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Evaluation of Okra Hybrids in Vertisols of Andhra Pradesh, India

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Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus* L.), locally known as Bhendi or ladies finger, is one of the most important vegetable crop grown in AP in all the seasons. Presently okra is grown in an area of twenty three thousand hectares and production is estimated at about 4.39 metric tonnes. The major problem in okra is yellow vein mosaic virus. The main area is occupied by hybrids from private sector. Different cultivars require different climatic condition and the performance of these entries depend on their adaptability to a particular climate and soil conditions. Hence, the present investigation was done with an objective to evaluate the performance of hybrids from public and private sector in Vertisols of AP during kharif season at Horticultural Research Station, Lam. The trial was conducted with eleven entries consisting of seven hybrids with four checks in RBD replicated thrice. Recommended package of practices and need based plant protection measures were taken. The data was recorded on plant height, number of fruits, days to 50% flowering, fruit length, fruit girth, average fruit weight yield and %YVMV incidence. Among the entries, significantly maximum plant height was recorded by BSS-428, whereas OH-597 recorded minimum plant height. Among the hybrids under evaluation, significantly more number of fruits was observed in HOK-152 being on par with BSS-828, AROH-631 and Kaveri -919. Among the hybrids, the highest yield was recorded by Kaveri -555 which is significantly superior to all the entries, followed by Kaveri -919. The maximum yield recorded by Kaveri -555 may be attributed to 100 fruit weight, fruit length and fruit girth and it flowering early. Incidence of YVMV ranged from 6.7 (BSS-828) to 55.1 (AROH-631).

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