.⁵ Daylength maps were calculated from latitude grids and the trigger season planting date (averaging values for +15, +30 and +45 days after trigger season planting date). Zonal maps were made using criteria from Table 5 (Appendix H). A simplified map (centerfold) was created by eliminating the precipitation criteria.

Use of maize mega-environment maps and information

The maize MEs provide a global characterization of the target environments for tropical maize germplasm. Potential users and applications include:

- For research managers to set priorities and allocate resources.
- For scientists to focus efforts on relevant products; i.e., those most urgently needed for the most important MEs. (Thus, if early-maturing, drought

⁵ The start of the trigger growing season commonly coincides with the main (summer-autumn) growing season. The secondary season is thus not represented here.

Table 5. Cluster criteria for revised maize mega-environments, including subdivisions based on precipitation, for a 4-month growing season.

No.	Name	Daylength (h)	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (mm)
1a	Too dry lowland tropical	11 to 12.5	≥ 24	< 200
1b	Lowland tropical mesic	11 to 12.5	≥ 24	≥ 200 and < 600
1c	Lowland tropical wet	11 to 12.5	≥ 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
1d	Lowland tropical excess	11 to 12.5	≥ 24	≥ 2,000
2a	Too dry tropical midaltitude	11 to 12.5	> 18 and < 24	< 200
2b	Tropical midaltitude mesic	11 to 12.5	> 18 and < 24	≥ 200 and < 600
2c	Tropical midaltitude wet	11 to 12.5	> 18 and < 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
2d	Tropical midaltitude excess	11 to 12.5	> 18 and < 24	≥ 2,000
3a	Too dry tropical highland	11 to 12.5	≤ 18	< 200
3b	Tropical highland mesic	11 to 12.5	≤ 18	≥ 200 and < 600
3c	Tropical highland wet	11 to 12.5	≤ 18	≥ 600 and < 2,000
3d	Tropical highland excess	11 to 12.5	≤ 18	≥ 2,000
4a	Too dry non-equatorial tropical/subtropical lowland	12.5 to 13.4	≥ 24	< 200
4b	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical lowland mesic	12.5 to 13.4	≥ 24	≥ 200 and < 600
4c	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical lowland wet	12.5 to 13.4	≥ 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
4d	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical lowland excess	12.5 to 13.4	≥ 24	≥ 2,000
5a	Too dry non-equatorial tropical/subtropical midaltitude	12.5 to 13.4	> 18 and < 24	< 200
5b	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical midaltitude mesic	12.5 to 13.4	> 18 and < 24	≥ 200 and < 600
5c	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical midaltitude wet	12.5 to 13.4	> 18 and < 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
5d	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical midaltitude excess	12.5 to 13.4	> 18 and < 24	≥ 2,000
6a	Too dry non-equatorial tropical/subtropical highland	12.5 to 13.4	≤ 18	< 200
6b	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical highland mesic	12.5 to 13.4	≤ 18	≥ 200 and < 600
6c	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical highland wet	12.5 to 13.4	≤ 18	≥ 600 and < 2,000
6d	Non-equatorial tropical/subtropical highland excess	12.5 to 13.4	≤ 18	≥ 2,000
7a	Subtropical winter hot dry	≤ 11	≥ 24	< 200
7b	Subtropical winter hot mesic	≤ 11	≥ 24	≥ 200 and < 600
7c	Subtropical winter hot wet	≤ 11	≥ 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
7d	Subtropical winter hot excess	≤ 11	≥ 24	≥ 2,000
8a	Too dry subtropical winter warm	≤ 11	> 18 and < 24	< 200
8b	Subtropical winter warm mesic	≤ 11	> 18 and < 24	≥ 200 and < 600
8c	Subtropical winter warm wet	≤ 11	> 18 and < 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
8d	Subtropical winter warm excess	≤ 11	> 18 and < 24	≥ 2,000
9a	Too dry subtropical winter cold	≤ 11	≤ 18	< 200
9b	Subtropical winter cold mesic	≤ 11	≤ 18	≥ 200 and < 600
9c	Subtropical winter cold wet	≤ 11	≤ 18	≥ 600 and < 2,000
9d	Subtropical winter cold excess	≤ 11	≤ 18	≥ 2,000
10a	Too dry temperate/subtropical lowland dry	≥ 13.4	≥ 24	< 200
10b	Temperate/subtropical hot mesic	≥ 13.4	≥ 24	≥ 200 and < 600
10c	Temperate/subtropical hot wet	≥ 13.4	≥ 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
10d	Temperate/subtropical hot excess	≥ 13.4	≥ 24	≥ 2,000
11a	Too dry temperate/subtropical warm dry	≥ 13.4	> 18 and < 24	< 200
11b	Temperate/subtropical warm mesic	≥ 13.4	> 18 and < 24	≥ 200 and < 600
11c	Temperate/subtropical warm wet	≥ 13.4	> 18 and < 24	≥ 600 and < 2,000
11d	Temperate/subtropical warm excess	≥ 13.4	> 18 and < 24	≥ 2,000
12a	Too dry temperate/subtropical cold dry	≥ 13.4	≤ 18	< 200
12b	Temperate/subtropical cold mesic	≥ 13.4	≤ 18	≥ 200 and < 600
12c	Temperate/subtropical cold wet	≥ 13.4	≤ 18	≥ 600 and < 2,000
12d	Temperate/subtropical cold excess	≥ 13.4	≤ 18	≥ 2,000

stressed maize turns out to occupy substantially more area than currently estimated, it may deserve increased attention.)

- For scientists to test the right type of germplasm in the appropriate environments. This should also allow a reduction in the number of testing sites.
- For national program researchers and other partners to decide which type of germplasm and trials most suit their needs.

Challenges

The ME definitions provided here need to be refined through one or several of the following:

- Development of a global database of actual maize planting dates for main and secondary seasons.
- Identification of irrigated maize production areas.
- Integration of improved data on soils.
- Integration of data on consumer preferences.
- Integration of data on the incidence and severity of diseases and insect pests.
- Linkage to crop distribution data to obtain maize production information.

For validation purposes there is a need to link the proposed maize environment definitions to data on genotype-by-environment interactions from trials across MEs; this could also improve the efficiency of international testing. The work of Crossa et al. (1993) exemplifies an effective study of genotype-by-environment interaction. They analyzed eight years of historical maize data from multi-environment trials using pattern analysis on performance data. In this way, they were able to 1) tease out long-term relationships among international maize testing environments for which breeding strategies ought to be defined and 2) assess the long-term precision of trials at the specific testing locations.

Conclusions

The ME concept has proven a useful tool for setting priorities, allocating resources, and fostering international collaboration in agricultural research and development. Use of a GIS can allow scientists to 1) define environments according to more quantitative criteria and 2) visualize how these criteria affect the location of the environments. To be fully useful, the ME definitions provided here need to be refined using actual maize distribution and production data, as well as information on major production constraints, by country. A GIS-based approach can help researchers establish a framework within which other spatial data can be consulted. The ultimate goal is for researchers and other users to be able to formulate task-specific versions of the MEs or “query” a ME definition for information of interest.

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Appendix A. Estimated area and production percentages for maize mega-environments, derived from the 1987-1988 mega-environment survey. (Classification criteria used in the 1987-1988 maize MEs are listed below.)

Mega-environment	Estimated area (%)	Estimated production (%)	Weighted production (%)
Highland			
Tropical highlands	6.0	4.4	1.0
Tropical transitional	4.1	6.4	12.0
Temperate highlands	1.0	0.9	0.7
Subtotal	11.0	11.7	13.7
Subtropical			
Early white flint/dent	1.2	0.9	1.6
Early yellow flint	1.8	1.1	1.2
Intermediate white dent	7.5	9.5	8.6
Intermediate yellow flint	1.9	1.3	1.5
Late white flint	3.9	3.3	11.2
Late white dent	5.1	6.1	12.4
Late yellow dent/flint	7.8	9.5	2.6
Other	0.8	1.0	1.3
Subtotal	30.3	32.6	40.4
Lowland tropical			
Early white flint	4.0	2.2	3.7
Early white dent	1.2	0.7	1.0
Early yellow flint	7.1	4.3	3.5
Early yellow dent	2.5	1.3	0.5
Intermediate white flint	2.1	1.5	3.2
Intermediate white dent	5.3	6.2	3.6
Intermediate yellow flint	9.6	9.7	6.1
Late white flint	4.4	3.6	4.4
Late white dent	6.9	7.3	5.0
Late yellow flint	8.4	9.7	9.4
Late yellow dent	1.7	2.3	2.6
Others	5.8	7.0	2.9
Subtotal	59.0	55.7	45.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Classification criteria used in the 1987-1988 maize mega-environments study.

Ecology:		Grain type:	
LT: Lowland tropical	WD: White dent	WO: White floury	
TE: Temperate	WF: White flint	YO: Yellow floury	
HT: Highland tropical	WFD: White (flint or dent)	GO: Gray floury	
ST: Subtropical	YD: Yellow dent	BO: Black floury	
TZ: Transitional zone	YF: Yellow flint	WM: White morocho	
SH: Temperate highland	YFD: Yellow (flint or dent)	YM: Yellow morocho	
	MD: Mixed colors dent	BM: Black morocho	
	MD: Mixed colors flint	M: Morocho (yellow and white)	
	MIX: Mixed colors (flint or dent)		
	GF: Gray flint		
	BF: Black flint		
Growing season:		Moisture:	
MA: Major season	Maturity:	A: Rarely stressed	Soil type:
MI: Minor season	XE: Extra early	B: Sometimes stressed	1: Normal
	E: Early	C: Frequently stressed	2: Acid
	I: Intermediate	D: Usually stressed	
	L: Late		
	XL: Extra late		

Disease and insects: A relative importance rating of 0-5, where 0 means no presence, and 5 means that maize cannot be grown unless a resistant variety is grown or chemical control is applied.

Appendix B. Maize mega-environment updates using FAO information, 1990 and 1996.

Table B.1. Maize production ecologies in developing and industrialized countries in 1990 (López-Pereira and Morris 1994).

Ecology	Developing countries			Industrialized countries	
	Total maize area (million ha)	Percent of total	Percent of non-temperate	Total maize area (million ha)	Percent of total
Lowland tropical	34.5	43	57	0	-
Subtropical	13	16	21	42	9
Tropical midaltitude	7.6	9	12	0	-
Tropical highland	6	8	10	0	-
Temperate regions	19.6	24	-	44.3	91
Total	80.7	100	100	86.3	100

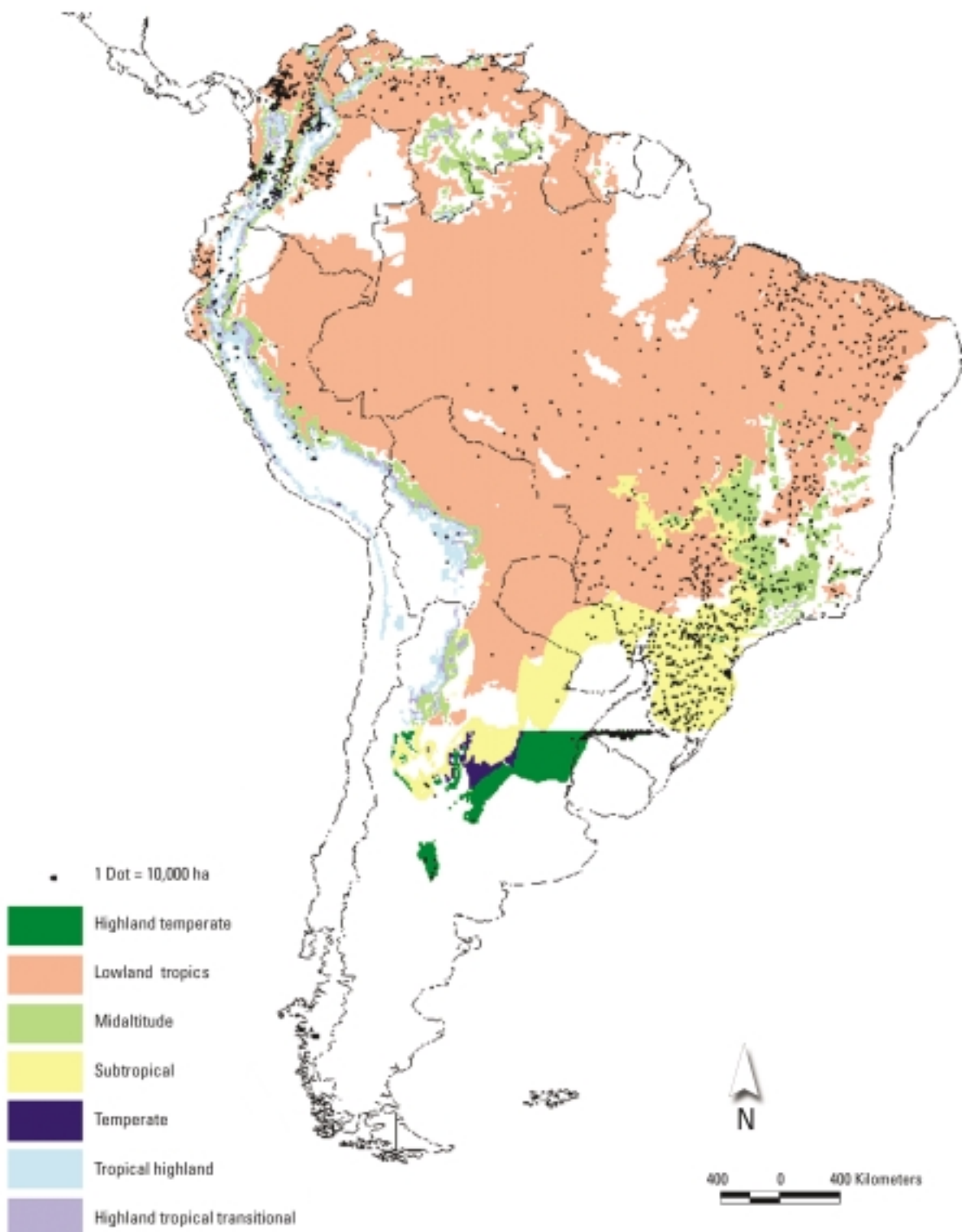
Table B.2. Distribution of non-temperate maize in 1990, from Lopez-Pereira and Morris (1994).

Region	Lowland tropics	Subtropics	Tropical midaltitude	Tropical highland	All	Total maize area (million ha)
Sub-Saharan Africa	49	2	38	11	100	14.4
West Asia & North Africa	0	99	0	1	100	1.2
Asia	71	21	3	5	100	19
Latin America	59	23	3	14	100	23.1
Total	59	19	12	10	100	57.7

Table B.3 Maize environments in the developing world (million ha), from Dowswell et al. (1996).

Region	Tropical	Subtropical	Temperate	Highland
Southern Cone, South America	8.7	4	1.8	0
Andean Region, South America	1.6	0.3	0	0.5
Mexico and Central America	4.3	1.6	0	3
West and Central Africa	5.2	0.3	0	0.05
West and Southern Africa	2.1	7	0	1.5
North Africa and the Mideast	0	1	1.1	0
South Asia	5.6	1.4	0	0.6
Southeast Asia	8.7	0.2	0	0
East Asia	0.5	1.3	19.3	0.55
Total	36.7	17.1	22.2	6.2

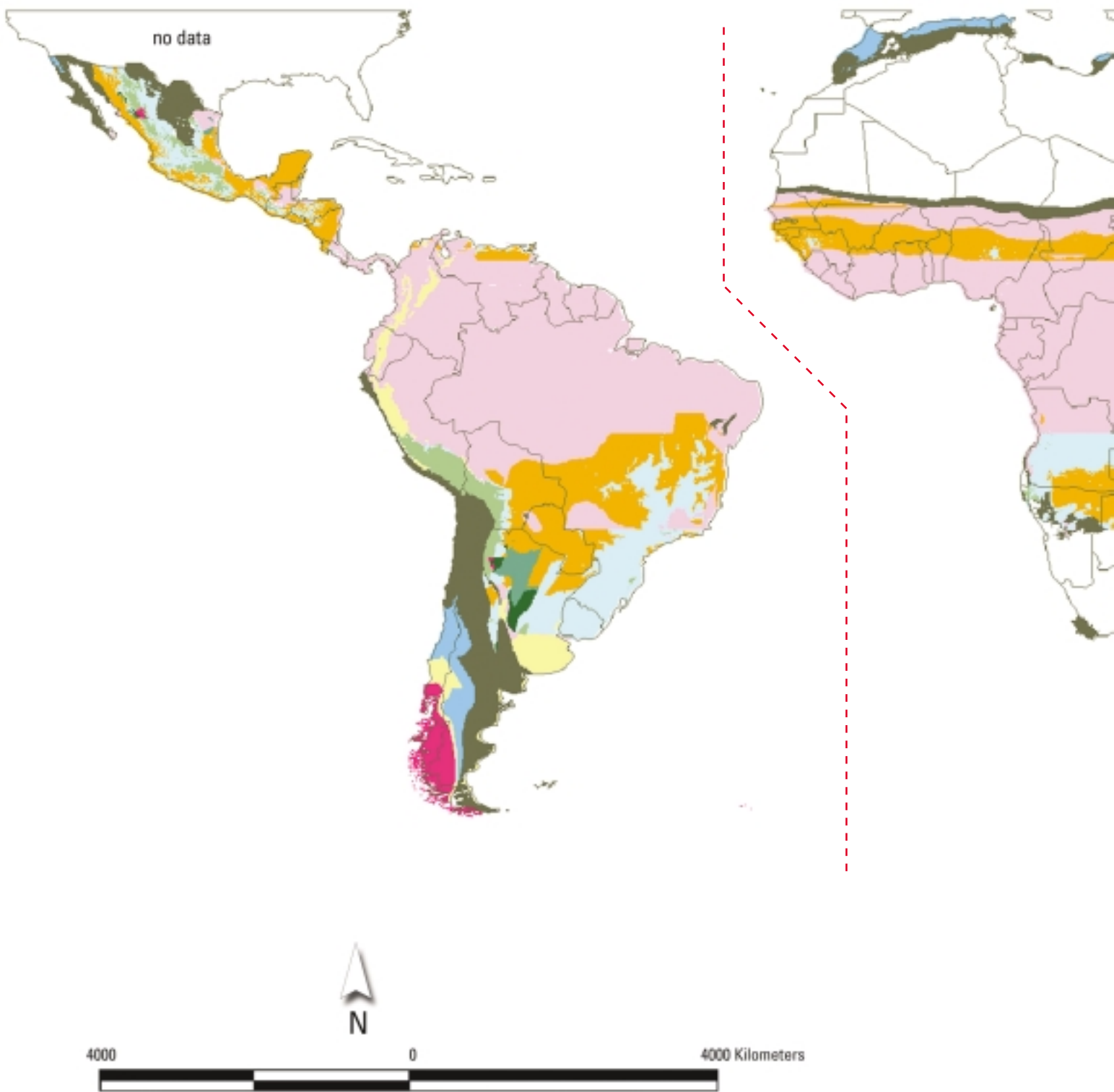
Appendix C. Maize mega-environments in South America using the 1991 classification criteria. (Crop distribution from Hyman et al., 1998, is overlaid as dots.)

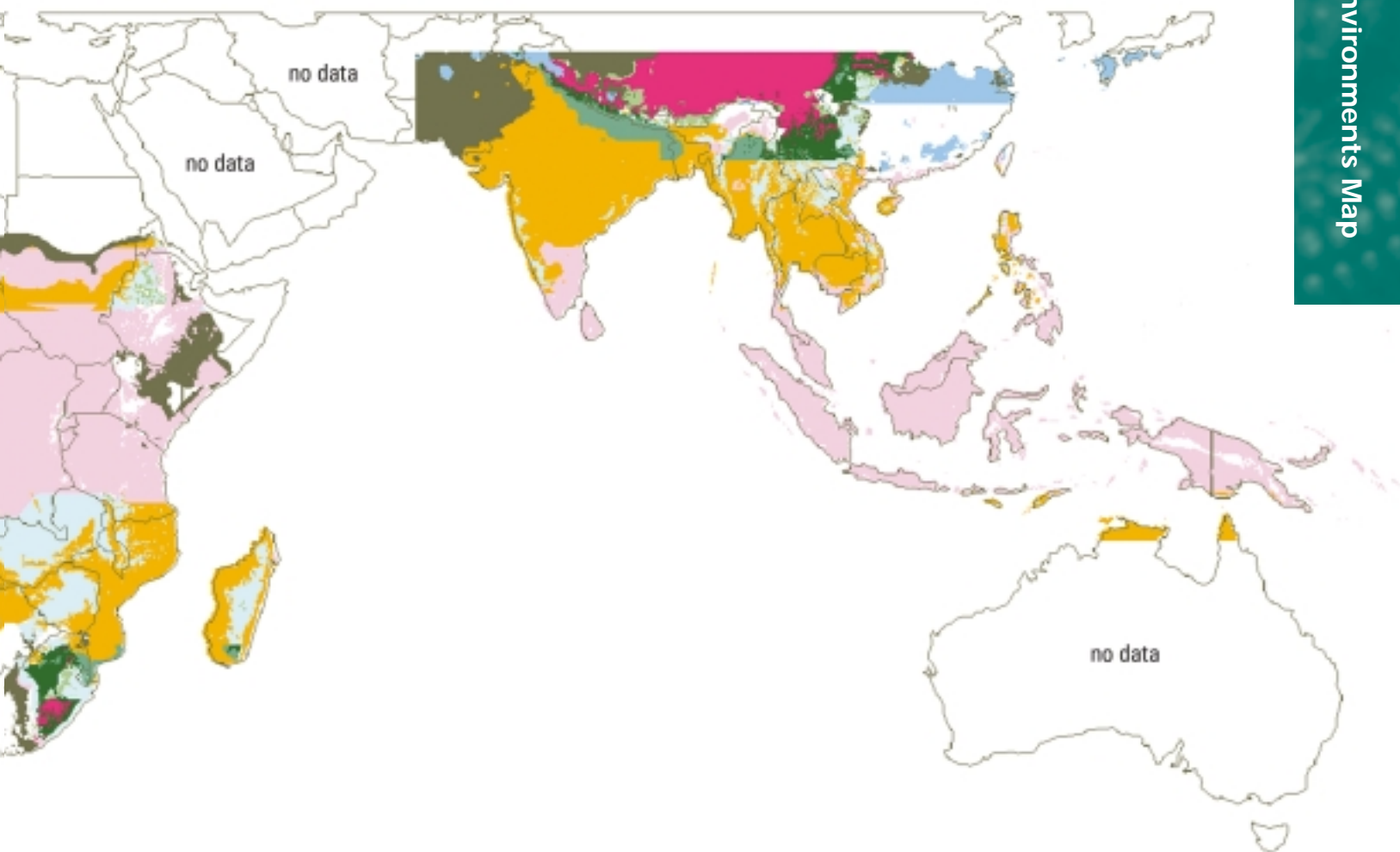


A simplified map of maize mega-environments created by removing precipitation criteria

(see Table 1 for descriptions, regions, countries, and key sites associated with global maize mega-environments).

Source of climate data: Latin America, Africa: Corbett and O'Brien (1997); Asia: Jones (1998).





		Mega-environment	DL	Tmean
	Tropical lowland	1	11-12.5	≥ 24
	Tropical midaltitude	2	11-12.5	$\geq 18 < 24$
	Tropical highland	3	11-12.5	< 18
	Non-Eq tropical / Subtropical lowland	4	12.5-13.4	≥ 24
	Non-Eq tropical / Subtropical midaltitude	5	12.5-13.4	$\geq 18 < 24$
	Non-Eq tropical / Subtropical highland	6	12.5-13.4	< 18
	Subtropical winter hot	7	< 11	≥ 24
	Subtropical winter warm	8	< 11	$\geq 18 < 24$
	Subtropical winter cold	9	< 11	< 18
	Temp / Subtropical hot	10	≥ 13.4	≥ 24
	Temp / Subtropical warm	11	≥ 13.4	$\geq 18 < 24$
	Temp / Subtropical cold	12	≥ 13.4	< 18
	No growing season			
	Too dry			

Appendix D. Latin America maize mega-environment production breakdown created by overlaying crop distribution (Hyman et al. 1998) and 1991 mega-environment area maps.

Table A assigns maize area within a district according to the percentages of environment areas per district.

Table B assigns all maize area within a district to the environment area that is largest in that district.

Region/country	Maize area by ME (000 ha)							Total area
	Lowland tropics	Midaltitude	Highland tropical transitional	Tropical highland	Subtropical	Temperate	Highland temperate	
A MA priority over ST								
<i>Central America</i>	6,946	2,529	927	1,061	-	-	117	11,580
Belize	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Costa Rica	28	6	3	2	-	-	-	38
El Salvador	387	13	-	-	-	-	-	399
Guatemala	182	37	34	24	-	-	-	300
Honduras	167	125	14	-	-	-	-	306
Mexico	5,782	2,276	856	1,035	-	-	117	10,066
Nicaragua	213	14	-	-	-	-	-	227
Panama	177	59	20	-	-	-	-	256
<i>South America</i>	15,241	1,369	343	496	845	27	178	18,499
Argentina	159	43	13	14	209	27	153	618
Bolivia	252	16	5	15	-	-	-	288
Brazil	10,826	627	2	-	588	-	23	12,067
Chile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colombia	2,691	410	225	276	-	-	-	3,603
Ecuador	209	99	60	127	-	-	-	495
Guyana	7	0	-	-	-	-	-	7
Paraguay	95	-	-	-	48	-	-	143
Peru	426	62	24	56	-	-	-	568
Surinam	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	0
Uruguay	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Venezuela	576	111	14	8	-	-	-	709
<i>Latin America</i>	22,187	3,897	1,270	1,557	845	27	295	30,079
	73.8%	13.0%	4.2%	5.2%	2.8%	0.1%	1.0%	100.0%
B MA priority over ST								
Region/country	Lowland tropics	Midaltitude	Highland tropical transitional	Tropical highland	Subtropical	Temperate	Highland temperate	Total area
<i>Central America</i>	7,035	457	1,376	1,947	865	-	-	11,680
Belize	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Costa Rica	38	38	-	0	-	-	-	-
El Salvador	399	-	-	-	-	-	-	399
Guatemala	132	101	39	66	-	-	-	338
Honduras	126	167	12	-	-	-	-	306
Mexico	5,948	48	1,324	1,880	865	-	-	10,066
Nicaragua	137	89	-	-	-	-	-	227
Panama	243	13	-	-	-	-	-	256
<i>South America</i>	8,269	2,608	46	2,287	5,213	0	87	18,511
Argentina	96	12	-	-	422	0	87	618
Bolivia	198	-	-	89	-	-	-	288
Brazil	4,270	1,626	-	1,523	4,647	-	-	12,067
Chile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colombia	2,705	809	-	88	-	-	-	3,603
Ecuador	197	22	2	274	-	-	-	495
Guyana	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Paraguay	0	-	-	-	143	-	-	143
Peru	111	105	44	307	-	-	-	568
Surinam	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Uruguay	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Venezuela	683	33	-	5	-	-	-	721
<i>Latin America</i>	15,304	3,065	1,422	4,234	6,079	0	87	30,190
	50.7%	10.2%	4.7%	14.0%	20.1%	0.0%	0.3%	100.0%

Appendix E. Locations selected for GIS-based cluster analysis.

Number	Season*	Longitude [†]	Latitude [†]	Planting month	Country	Location
1	a	13.72	-9.10	3	Angola	Catete-Mazozo
2	a	15.12	-11.42	10	Angola	Cela
3	a	15.83	-12.73	10	Angola	Chianga
4	a	13.43	-15.03	11	Angola	Humpata
5	a	14.73	-8.91	10	Angola	Kilombo
6	a	16.32	-9.52	10	Angola	Poligno-Florestal
7	a	12.20	-5.57	11	Angola	St. Vincente
8	a	-60.57	-33.93	9	Argentina	Pergamino
9	a	-65.25	-25.83	12	Argentina	Leales
10	a	90.42	24.00	4	Bangladesh	Joydebpur
11	b	90.42	24.00	11	Bangladesh	Joydebpur
12	a	89.08	24.12	4	Bangladesh	Ishurdi
13	b	89.08	24.12	11	Bangladesh	Ishurdi
14	a	89.23	25.73	4	Bangladesh	Rangpur
15	b	89.23	25.73	11	Bangladesh	Rangpur
16	a	-89.00	17.00	6	Belize	Central Farm
17	a	-63.13	-17.70	10	Bolivia	Santa Cruz
18	a	-66.32	-17.35	12	Bolivia	Parirumani
19	a	-66.17	-17.43	12	Bolivia	Cochabamba
20	a	-63.77	-19.87	11	Bolivia	Iboperanda
21	a	-63.95	-18.12	11	Bolivia	Mairana
22	a	-63.65	-21.45	11	Bolivia	Algarrobal
23	a	25.47	-25.48	6	Botswana	Good-Hope
24	a	21.75	-23.97	2	Botswana	Hukunsi
25	a	25.65	-18.55	12	Botswana	Pandamatenga
26	a	25.95	-24.57	2	Botswana	Sebele
27	a	-44.25	-19.47	10	Brazil	Sete Lagoas
28	a	-47.80	-20.98	10	Brazil	Jardinopolis
29	a	-49.57	-18.68	10	Brazil	Capinopolis
30	a	-36.00	-6.22	11	Brazil	Sta. Cruz Palmeira
31	a	-4.33	11.10	5	Burkina Faso	Farako-Ba
32	a	105.00	12.00	5	Cambodia	Banteay-Dek
33	a	-70.63	-33.57	10	Chile	La Platina
34	a	102.72	25.12	6	China	Kunming
35	a	108.17	22.60	4	China	Nanning
36	a	106.65	26.48	6	China	Gui-Yang
37	a	-75.60	4.93	4	Colombia	Chinchina
38	b	-75.60	4.93	9	Colombia	Chinchina
39	a	-75.58	6.26	4	Colombia	Medellin
40	b	-75.58	6.26	9	Colombia	Medellin
41	a	-76.60	2.45	9	Colombia	Popayan
42	a	-76.35	3.55	9	Colombia	Palmira
43	a	-75.97	8.65	4	Colombia	Turipana
44	b	-75.97	8.65	9	Colombia	Turipana
45	a	-75.78	8.83	4	Colombia	Monteria
46	b	-75.78	8.83	9	Colombia	Monteria
47	a	-76.37	3.50	9	Colombia	Cali
48	a	-74.20	4.70	4	Colombia	Tibaitata
49	b	-74.20	4.70	9	Colombia	Tibaitata

* Season a = main season; season b= second season.

† Digital degree format.

Appendix E. Locations selected for GIS-based cluster analysis (cont'd).

Number	Season*	Longitude [†]	Latitude [†]	Planting month	Country	Location
50	a	-75.43	6.18	4	Colombia	Rionegro
51	b	-75.43	6.18	9	Colombia	Rionegro
52	a	-76.80	7.70	5	Colombia	Antioquia
53	a	-85.13	10.35	7	Costa Rica	Guanacaste
54	a	-83.77	10.22	5	Costa Rica	Los Diamantes
55	b	-83.77	10.22	10	Costa Rica	Los Diamantes
56	a	-83.65	9.88	5	Costa Rica	Turrialba
57	b	-83.65	9.88	10	Costa Rica	Turrialba
58	a	-5.23	9.58	4	Cote d'Ivoire	Ferkessedougou
59	a	-5.03	7.68	7	Cote d'Ivoire	Bouake
60	a	-3.07	9.62	4	Cote d'Ivoire	Sinematiali
61	a	-82.52	23.83	6	Cuba	Alquizar
62	a	-82.52	23.85	6	Cuba	Tomeguin
63	a	-70.83	18.38	6	Dominican Republic	Ciaza
64	a	-79.48	-1.10	6	Ecuador	Pichilingue
65	a	-80.43	-1.07	7	Ecuador	Porto Viejo
66	a	-78.52	-0.38	11	Ecuador	Sta.Catalina
67	a	30.98	28.93	6	Egypt	Sids
68	a	31.12	30.72	6	Egypt	Gemmeiza
69	a	30.95	31.12	6	Egypt	Sakha
70	a	30.50	31.00	6	Egypt	Nubaria
71	a	-89.42	13.80	5	El Salvador	San Andrés
72	a	37.82	9.05	5	Ethiopia	Ambo
73	a	41.08	9.40	7	Ethiopia	Alemaya
74	a	38.48	7.08	5	Ethiopia	Awassa
75	a	37.08	5.85	5	Ethiopia	Bako
76	a	39.50	8.50	6	Ethiopia	Nazareth
77	a	-1.58	6.75	6	Ghana	Kwadaso
78	a	23.00	40.55	5	Greece	Thessaloniki
79	a	-61.67	16.33	6	Guadeloupe	Godet
80	a	-90.00	14.25	5	Guatemala	Cuyuta
81	a	-91.57	14.30	6	Guatemala	La Máquina
82	a	-91.52	14.87	5	Guatemala	Quetzaltenango
83	a	-90.23	15.08	5	Guatemala	San Jeronimo
84	a	-89.92	14.25	5	Guatemala	Jutiapa
85	a	-89.75	15.31	5	Guatemala	Polochic
86	b	-89.75	15.31	10	Guatemala	Polochic
87	a	-14.55	12.35	6	Guinea-Bissau	Cenmac
88	a	-88.20	14.25	5	Honduras	La Esperanza
89	b	-88.20	14.25	12	Honduras	La Esperanza
90	a	-87.67	14.40	5	Honduras	Omonita
91	b	-87.67	14.40	12	Honduras	Omonita
92	a	-85.90	14.91	5	Honduras	Catacamas
93	a	-86.87	15.75	6	Honduras	La Ceiba
94	b	-86.87	15.75	12	Honduras	La Ceiba
95	a	75.80	30.90	7	India	Ludhiana
96	a	78.50	17.33	7	India	Hyderabad
97	a	79.45	29.00	6	India	Pantnagar
99	a	94.27	26.77	6	India	Jorhat

* Season a = main season; season b= second season.

† Digital degree format.

Appendix E. Locations selected for GIS-based cluster analysis (cont'd).

Number	Season*	Longitude†	Latitude†	Planting month	Country	Location
98	a	86.25	25.98	6	India	Dholi
100	a	75.88	19.85	6	India	Jalna
101	a	81.60	27.72	6	India	Bahraich
102	b	81.60	27.72	12	India	Bahraich
103	a	74.90	16.20	6	India	Arabhavi
104	a	77.58	12.97	2	India	Bangalore
105	a	105.10	-5.30	9	Indonesia	Lampung
106	a	106.73	-6.62	9	Indonesia	Bogor
107	a	113.28	-8.27	4	Indonesia	Muneng
108	b	113.28	-8.27	9	Indonesia	Muneng
109	a	119.60	-5.00	4	Indonesia	Maros
110	b	119.60	-5.00	9	Indonesia	Maros
111	a	50.00	35.78	4	Iran	Karaj
112	a	54.00	36.00	4	Iran	Gorgan
113	a	35.00	-1.01	4	Kenya	Kitale
114	a	37.45	-0.50	3	Kenya	Embu
115	a	37.23	-1.58	3	Kenya	Katumani
116	a	28.05	-28.88	10	Lesotho	Leribe
117	a	27.50	-29.28	11	Lesotho	Maseru
118	a	29.08	-29.28	10	Lesotho	Mokotlong
119	a	28.62	-29.50	10	Lesotho	Thaba-Tseka
120	a	34.43	-14.17	12	Malawi	Bembeke
121	a	33.63	-13.98	12	Malawi	Chitedze
122	a	34.92	-16.47	12	Malawi	Ngabu
123	a	35.07	-15.92	11	Malawi	Bvumbwe
124	a	34.07	-13.13	12	Malawi	Chitala
125	a	-100.82	20.52	6	Mexico	Celaya (INIFAP)
126	a	-109.00	25.77	11	Mexico	Los Mochis
127	a	-97.43	20.53	6	Mexico	Poza Rica
128	a	-109.42	26.67	10	Mexico	Cd. Obregón
129	a	-99.13	18.68	6	Mexico	Tlaltizapán
130	a	-98.87	19.52	5	Mexico	El Batán
131	a	-99.65	19.28	5	Mexico	Toluca
132	a	-96.12	19.15	6	Mexico	Veracruz
133	a	-105.20	21.51	6	Mexico	Nayarit (INIFAP)
134	a	-104.80	21.43	6	Mexico	Xalisco
135	a	-107.75	29.33	7	Mexico	Gomez Farías
136	a	-107.40	24.80	7	Mexico	Culiacán
137	a	-103.77	20.47	6	Mexico	Tlajomulco
138	a	-103.50	20.50	6	Mexico	S.M. Cuyutlán
139	a	-103.38	20.70	6	Mexico	Zapopan
140	a	-100.67	20.52	6	Mexico	Queretaro
141	a	-101.32	20.73	6	Mexico	Irapuato
142	a	-99.63	19.30	5	Mexico	Meteppec
143	a	-102.30	22.18	6	Mexico	Pabellón
144	a	-104.05	20.55	6	Mexico	Ameca
145	a	-98.77	19.13	5	Mexico	Amecameca
146	a	-102.65	22.90	7	Mexico	Calera
147	a	-99.18	19.68	6	Mexico	Cuautitlán

* Season a = main season; season b= second season.

† Digital degree format.

Appendix E. Locations selected for GIS-based cluster analysis (cont'd).

Number	Season*	Longitude†	Latitude†	Planting month	Country	Location
148	a	33.22	-19.33	11	Mozambique	Sussundenga
149	a	32.38	-26.58	11	Mozambique	Umbeluzzi
150	a	35.23	-13.30	11	Mozambique	Lichinga
151	a	39.28	-15.10	12	Mozambique	Nampula
152	a	33.00	-24.53	12	Mozambique	Chokwe
153	a	86.07	27.68	5	Nepal	Kabre-Dolakha
154	a	87.33	27.08	6	Nepal	Pakhribas
155	a	84.00	28.22	5	Nepal	Pokhara
156	a	83.80	28.30	5	Nepal	Lumle
157	a	81.72	28.85	6	Nepal	Dailekh
158	a	84.42	27.62	6	Nepal	Rampur
159	a	81.60	28.60	6	Nepal	Surkhet
160	a	-86.18	12.13	5	Nicaragua	Santa Rosa
161	a	71.58	34.02	6	Pakistan	Peshawar
162	a	72.83	34.00	6	Pakistan	Pirsabak
163	a	74.00	31.00	6	Pakistan	Yousafwala
164	a	72.75	33.50	6	Pakistan	Islamabad
165	a	-79.37	9.05	5	Panama	Tocumen
166	a	-80.33	7.83	6	Panama	Guarare
167	a	-82.33	8.38	5	Panama	Chiriqui
168	a	-80.38	7.93	6	Panama	El Ejido
169	a	-80.00	8.00	9	Panama	La Honda
170	a	-57.10	-25.40	9	Paraguay	Caacupe
171	a	-55.82	-27.28	9	Paraguay	Capitán Miranda
172	a	-80.63	-5.18	6	Peru	Piura
173	a	-76.95	-12.08	6	Peru	La Molina
174	a	-76.42	-6.52	2	Peru	Tarapoto
175	a	-78.07	-7.10	10	Peru	Cajamarca
176	a	-76.35	-6.52	2	Peru	El Porvenir
177	a	-73.25	-3.75	2	Peru	Iquitos
178	a	-78.05	-7.62	10	Peru	Cajabamba
179	a	124.38	8.29	5	Philippines	Cagayan
180	a	121.25	14.17	5	Philippines	U.P. Los Baños
181	a	125.00	7.00	5	Philippines	Karaan
182	a	121.15	16.50	4	Philippines	Ilagan
183	b	121.15	16.50	9	Philippines	Ilagan
184	a	125.18	6.12	5	Philippines	Gral. Santos
185	a	124.82	7.23	6	Philippines	Mindanao
186	a	30.60	-29.02	10	RSA	Greytown
187	a	27.07	-26.67	12	RSA	Potchefstroom
188	a	26.92	-27.17	1	RSA	Viljienskroon
189	a	31.15	-26.55	10	Swaziland	Malkerns
190	a	31.92	-26.78	11	Swaziland	Big-bend
191	a	36.52	33.18	6	Syria	Aleppo
192	a	120.23	23.50	8	Taiwan	Po-tzu-chia-i
193	a	120.68	24.02	8	Taiwan	Taichung
194	a	35.17	-4.50	12	Tanzania	Selian
195	a	33.37	-8.92	11	Tanzania	Uyole
196	a	37.03	-6.77	12	Tanzania	Ilonga

* Season a = main season; season b= second season.

† Digital degree format.

Appendix E. Locations selected for GIS-based cluster analysis (cont'd).

Number	Season*	Longitude [†]	Latitude [†]	Planting month	Country	Location
197	a	33.02	-2.70	11	Tanzania	Ukiriguru
198	a	37.23	-3.28	3	Tanzania	Lambo
199	a	101.00	14.08	6	Thailand	Suwan
200	a	100.50	15.35	6	Thailand	Nakhon Sawan R.
201	a	100.60	14.73	6	Thailand	Phraphutthabat
202	a	102.83	16.43	6	Thailand	Khonkaen
203	a	26.75	36.70	5	Turkey	Adapazari
204	a	30.83	37.00	5	Turkey	Antalya
205	a	32.58	0.53	3	Uganda	Namulonge
206	a	-57.68	-34.33	9	Uruguay	La Estanzuela
207	a	168.30	-17.75	9	Vanuatu	Tagabe
208	a	-77.05	12.10	9	Venezuela	Maracay
209	a	-67.78	10.26	6	Venezuela	San Joaquin
210	a	-68.65	10.35	7	Venezuela	San Javier
211	a	105.78	20.48	6	Vietnam	Song Boi
212	a	107.23	10.95	4	Vietnam	Hung Loc
213	a	108.38	11.13	5	Vietnam	Doc Trong Farm
214	a	105.80	21.03	2	Vietnam	Dan Phuong
215	a	23.95	-6.75	9	Zaire	Gandajika
216	a	27.42	-11.73	11	Zaire	Kaniamesh
217	a	14.90	-5.45	10	Zaire	Mvuazi
218	a	28.47	-14.45	11	Zambia	Kabwe
219	a	31.13	-10.22	11	Zambia	Kasama
220	a	27.75	-15.85	11	Zambia	Masabuka
221	a	28.25	-15.53	11	Zambia	Mount Makulu
222	a	28.85	-11.10	11	Zambia	Mansa
223	a	28.37	-14.17	11	Zambia	Golden Valley
224	a	27.92	-15.77	12	Zambia	Kaoma
225	a	32.62	-20.20	11	Zimbabwe	Chipinge
226	a	31.58	-21.02	12	Zimbabwe	Chiredzi
227	a	30.78	-19.83	11	Zimbabwe	Makoholi
228	a	28.50	-20.38	11	Zimbabwe	Matopos
229	a	32.33	-20.35	12	Zimbabwe	Save-Valley
230	a	31.17	-17.67	11	Zimbabwe	Rattray-Arnold
231	a	31.05	-17.80	11	Zimbabwe	Harare
232	a	30.90	-18.32	11	Zimbabwe	Kadoma
233	a	31.02	-16.37	12	Zimbabwe	Mzarabani
234	a	32.23	-20.80	12	Zimbabwe	Chisumbanji
235	a	31.03	-17.08	11	Zimbabwe	Glendale
Extra: for post-classification only						
240	b	-44.25	-19.47	10	Brazil	Sete Lagoas
242	b	108.17	22.60	10	China	Nanning
243	b	-90.00	14.25	10	Guatemala	Cuyuta
238	b	-97.43	20.53	10	Mexico	Poza Rica
237	b	100.50	15.35	10	Thailand	Nakhon Sawan R.
236	b	101.00	14.08	10	Thailand	Suwan
241	b	105.78	20.48	10	Vietnam	Song Boi
239	b	28.37	-14.17	4	Zambia	Golden Valley

* Season a = main season; season b= second season.

† Digital degree format.

Appendix G. Post classification of selected locations according to the new and 1991 classifications.

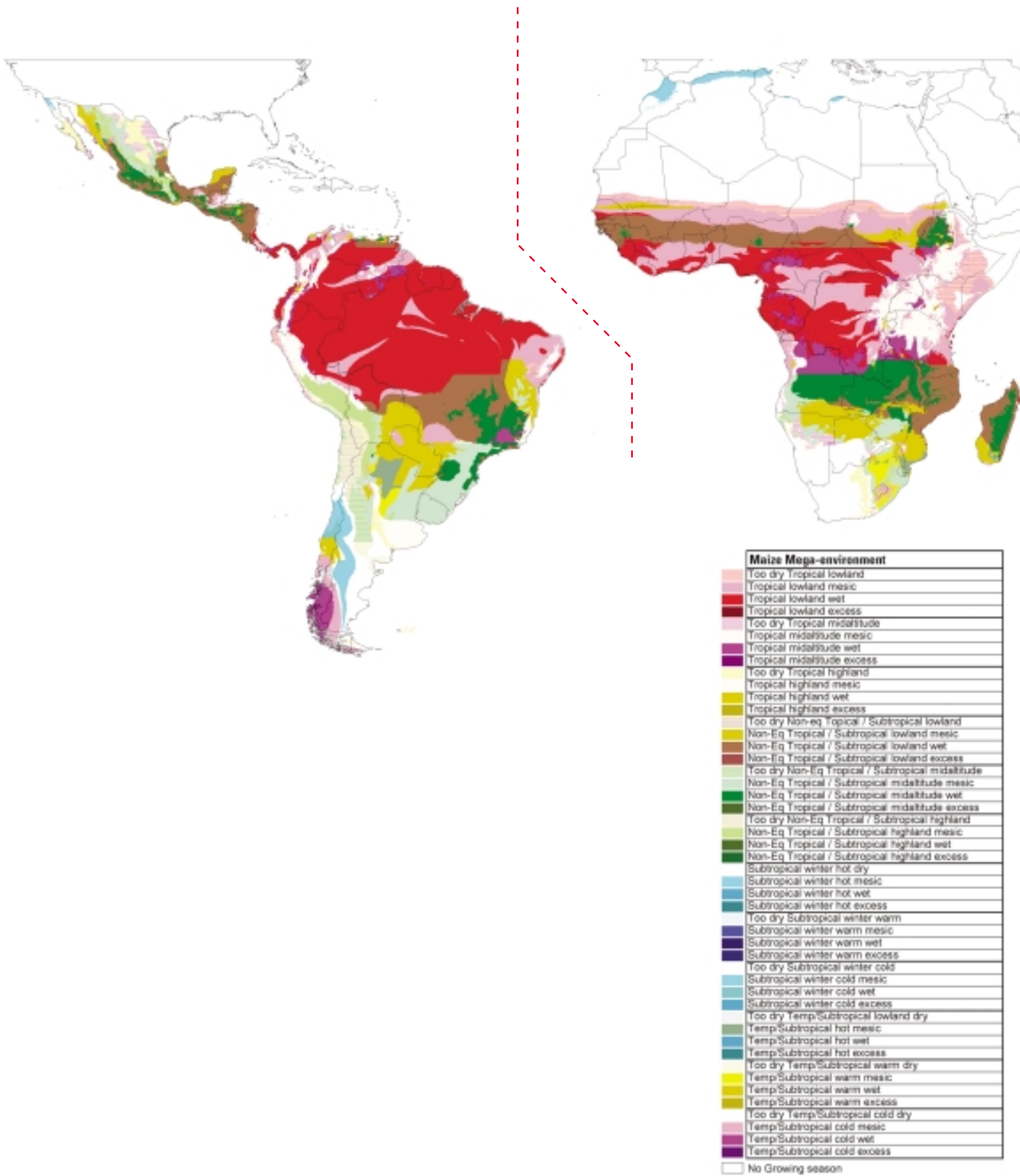
Newnr	Meclas	MENAME	Classification following 1991			Cluster Diagnostic	Cluster Characteristic	
			latitude	altitude	tmean			
1	1a	True Tropical lowland dry	tropical	lowland	tropical	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
2		True Tropical lowland dry	tropical	lowland	tropical	na	na	
3		True Tropical lowland dry	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
4		True Tropical lowland dry	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-ITdif-vIP-hDL	Dry subtropical-temperate	
5		True Tropical lowland dry	tropical	lowland	tropical	na	na	
6	1b	True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	midaltitude	tropical	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day	
7		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
8		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
9		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
10		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day	
11		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
12		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
13		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
14		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
15		True Tropical lowland mesic	subtropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland	
16		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland	
17		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
18		True Tropical lowland mesic	subtropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland	
19		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
20		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
21		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland	
22		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
23		True Tropical lowland mesic	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
24		1c	True Tropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland
25			True Tropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland
26			True Tropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic
27			True Tropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-altldif-vhP-aDI	Tropical lowland wet
28			True Tropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland
29	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-altldif-vhP-aDI	Tropical lowland wet	
30	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
31	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
32	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
33	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
34	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
35	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
36	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
37	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
38	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
39	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-altldif-vhP-aDI	Tropical lowland wet	
40	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-altldif-vhP-aDI	Tropical lowland wet	
41	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
42	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
43	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
44	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
45	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
46	True Tropical lowland wet		tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot	
47	2a		Tropical midaltitude dry	tropical	lowland	htroprans	na	na
48		Tropical midaltitude dry	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	na	na	
49		Tropical midaltitude dry	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-alP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry	
50		Tropical midaltitude dry	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-alP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry	
51		Tropical midaltitude dry	tropical	lowland	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
52		Tropical midaltitude dry	tropical	lowland	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
53	2b	Tropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	lowland	htroprans	na	na	
54		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	troprans	htroprans	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
55		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	troprans	htroprans	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
56		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	troprans	htroprans	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
57		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
58		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
59		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
60		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	troprans	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
61		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
62		Tropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	na	na	
63		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	troprans	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day	
64		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
65		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
66		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
67		Tropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day	
68		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
69		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	na	na	
70		Tropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	hTmean-vITdif-aP-IDI	Tropical Lowland	
71		Tropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	lowland	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
72		Tropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day	
73	2c	Tropical midaltitude wet	tropical	troprans	htroprans	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
74		Tropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Topics wet	
75		Tropical midaltitude wet	tropical	troprans	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
76		Tropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	alTmean-alTdif-alP-IDI	NONEQ Topics midaltitude mesic	
77		Tropical midaltitude wet	tropical	lowland	st/ma	hTmean-altldif-vhP-aDI	Tropical lowland wet	

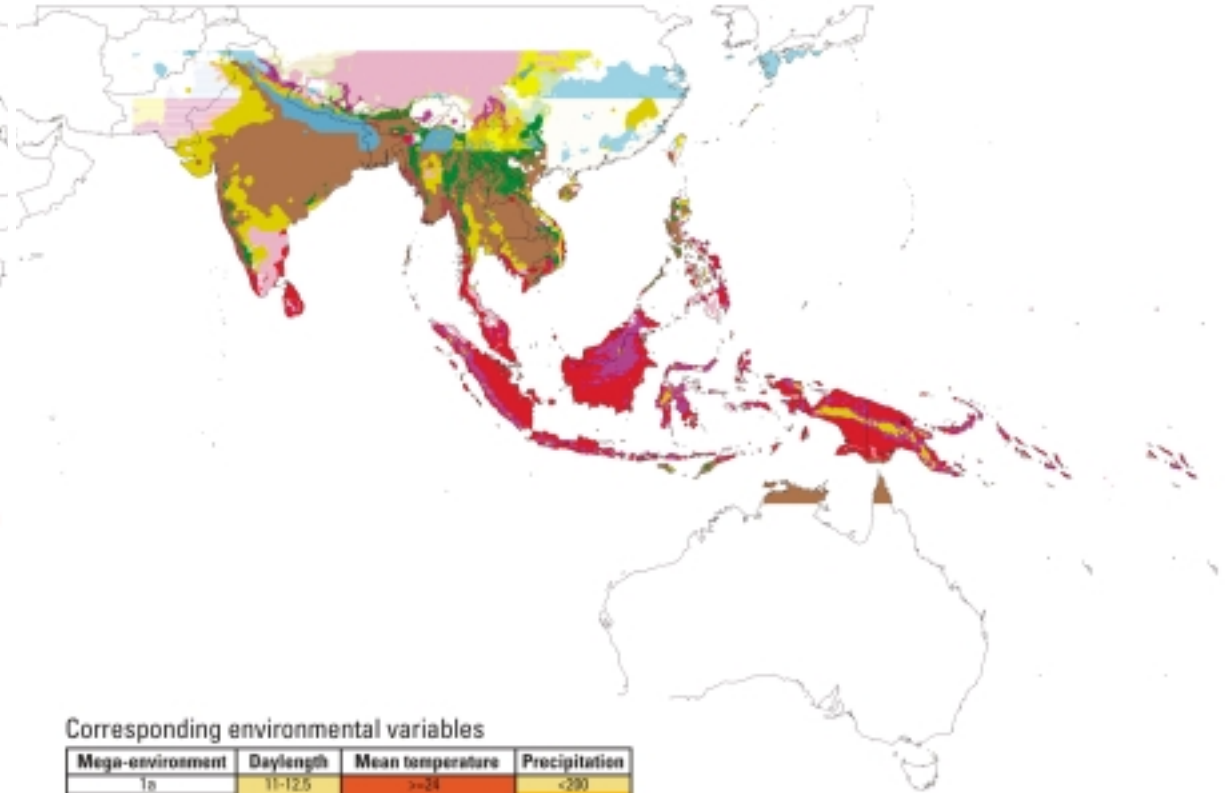
Classification following 1991

Newnr	Meclas	MENAME	latitude	altitude	tmean	Cluster Diagnostic	Cluster Characteristic
157		True Subtropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot
158		True Subtropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot
159		True Subtropical lowland wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot
160		True Subtropical lowland wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot
161		True Subtropical lowland wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot
162		True Subtropical lowland wet	tropical	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-ITdif-aP-aDI	Tropical Lowland very hot
163	5b	Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	troptans	htroptans	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
164		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	highland	htroptans	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
165		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	highland	htroptans	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
166		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	htroptans	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
167		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	highland	htroptans	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
168		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
169		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	highland	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
170		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
171		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	troptans	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
172		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
173		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	troptans	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
174		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	troptans	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
175		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	subtropical	troptans	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
176		Subtropical midaltitude mesic	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
177	5c	Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	troptans	htroptans	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
178		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
179		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
180		Subtropical midaltitude wet	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
181		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
182		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
183		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
184		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
185		Subtropical midaltitude wet	tropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-aTdif-hP-haDI	NONEQ Tropics wet
186	6b	Subtropical highland mesic	subtropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
187		Subtropical highland mesic	tropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
188		Subtropical highland mesic	tropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
189		Subtropical highland mesic	subtropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
190		Subtropical highland mesic	tropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
191		Subtropical highland mesic	tropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
192		Subtropical highland mesic	tropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
193		Subtropical highland mesic	tropical	highland	htroptans	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
194		Subtropical highland mesic	subtropical	midaltitude	htroptans	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
195	6c	Subtropical highland wet	tropical	highland	trophighland	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands
196	8a	Subtropical winter warm dry	subtropical	lowland	htroptans	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
197		Subtropical winter warm dry	subtropical	lowland	htroptans	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
198		Subtropical winter warm dry	subtropical	lowland	htroptans	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
199		Subtropical winter warm dry	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
200		Subtropical winter warm dry	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
201		Subtropical winter warm dry	subtropical	lowland	st/ma	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
202	9a	Subtropical winter cold dry	subtropical	midaltitude	trophighland	alTmean-htdif-vIP-vDI	Subtropical winter, short Day, rainfall limited
203	10a	Temperate-HighlatST hot dry	temperate	lowland	tropical	hTmean-ITdif-vIP-hDL	Dry subtropical-temperate
204		Temperate-HighlatST hot dry	temperate	lowland	tropical	hTmean-ITdif-vIP-hDL	Dry subtropical-temperate
205		Temperate-HighlatST hot dry	temperate	lowland	tropical	hTmean-ITdif-vIP-hDL	Dry subtropical-temperate
206		Temperate-HighlatST hot dry	subtropical	lowland	tropical	hTmean-ITdif-vIP-hDL	Dry subtropical-temperate
207	10b	Temperate-HighlatST hot mesic	subtropical	lowland	tropical	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
208		Temperate-HighlatST hot mesic	subtropical	lowland	tropical	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
209		Temperate-HighlatST hot mesic	subtropical	lowland	tropical	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
210		Temperate-HighlatST hot mesic	temperate	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-aTdif-IP-hDL	Dry temperate lowlands
211		Temperate-HighlatST hot mesic	temperate	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-aTdif-IP-hDL	Dry temperate lowlands
212		Temperate-HighlatST hot mesic	temperate	lowland	tropical	vhTmean-aTdif-IP-hDL	Dry temperate lowlands
213	10c	Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	midaltitude	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
214		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	midaltitude	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
215		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
216		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
217		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
218		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
219		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
220		Temperate-HighlatST hot wet	subtropical	lowland	tropical	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
221	10d	Temperate-HighlatST hot extreme wet	subtropical	midaltitude	tropical	hTmean-ITdif-vvhP-hDL	Subtropical extreme wet
222	11b	Temperate-HighlatST warm mesic	subtropical	troptans	htroptans	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
223		Temperate-HighlatST warm mesic	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	variousTmean-ahTdif-ahP-ahDI	Subtropical, long day
224		Temperate-HighlatST warm mesic	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	aTmean-htdif-aIP-hDI	Subtropical highlands, long day, warm dry
225	11c	Temperate-HighlatST warm wet	subtropical	highland	htroptans	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
226		Temperate-HighlatST warm wet	subtropical	troptans	st/ma	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
227		Temperate-HighlatST warm wet	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	ahTmean-ITdifi-hP-vhDL	Subtropical wet
228	11d	Temperate-HighlatST warm extreme wet	subtropical	midaltitude	st/ma	hTmean-ITdif-vvhP-hDL	Subtropical extreme wet
229	12a	Temperate-HighlatST cold dry	temperate	midaltitude	highlandtemp	vtTmean-htdif-aIP-ahDI	Subtropical, cold highlands

Appendix H. Zonal maps of maize mega-environments made using trigger season planting.

Source of climate data: Latin America, Africa: Corbett and O'Brien, 1997; Asia: Jones 1998.





Corresponding environmental variables

Mega-environment	Daylength	Mean temperature	Precipitation
1a	11-12.5	>=24	<200
1b	11-12.5	>=24	>=200-600
1c	11-12.5	>=24	>=600-2000
1d	11-12.5	>=24	>=2000
2a	11-12.5	>18-<24	<200
2b	11-12.5	>18-<24	>=200-600
2c	11-12.5	>18-<24	>=600-2000
2d	11-12.5	>18-<24	>=2000
3a	11-12.5	<=18	<200
3b	11-12.5	<=18	>=200-600
3c	11-12.5	<=18	>=600-2000
3d	11-12.5	<=18	>=2000
4a	1 12.5-13.4	>=24	<200
4b	1 12.5-13.4	>=24	>=200-600
4c	1 12.5-13.4	>=24	>=600-2000
4d	1 12.5-13.4	>=24	>=2000
5a	1 12.5-13.4	>18-<24	<200
5b	1 12.5-13.4	>18-<24	>=200-600
5c	1 12.5-13.4	>18-<24	>=600-2000
5d	1 12.5-13.4	>18-<24	>=2000
6a	1 12.5-13.4	<=18	<200
6b	1 12.5-13.4	<=18	>=200-600
6c	1 12.5-13.4	<=18	>=600-2000
6d	1 12.5-13.4	<=18	>=2000
7a	<=11	>=24	<200
7b	<=11	>=24	>=200-600
7c	<=11	>=24	>=600-2000
7d	<=11	>=24	>=2000
8a	<=11	>18-<24	<200
8b	<=11	>18-<24	>=200-600
8c	<=11	>18-<24	>=600-2000
8d	<=11	>18-<24	>=2000
9a	<=11	<=18	<200
9b	<=11	<=18	>=200-600
9c	<=11	<=18	>=600-2000
9d	<=11	<=18	>=2000
10a	>=13.4	>=24	<200
10b	>=13.4	>=24	>=200-600
10c	>=13.4	>=24	>=600-2000
10d	>=13.4	>=24	>=2000
11a	>=13.4	>18-<24	<200
11b	>=13.4	>18-<24	>=200-600
11c	>=13.4	>18-<24	>=600-2000
11d	>=13.4	>18-<24	>=2000
12a	>=13.4	<=18	<200
12b	>=13.4	<=18	>=200-600
12c	>=13.4	<=18	>=600-2000
12d	>=13.4	<=18	>=2000



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Abstract: This publication presents a GIS-based approach for revising the definitions of global maize production environments, called “mega-environments” (MEs), used by CIMMYT and its partners. A cluster analysis was performed on climate data, representing a four-month growing season, for key maize producing locations. Assuming rainfed production, the onset of the growing season was determined based on the month when the ratio of precipitation over potential evapotranspiration exceeds 0.5. Diagnostic criteria for mapping MEs were based on cluster analysis results and expert knowledge. The resulting maps can be used to select appropriate target environments for maize germplasm and trials, as well as in priority setting and site selection for global maize breeding programs.

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