

LOST CORN VARIETY FOUND. Teosinte believed to be a primitive form of modern corn has been discovered in Mexico. A Christmas card illustrating the plant (above) was sent to scientist friends in 1977 by Dr. Hugh Illis of Wisconsin. He has conducted an 18-year search for the plant. Rafael Guzman (top right) a student at the University of Guadalajara recognized the plant in a mountainous region and advised Illis (right). Plant specialists around the world are now experimenting with samples of the long-lost variety to determine its value in modern-day farming operations.

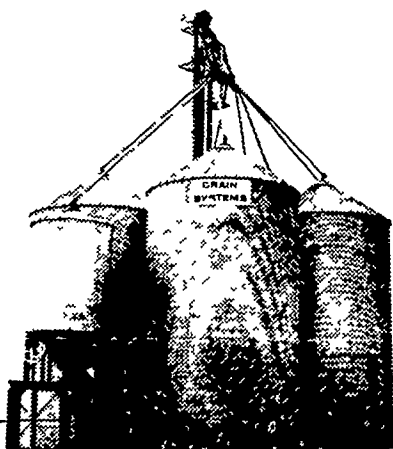
NEW HOLLAND - A Christmas card, sent by a University of Wisconsin scientist has resulted in a lot of excitement in seed production companies and botanical gardens around the world.

The card, sent by Dr. Hugh Illis, didn't bear the traditional Christmas tree or religious scene. Instead, Dr. Illis used a drawing of a "lost" variety of teosinte plants some plant geneticists believe to be a primitive

form of modern corn. One of the cards ended up in the (Turn to Page 137)



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