

Original Research Article

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Evaluation of Genetic Variability, Heritability and Genetic Advance in Advanced Breeding Lines of Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L)

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ABSTRACT

The Present investigation was carried out using 522 advanced breeding lines of wheat genotypes at BISA Farm, Jabalpur during Rabi, 2018-2019 in randomized block design with two replications. Analysis of variance found the significant difference between breeding lines for all the characters were studied. Appropriate variability was obtainable in the advance breeding lines under study for all the characters indicating sufficient genetic variability among the genotypes. Phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) was marginally higher than the respective genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) for all the characters indicating thereby that there is negligible influence on the characters by the environment. GCV was high for grain yield per plant, grain weight per spike, biological yield per plant, number of grains per spike and number of effective tillers per plant. High PCV was observed for grain weight per spike followed by grain weight per plant, biological yield per plant, number of grains per spike, number of effective tillers per plant and length of main spike. High broad sense heritability along with high genetic advance as percentage of mean were obtained for number of non extruded anther per spike, anther extrusion %, visual score of anther extrusion, biomass per plot and number of productive tillers per plant.

Keywords

Triticum aestivum L, King of Cereals, Poaceae family, Wheat grain

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Introduction

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is the most important cereal crop for the majority of world population and has been described as “King of Cereals”. In India it is a second major staple crop after rice and plays a key role in food and nutritional security. It is an allohexaploid with chromosome number $2n=6X=42$ comprising

three genetically related genomes A, B & D. It belongs to the Poaceae family. It is one of the most vital staple food grain amongst major cereals of the world, occupying 17 % of crop acreage worldwide, feeding about 40 % of the world population and provide 20 % of the protein and total food calories in human nutrition. Wheat originated from South West Asia. It is a highly self-pollinated crop and an

annual plant having height about 60 to 150 cm long. Inflorescence of wheat is erect terminal spike of spikelets called as ear or head or spike of grains, flower grouped into 15-20 spikelets arranged alternatively on rachis, each spikelets with 2-6 flowers out of which only 2-3 flowers are fertile and produce grains. Wheat grain contains 2-3 % germ, 13-17 % bran (outer layers of wheat grain) and 80-85 % mealy endosperm on dry matter basis (Belderok *et al.*, 2000). Wheat Bran is rich in vitamin B and minerals. The endosperm mainly contains food reserves which are needed for growth of the seedling. Endosperm contains fats (1.5 %) and proteins (13 %), albumins, globulins and the major proteins of the gluten complex glutenins and gliadins-proteins that will form the gluten at dough stage. Globally, wheat (*Triticum* spp.) is grown in about 220.83 million hectares holding the position of highest acreage among all crops with annual production hovering around 769.31 million tones (USDA, 2020). In India, it is grown in area of 30.55 million hectares with a production of 107.18 million tones and productivity of 3508 kg/ha. In Madhya Pradesh, it is grown-up in an area of 49 lakh hectare with a production of 125.6 lakh tones, respectively (Anonymous, 2020). Grain yield in wheat is a complex character and is depend on its component traits. For genetic manipulation of grain yield, quality and other characters in wheat, there is a need to examine the nature of genetic variability for the yield related attributes and quality traits. Anther extrusion is a complex trait controlled by many genes. The genetic basis of AE has mostly been unveiled via conventional mapping studies (Skinnes *et al.*, 2010; Lu *et al.*, 2013; Buerstmayr and Buerstmayr, 2015). Estimation of genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) and phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) helps to choose the potential genotype and heritability along with genetic advance would be more useful tool in predicting the resultant effect for selection of

best genotypes for yield. Keeping these things in the view, the present investigation was made to assess genotypes with the objectives, to estimate the variability, heritability and genetic advance for yield and yield components traits in wheat.

Materials and Methods

Experimental Site: Advanced wheat breeding lines obtained from CIMMYT wheat breeding program will be planted for morphological characterization at BISA farm Jabalpur and the experimental Seasons was *rabi* 2018-2019. Soil texture of research field was clay loam with pH 7.6.

The experiment was laid out in randomized block design (RBD) with 2 replications. The recommended package of practices was adopted for raising the healthy crop. Observations for all the traits were recorded on five randomly selected plants of each entry in each replication.

Statistical analysis

To test the difference among the genotypes, the analysis of variance was worked out separately for each character as per method suggested by fisher (1954) and using standard statistical procedure given by Panse and Sukhatme (1954).

Genotypic and phenotypic variances

These were calculated as follows:

$$\text{Genotypic variance} = (\sigma^2_g) = (V_g - V_e) / r$$

$$\text{Phenotypic variance} = (\sigma^2_p) = \sigma^2_g + \sigma^2_e$$

$$\text{Environmental variance} = (\sigma^2_e) = V_e$$

The genotype mean sum of square was tested against error mean sum of square by 'F' test n_1

(t-1) and n_2 (r-1) (t-1) degree of freedom both at 0.05 and 0.01 probability levels. Any significant variation was marked as one asterisk 0.05 and two asterisks 0.01 against the corresponding mean square in the analysis of variance table.

Estimation of phenotypic and genotypic coefficients of variation

The phenotypic and genotypic coefficients of variation in per cent were computed by the following formulae given by Burton (1952).

Phenotypic Coefficient of Variation

$$\text{PCV \%} = \frac{\text{Phenotypic SD}}{\text{Mean}} \times 100$$

Genotypic Coefficient of Variation

$$\text{GCV \%} = \frac{\text{Genotypic SD}}{\text{Mean}} \times 100$$

The PCV and GCV values are ranked as low, medium and high (Shivasubramanian and Menon, 1973) and are mentioned below:

<10% - Low

10-20% - Moderate

>20% - High

Heritability (%)

The ratio of genetic variance to the total variance, i.e. phenotypic variance is known as heritability. Heritability (H) in broad sense (Lush, 1949) was calculated as:

$$H^2 (\%) = \text{Genotypic variance} / \text{Phenotypic variance} \times 100$$

Heritability values are categorized as low, moderate and high (Robinson *et al.*, 1949) and are given below:

<30% - Low

30-60% - Moderate

>60% - High

Genetic advance (GA)

The improvement in the performance of selected lines over the original population is known as genetic advance.

The genetic advance i.e. expected genetic gain from the selection of superior individuals was estimated by the formula suggested by Lush (1949).

Thus, GA = Genotypic variance / phenotypic variance X k. σ_p

Where,

σ_p = Phenotypic standard deviation

K = Standard selection differential

Genetic advance was expressed as percentage of mean by using the formula suggested by Johnson *et al.*, (1955).

Genetic advance as percentage of mean

$$= \frac{\text{Genetic advance}}{\text{Grand mean}} \times 100$$

Genetic advance as percent of mean was classified as low, moderate and high (Johnson *et al.*, 1955) and values are given below:

<10% - Low

10-20% - Moderate

>20% - High

Results and Discussion

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) table 1 for all the characters viz., days to 50 per cent heading

(days), days to 50 per cent flowering (days), days to maturity (days), peduncle length(cm), plant height (cm), No. of effective tillers per plant, spike length (cm), No. of spikelets per plant, No. of grains per spike, number of non extruded anthers per spike, anther extrusion %, visual score of anther extrusion, biomass (g), 1000 seed weight (g) and grain yield per plot (g) exposed highly significant mean sum of squares due to genotypes for all the characters studied representing the occurrence of adequate genetic variation amongst all the breeding lines.

The mean sum of squares due to replication was found to be non-significant for all the traits studied,

Table 2. High magnitude of GCV were observed for number of non extruded anther per spike (54.179) followed by visual score of anther extrusion (37.745) anther extrusion % (33.224) biomass per plot (21.934) and number of productive tillers per plant (20.181).

Low magnitude of GCV observed for days to maturity (4.363) and days to 50% flowering (5.530).

High magnitude of PCV were observed for number of non extruded anther per spike (54.604) followed by visual score of anther extrusion (41.865), anther extrusion% (33.485) number of productive tillers (26.361) and biomass per plot (21.995).

Low magnitude of PCV observed for days to maturity (4.454), days to 50% flowering (5.675) and days to 50 % heading (6.019).

Heritability in broad sense was high for most of the characters studied except number of productive tillers per plant (0.586) and number of spikelets per spike (0.624). The highest heritability were similar observed for two

traits i.e. biomass per plot and grain yield per plot (0.994) followed by 1000 grain weight (0.987) and for number of non extruded anther per spike, anther extrusion % were (0.984). High magnitude of genetic advancement were observed for biomass per plot (378.520) followed by anther extrusion % (42.092), grain yield per plot (28.731), number of non extruded anthers per spike (25.258) and days to maturity (10.843).

Low magnitude of genetic advancement were observed for spike length (1.464) and number of productive tillers per plant (1.664).

In the present investigation the phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) was marginally higher than the respective genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) for all the characters studied indicating that there is negligible influence on the expression of characters by the environment.

The grain yield per plant depicted highest genotypic coefficient of variation followed by grain weight per spike, biological yield per plant, number of grains per spike and number of effective tillers per plant, while highest phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) observed for grain weight per spike.

The magnitude of GCV and PCV were low for days to maturity and protein content, Table 2. Earlier similar finding have been also reported by Yadav *et al.*, (2014), Kumar *et al.*, (2014) and Bhushan *et al.*, (2013).

The heritability estimates in broad sense were quite high for most of the characters indicated that strong genetic nature for all the traits.

The higher heritability implied that selection for most of the traits might be effective in this set of genotypes. Similar findings were also reported by Bhushan *et al.*, (2013) and Nukasani *et al.*, (2013).

Table.1 Analysis of variance of fifteen traits in wheat lines for Rabi 2019, for Jabalpur, Location

S.No.	Characters	Replication	Mean sum of squares treatment	Error	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Range
	Degree of Freedom	1	521	521				
1	Days to 50% heading	975.17	50.77**	2.76	83.7	96.5	69.5	27
2	Days to 50 % flowering	973.24	51.29**	2.58	89.2	101.5	74.5	27
3	Days to maturity	979.04	60.15**	2.42	123.1	135.5	108	27.5
4	Peduncle length (cm)	11.76	12.68**	2.98	14.5	24.5	8.0	16.5
5	Plant height (cm)	20.36	65.59**	9.70	92.8	105.0	73.3	31.7
6	Number of productive tillers	15.69	4.65**	0.99	5.4	11.5	2.5	9
7	Spike length (cm)	0.01	2.38**	0.62	10.5	14.8	7.0	7.8
8	Number of spikelets per spike	0.16	6.61**	1.66	19.1	24.0	10.0	14
9	Number of grains per spike	8.46	80.99**	17.92	58.2	76.5	37.5	39
10	No. of Non extruded anthers per spike	75.10	309.98**	12.42	22.8	57.5	7.0	50.5
11	Anther extrusion %	1157.11	840.52**	42.55	61.6	88.3	5.9	82.4
12	Visual score of anther extrusion	15.69	5.47**	0.58	3.9	9.0	2.0	7
13	Biomass (g)	378329.38	66581.84**	7298.89	848.1	1381.5	211.5	1170
14	Thousand seed weight (g)	378.44	35.87**	2.25	44.9	58.2	33.4	24.8
15	Grain yield (g)	39946.27	394.49**	63.68	142.7	182.1	92.6	89.5

*&** Significant at P<0.05 and P<0.01, respectively

Table.2 Genetic variability parameters for yield and its contributing traits in wheat

Characters	DH50%	DF50%	DM	PL	PH	NPT	SL	NSPS	NGPS	NEAE	AE%	VSAE	BM	TSW	GYPP
Var Environmental	1.382	1.291	1.210	1.488	4.850	0.786	0.414	1.205	11.194	2.409	6.688	0.511	189.234	0.241	1.246
(ECV)	1.986	1.800	1.263	11.894	3.358	23.985	8.693	8.152	8.224	9.625	5.900	25.612	2.316	1.548	1.105
Var Genotypical	24.003	24.353	28.864	4.854	27.930	1.114	0.775	1.998	25.262	152.703	424.085	2.220	33951.340	17.705	195.753
(GCV)	5.852	5.530	4.363	15.191	5.697	20.181	8.413	7.423	8.736	54.179	33.224	37.745	21.934	9.380	9.789
Var Phenotypical	25.386	25.644	30.074	6.342	32.780	1.900	1.188	3.203	36.456	155.112	430.773	2.731	34140.574	17.946	197.000
PCV	6.019	5.675	4.454	17.364	6.172	26.361	10.419	9.398	10.494	54.604	33.485	41.865	21.995	9.444	9.820
H² (Broad Sence)	0.946	0.950	0.960	0.765	0.852	0.586	0.652	0.624	0.693	0.984	0.984	0.813	0.994	0.987	0.994
Genetic Advancement 5%	9.814	9.907	10.843	3.971	10.049	1.664	1.464	2.300	8.619	25.258	42.092	2.767	378.520	8.609	28.731
Genetic Advancement 1%	12.577	12.696	13.895	5.089	12.879	2.133	1.876	2.947	11.045	32.369	53.943	3.546	485.093	11.033	36.820
Gen. Adv as % of Mean 5%	11.723	11.102	8.806	27.378	10.834	31.826	13.993	12.077	14.980	110.738	67.907	70.104	45.059	19.192	20.102
Gen. Adv as % of Mean 5%	15.024	14.228	11.285	35.087	13.884	40.787	17.933	15.477	19.197	141.916	87.027	89.842	57.746	24.596	25.761

DH50: Days to 50 % heading, DF50: Days to 50% flowering, DM: Days to maturity, PL: Peduncle length, PH: Plant height, NPT: No. of productive tillers, SL: Spike length, NSPS: No. of spikelet's per spike, NGPS: No. of grains per spike, NEA: No. of no-extruded anthers per spike, AE %: Anther extrusion percentage, Visual_AE: Visual score of anther extrusion, BM: Biomass, GYPP: Grain yield, TSW: Thousand seed weight.

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