In our experiments, we tried to find out how the method and time of propagation, out of the technological elements applied by us for enhancing earliness, influenced some of the morphological characteristics of sweet corn.

The test variety was Spirit, a normal sweet variety. The following treatments were applied during the experiment:

P1 = uncovered direct seeded plants (Apr 6th)
P2 = covered direct seeded plants (Apr 6th)
P3 = covered transplanted plants (Apr 6th)
P4 = uncovered direct seeded plants (Apr 20th)
P5 = covered direct seeded plants (Apr 20th)
P6 = uncovered transplanted plants (Apr 20th)
P7 = covered transplanted plants (Apr 20th)

At the first top dressing 20 ears were selected from each treatment in a random fashion and the following measurements were carried out after harvest: plant height (to flag leaf, after harvest), stem diameter (under the ear in ripening phase), number of tillers and ear node height.

Direct seeding resulted in a significantly larger stem diameter, in a greater ear node height, in an increased number of tillers and, in combination with early propagation, in a greater plant height. Early propagation resulted in a lower ear node height and, in the case of direct seeding, in a greater stem height, in a lower number of tillers and, in the stand with row cover, in a smaller stem diameter as compared to the common (Apr 20th) propagation date. The transplanted treatments with cover showed practically no evidence of tillering.

From the point of the effect of the propagation method we compared the results of the treatments P2-P3 at the earlier date, while those of P5-P7 and P4-P6 at the later date.

In the investigation of the effect of propagation date we compared the treatments P1-P4, P2-P5 and P3-P7.