

Original Research Article

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## Studies on Component Characters Association with Flower Yield in *Chrysanthemum (Dendranthema grandiflora Tzvelve)*

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### ABSTRACT

Ten genotypes of chrysanthemum (*Dendranthema grandiflora* Tzvelve) were assessed for 12 different growth, flowering, flower yield and quality traits to study the association of different parameters with flower yield per plant (g). In the present study, days to flower bud initiation and number of flowers showed highly significant and positive association with flower yield per plant (g) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. Number of flowers was found have highly significant negative correlation with flower diameter (cm) and individual flower weight (g) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. However, the number of flowers showed highly significant positive correlation with flower yield per plant (g) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. Shelf life (h) showed significant positive correlation with flower yield per plant (g) at genotypic level only indicating that, growing environment influence on flower shelf life is negligible. Hence, selection for the traits that are positively associated would be effective for flower yield improvement in chrysanthemum. Thus in chrysanthemum the genotype, which flower comparatively late with more number of flowers (lesser flower diameter and lesser flower weight) and having good shelf life of flower would increase the flower yield.

#### Keywords

Correlation coefficient,  
Flower yield per plant,  
*Dendranthema*  
*grandiflora* Tzvelve

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### Introduction

Flowers and flowering plants are fascinating part of our life. Among them, chrysanthemum (chryos - golden; anthos - flower) called as "Queen of the East" is a most interesting and popular flower crop of commercial importance. It ranks third in the International cut flower trade next to rose and carnation in demand and popularity. Chrysanthemum is

native to China, belonging to the family Asteraceae which is the most phylogenetically advanced dicotyledonous family. The inflorescence is called as capitulum or head consisting of large number of tiny florets closely mounted on a flattened stem end, which gives a false appearance of single bloom. Garden chrysanthemum which was previously known as *Chrysanthemum morifolium* (Ramat) and now it is called as

*Dendranthema grandiflora* (Tzvelev). In India chrysanthemum commercially cultivated in states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. Its cultivation is popular around the cities like Delhi, Kolkata, Lucknow, Kanpur, Chennai, Allahabad and Bengaluru. Still, there is a need to increase chrysanthemum cultivation which is limiting due to lack of high yielding varieties with attractive flowers. A study was conducted to assess the components characters correlated with flower yield in chrysanthemum.

The phenotypic expression of the plant character is mainly controlled by the genetic makeup of the plant and the environment in which it is grown plus the interaction between the genotypes and environment. Further, the genotype of the plant is controlled by different gene action *i.e.* additive gene effect (heritable), non-additive gene effect or dominance (non-heritable) and epistasis (non-allelic dominance). Correlation coefficient analysis measures the mutual relationship between various plant characters and determines the component characters on which selection can be based for genetic improvement in yield. Yield being a complex character, is collectively influenced by various characters which are polygenically inherited and highly subjected to environment variations. The phenotypic correlations indicate the extent of the observed relationship between two characters. This does not give true genetic picture of the relationship because it includes both heritable and non-heritable association. Genotypic correlations provide an estimate of inherent association between genes controlling any two characters. Improving genetic correlation was mainly due to pleiotropy and linkage (Jain, 1982). Hence, for an effective and efficient selection of genotypes for yield, the knowledge of direction and magnitude of association between yield and its components and among

the components themselves is very much essential. Simultaneous improvement of traits becomes difficult if there is high correlation among them.

## Materials and Methods

The experiment was conducted to study the correlation of the different morphological characters influencing the flower yield in different genotypes of chrysanthemum (*Dendranthema grandiflora* Tzvelev). The experimental material comprised of ten chrysanthemum genotypes such as Marigold, Dall White, Karnool, Dall Yellow, Poornima Yellow, Poornima Pink, Calcutta Shantini, Poornima Red, Poornima White and Dundi were evaluated in Complete Randomized Design with three replications during *kharif* 2017-18 at K. R. C. College of Horticulture, Arabhavi. The plants were planted at a spacing of 60X45 cm and all the recommended cultural practices were followed. Five competitive plants were tagged at random in each treatment in each replication for recording detailed observation and the data were recorded for all the 12 quantitative characters *viz.*, plant height, number of primary and secondary branches, number of leaves at 90 days after planting, leaf area (cm<sup>2</sup>), days taken for flower bud initiation, days for 50 per cent flowering, duration of flowering (days), number of flowers per plant, individual flower weight (g), diameter of flower (cm), shelf life (h) and flower yield per plant (g/plant) were recorded. Mean values were subjected to analysis of variance, genotypic and phenotypic correlation were estimated as suggested by Al-Jibourie *et al.*, (1958).

## Results and Discussion

The genotypic and phenotypic correlation studies were carried out for the 12 characters to know the nature of relationship existing

between flower yield per plant (g/plant) and its other component characters (Table 1). Yield is a complex character determined by several other characters. Hence, the association of these characters with yield and among themselves is of paramount importance in framing effective selection. In general, genotypic correlation coefficients were higher than the phenotypic correlation coefficients. This indicates the presence of inherent association between various characters considered in the present study. Similar trend was observed by Raghava *et al.*, (1992) in chrysanthemum, Anuradha and Narayanagowda (1999) and Magar *et al.*, (2010) in gerbera for most of the characters, these finding indicates that though there is strong inherent association between various characters, the phenotypic expression is reduced under the influences of environment.

Plant height at 90 DAP had highly significant and positive correlation with number of secondary branches per plant (0.801 and 0.531), number of flowers per plant (0.674 and 0.566), leaf area (0.644 and 0.541) and number of leaves at 90 DAP (0.619 and 0.516) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. It also had highly significant and negative correlation with individual flower weight (-0.584 and -0.521) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. Similar results were reported by Raghava *et al.*, (1992) in chrysanthemum, Kore (2014) in China aster and Mathad *et al.*, (2005) in marigold. Number of primary branches at 90 DAP had highly significant and significant positive correlation with shelf life of flowers (0.611) and flower diameter (0.447) at genotypic level. It also had significant positive correlation with shelf life of flowers (0.447) at phenotypic level. Number of secondary branches at 90 DAP had significant positive correlation with duration of flowering (0.425), leaf area (0.385) and number of flowers (0.376) at genotypic level. It also had highly

significant negative correlation with individual flower weight (-0.916 and -0.604) at both genotypic and phenotypic level, respectively. This trend was confirmed by Misra *et al.*, (2013) in chrysanthemum. In marigold, number of lateral branches had significantly positive association with plant spread and flower yield per plant (Janikiram and Rao, 1991 and Mathew *et al.*, 2005) and with number of flowers per plant by Banupratap *et al.*, (1999). Whereas, negative correlation was observed with individual flower weight.

Number of leaves at 90 DAP had highly significant and positive correlation with days to flower bud initiation (0.853 and 0.831), number of flowers (0.788 and 0.740) and days taken for fifty per cent flowering (0.666 and 0.641) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. It also had highly significant and negative correlation with flower diameter (-0.903 and -0.850) and individual flower weight (-0.634 and -0.605) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. The findings are in line with reports by Chaugule (1985) in chrysanthemum and Kore (2014) in China aster. Leaf area had highly significant and positive correlation with flower diameter (0.519) at genotypic level. Leaf area had significant and positive correlation with shelf life (0.381) at genotypic level and flower diameter (0.493) at phenotypic level. It also had significant negative correlation with days taken for fifty per cent flowering (-0.384 and -0.367) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Similar results were reported by Chaugule (1985) in chrysanthemum.

Days taken for flower bud initiation had highly significant and positive correlation with days taken for fifty per cent flowering (0.857 and 0.848), number of flowers (0.661 and 0.645) and flower yield per plant (0.563 and 0.520) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively.

**Table.1** Genotypic and phenotypic correlation coefficients for growth, flowering, yield and quality characters in *Chrysanthemum* genotypes

		X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10	X11	X12	X13
X1	G	1	0.297	0.801**	0.619**	0.644**	0.251	0.129	0.289	0.674**	-0.584**	-0.259	0.130	0.282
	P	1	0.236	0.531**	0.516**	0.541**	0.210	0.104	0.232	0.566**	-0.521**	-0.229	0.103	0.205
X2	G		1	0.297	-0.158	0.319	-0.216	-0.084	-0.293	-0.291	0.053	0.447*	0.611**	-0.104
	P		1	0.341	-0.186	0.285	-0.173	-0.048	-0.166	-0.262	0.038	0.344	0.447*	-0.133
X3	G			1	0.289	0.385*	-0.250	-0.412*	0.425*	0.376*	-0.916**	0.030	-0.344	-0.342
	P			1	0.188	0.336	-0.210	-0.302	0.349	0.306	-0.604**	0.073	-0.283	-0.153
X4	G				1	-0.213	0.853**	0.666**	0.257	0.788**	-0.634**	-0.903**	-0.091	0.294
	P				1	-0.210	0.831**	0.641**	0.207	0.740**	-0.605**	-0.850**	-0.080	0.260
X5	G					1	-0.360	-0.384*	-0.094	0.138	0.108	0.519**	0.381*	0.352
	P					1	-0.351	-0.367*	-0.089	0.133	0.111	0.493*	0.340	0.332
X6	G						1	0.857**	-0.204	0.661**	-0.201	-0.841**	0.166	0.563**
	P						1	0.848**	-0.197	0.645**	-0.206	-0.826**	0.164	0.520**
X7	G							1	-0.201	0.306	-0.033	-0.667**	0.409*	0.281
	P							1	-0.172	0.302	-0.026	-0.647**	0.393*	0.273
X8	G								1	-0.039	-0.510**	-0.290	-0.567**	-0.652**
	P								1	-0.031	-0.458*	-0.282	-0.547**	-0.573**
X9	G									1	-0.588**	-0.647**	-0.212	0.615**
	P									1	-0.557**	-0.624**	-0.200	0.620**
X10	G										1	0.471**	0.513**	0.242
	P										1	0.463**	0.473**	0.271
X11	G											1	0.282	-0.203
	P											1	0.275	-0.176
X12	G												1	0.365*
	P												1	0.326

\* Significant at p = 0.05 probability (0.361); \*\* significant at p = 0.01 probability (0.463)

<b>X1: Plant height (90 DAP) (cm)</b>	<b>X2: Number of primary branches (90 DAP)</b>	<b>X3: Number of secondary branches (90 DAP)</b>	<b>X4: Number of leaves (90 DAP)</b>
<b>X5: Leaf area (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>X6: Days to flower bud initiation</b>	<b>X7: Days to fifty per cent flowering</b>	<b>X8: Duration of flowering (days)</b>
<b>X9: Number of flowers per plant</b>	<b>X10: Individual flower weight (g)</b>	<b>X11: Flower diameter (cm)</b>	<b>X12: Shelf life (h)</b>
<b>X13: Flower yield per plant (g)</b>	<b>G: Genotypic correlation value</b>	<b>P: Phenotypic correlation value</b>	

It also had highly significant and negative correlation with flower diameter (-0.841 and -0.826) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. The results are in conformity with Thirakannavar *et al.*, (2015) in China aster for days to flower commencement.

Days taken for fifty per cent flowering had significant and positive correlation with days shelf life of flowers (0.409 and 0.393) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. It also had highly significant and negative correlation with flower diameter (-0.667 and -0.647) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. The results are in conformity with Thirakannavar *et al.*, (2015) in China aster.

Duration of flowering had highly significant and negative correlation with flower yield per plant (-0.652 and -0.573) counter results were found by Shanmugam *et al.*, (1972) in chrysanthemum and Kore (2014) in China aster. Similarly highly significant and negative correlation with shelf life (-0.567 and -0.547) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Duration of flowering exhibited negative significant association with shelf life, which is in line with the findings of Mathew *et al.*, (2005) in African marigold and Sahu and Sharma (2014) in chrysanthemum. While, it had highly significant negative correlation with individual flower weight (-0.510) at genotypic level and (-0.458) at phenotypic level, respectively.

Flower diameter had highly significant and positive correlation with leaf area (0.519 and 0.493) and individual flower weight (0.471 and 0.463) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Similar results were reported by Patil and Rane (1994), Ashwath and Parthasarathy (1993), Patil and Rane (1994), Ravikumar and Patil (2003) and Kore (2014) in China aster and by Singh *et al.*,

(2008) in marigold. It also had highly significant and negative correlation with number of flowers per plant (-0.647 and -0.624) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Since flower diameter is very important character, indirect selection for this trait should be considered for increasing the diameter of flower.

Number of flowers per plant had highly significant and positive correlation with flower yield per plant (0.615 and 0.620) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Similar results were reported by Rao (1982); Negi *et al.*, (1983); Ashwath and Parthasarathy (1993) and Sreenivasulu *et al.*, (2007) in China aster; Pandita and Bhan (1989), Sirohi and Behera (1999) and Shiragur (2012) in chrysanthemum.

It also had highly significant and negative correlation with flower diameter (-0.647 and -0.624) and individual flower weight (-0.588 and -0.557) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Whereas, significant and negative correlation with individual flower weight, these result is line with Baskaran *et al.*, (2004), Roein *et al.*, (2015) in chrysanthemum.

Individual flower weight had highly significant and positive correlation with shelf life (0.513 and 0.473) and flower diameter (0.471 and 0.463) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels, respectively. Similarly weight of flowers per plant in chrysanthemum had significant positive correlations with shelf life of flowers were noticed by Chaugule (1985) and by Kore (2014) in China aster.

Shelf life had significant and positive correlation with flower yield per plant (0.365) at genotypic level. Shelf life had significant negative correlation with duration of flowering. The results are in conformity with Sahu and Sharma (2014).

In the present study, days to flower bud initiation and number of flowers showed highly significant and positive association with flower yield per plant (g) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. Number of flowers was found have highly significant negative correlation with flower diameter (cm) and individual flower weight (g) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. However, the number of flowers showed highly significant positive correlation with flower yield per plant (g) at both genotypic and phenotypic levels. These characters showed significant contribution in increasing the flower yield in chrysanthemum which is heritable and environmental influence also. But, the parameter, shelf life (h) showed significant positive correlation with flower yield per plant (g) at genotypic level only indicating that, growing environment influence on flower shelf life is negligible. Hence, selection for the traits that are positively associated would be effective for flower yield improvement in chrysanthemum. Thus in chrysanthemum the genotype which flower comparatively late with more number of flowers and having good shelf life of flower would increase the flower yield (g).

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