# Genetic Variation for Silage Digestibility of Corn Inbred Lines and Hybrids. (C01-vonpinho051004-Poster)

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### Abstract:

Silage corn digestibility is now a major criterion in breeding programs. This work was conducted to identify the principal source of genetic variation for silage digetibility of maize. Maize hybrids from a factorial mating design among six and six maize inbred lines, and the 12 parental inbred lines per se, were evaluated at silage stage at one location (Brazil)on two planting times for one yr. Whole plant in situ digestibility of dry matter was accomplished on 14 ruminal cannulated cows, and plant biochemical composition traits were investigated by chemical laboratory analyses. Biomass dry matter content and productivity were also collected. The genetic analysis indicated that the general combining ability of lines was the most important source of variation in all digestibility traits, compared with specific combining ability. The high genetic correlation among digestibility traits in the two planting times indicated that the success in the selection for this characteristic is not very affected by the environmental variation.

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