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# GENETIC VARIABILITY, CORRELATION AND PATH COEFFICIENT ANALYSIS IN CASTOR (Ricinus communis L.)

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## ABSTRACT

Thirty six castor genotypes were evaluated for gentic parameters. Moderate to high heritability coupled with high genetic advance was noticed for single plant yield, plant height, 100 seed weight, length of primary raceme and racemes per plant attributed due to additive genes. The correlation Co-efficient and path analysis revealed that length of primary raceme, capsules in primary receme, racemes per plant and 100 seed weight were the major yield contributing characters.

KEY WORDS: Castor, Variability, Correlation, Path co-efficients

Castor (Ricinus communis L) is an important non-edible oilseed crop in which limited work has been carried out for its useful exploitation. In order to underdstand the variability present in the population and direct and indirect influence of yield contributing characters on yield, 36 genotypes of castor were subjected to variance, heritability, genetic advance, correlation co-efficients and path co-efficients studies.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Thirty six genotypes of castor were raised at Agricultural college and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Madurai during 1992-93 in a randomised block design with three replications: Each genotype was raised in two rows of 4.8 m length adopting a spacing of 90 cm between rows and 60 cm between plants. Five plants where selected at random and observations were recorded on days to 50 percent flowering, plant height, number of nodes upto primary raceme, number of recemes per plant, 100 seed weight and single plant yield.

The phenotypic and genotypic variances and genetic advance were calculated according to Johnson et al (1955). Phenotypic and genotypic

Table I. Variability, heritability and genetic advance for eight characters in castor

S1	No. Characters	Range			Variance		Co-efficient of variation(%)			Marita	Genetic	GA as
		From	То	Mean	Geno- typic	Pheno- typic	Geno- typic (GVC)	Pheno- typic (PVC)	PCV GCV	blity (broad sence)	advance (GA)	
1.	Days to 50 per cent flowering	56	99.7	80.8	98.91	172.33	12.32	16.26	3.94	57.40	15.52	19.22
2.	Plant height (cm)	54.0	163.7	97.7	725.81	763.73	27.56	28.27	0.71	95.04	54.11	55.35
3.	No. of nodes upto primary raceme (cm)	12.3	22.3	18.0	4.33	9.72	11.57	17.34	5.77	44.52	2.86	15.91
4.	Length of primary raceme (cm)	25	40.3	30.7	11.26	15.86	10.93	12.98	2.05	71.00	5.83	18.98
5.	No. of capsules in primary raceme	11	31.0	19.5	13.93	25.02	19.12	25.63	6.51	55.67	5.74	29.39
6.	No.of racemes per plant	2.7	9.3	4.5	1.70	2.69	28.69	36,11	7.42	63.09	2.13	46.94
7.	100 seed weight (g)	19.1	36.1	28.3	17.32	22.38	14.73	16.74	2.01	77.39	7.54	26.69
8.	Single plant yield (g)	27.7	98.0	57.3	285.15	291.00	29.48	29.78	0.30	97,99	34.43	60.11

co-efficients of variability (Burton 1952), heritanility in broad sense (Lush, 1940) and path co efficient analysis for grain yield per plant (Dewey and Lu, 1959) were anlysed.

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The variances due to genotypes for all the traits were found to be significant. The range, phenotypic and genotypic variances, PCV and GCV.

Table 2. Genotypic (G) and Phenotypic (P) correlation co-efficient among the characters in castor

Characters	Days to 50 per cent flowering	Plant height	No.of Nodes upto primary raceme	Length of primary raceme	No. of Capsules in primary raceme	No. of racemes per plant	100 seed weight	Single Plant yield
Days to 50 per cent flowering	G P	0.41**	0.91**	0.11	0.40* 0.19	0.31**	0.04 0.04	0.35**
Plant height	G P		0.54**	0.41*	0.28**	0.27**	0.14	0.04
No.of nodes upto primary raceme	G P			0.06	0.41**	0.38**	0.03	81.0 90.0
Length of primary raceme	G P				0.58**	0.12	0.44**	0.22*
No. of capsules in primary raceme	G P					0.19	0.30**	0.47**
No. of racemes per plant	G P						0.04	0.31**
100 Seed weight	G P							0.21*

<sup>·</sup> Significant at 5 per cent level

<sup>..</sup> Significant at 1 per cent level .

Table 3. Direct and Indirect effects of seven characters on yield in castor

Characters	Days to 50 per cent flowering	Plant height	No.of Nodes upto primary raceme	Length of primary raceme	No. of Capsules in primary raceme	No. of racemes per plant	100 seed weight	Corre- lation with single plant yield
Days to 50 per cent							10	4.4
Nowering	1.18	0.06	-1.01	0.01	0.25	-0.12	-0.02	0.35
Plant height	0.48	0.14	-0.59	0.01	0.18	-0.11	-0.07	0.04
No. of nodes upto primary raceme	80.1	0.08	-1.11	0.01	0.26	-0.15	0.02	0.18
Length of primary raceme	0.13	0.06	-0.07	0.01	0.35	-0.05	-0.21	0.22
No. of Capsules in primary raceme	0.48	0.04	-0.46	0.01	0.61	-0.07	-0.14	0.47
No. of racemes per plant	0.37	-0.04	0.44	-0.01	-0.12	0.39	0.02	0.31
100 seed weight	-0.04	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	-0.19	0.02	0.48	0.21

heritability and genetic advance are furnished in Table 1.

The genotypic variance was found to be less than the phenotypic variance for all the eight characters studied. The GCV was maximum for single plant yield (29.48%) followed by number of recemes per plant (28.69%) and plant height (27.56%). The difference between PCV and GCV was minimum for single plant yield (0.30) suggessing that this trait was least effected by environment (Table 1). Moderate to high heritabality coupled with high genetic advance was recored for single plant yield, plant height, 100 seed weight, length of primary receme, and number of recemes per plant (Table 1). These traits had higher selection value, attributed to a high degree of additive genetic effects (Panse, 1957).

The genotypic and phenothpic and phenotypic correlations of single plant yield were significantly positive with days to 50 percent flowering, number of capsules in the primary receme, number of recemes per plant, length of primary receme and 100 seed weight (Table 20. Singh and yadava (1981) and Patel and Jamini (1991) reported similar associations. While exercising selection, emphasis must be laid on the above said characters which provide simultaneous improvement on seed yield.

The genotypic pathway revealed that days to 50n percent flowering had more diret emphasis on seed yield. This was folloed by number of capsules in primary receme, 100 seed weight and nymber of recemes per plant. The number of nodes upto primary receme showed negative direct influence on seed yield (Table 3). Patel and Jaimini (1991) found similar type of contribution towards yield in caster. The indirect effect of number of nodes upto primary receme, plant height and number of capsules in primary receme through days to flowering was substantial. The pronounced indirect effect for yield was noticed in the number of capsules on primary receme, days to flowering and number of recemes per plant. The above said facts indicated selection on these traits will result in increased seed yield.

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# EFFECT OF SEED RATE AND NITROGEN LEVELS ON HYBRID RICE (Oryza Sativa)

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#### ABSTRACT

Field experiments were conducted during Kuruvai season (June to September) 1996 and 1997 on hybrid rice ADTRIII to study the effect of four nitrogen levels (0.75,150 and 225kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and three seed rates in nursery (10.20 and 30g m<sup>-2</sup>). The results revealed that there was significant increase in plant haight, dry matter accumulation, productive tillers/m<sup>2</sup>, panicle weight and grain yield with an increase in the level of nitrogen from 0 to 150 kg/ha further increase in N rate upto 225 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>did not show significant increase. Straw yield was found significant upto 225 kg N/ha. The seed rate 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> recorded the highest grain yield, followed by 20 and 30 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The growth and yield attributes except plant height were significantly higher with 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> of seed rate than the other rates.

KEY WORDS: Seed rate, Nitrogen levels, Hybrid rice, Grain yield.

Plant growth and development are influenced substantially by nitrogen application in rice. The direct bearing of N on source parameters influences the sink size of rice, thereby increasing grain yield of rice. Seed rate manipulation in nursery increases seedling vigour which helps to increase resultant energy of rice by means of grain yield (Singh et al., 1987). On introduction of hybrid rice in India, it is necessary to study the influence of N on growth and yield of the crop.

# MATERIALS AND METHODS

A field experiment was taken up during kuruvai season (June to September) of 1996 and 1997 at Wetland Farm, TNAU, Coimbatore. The experiment was laid out in split plot design with three replications. Four nitrogen levels (0, 75, 150 and 225 kg/ha) were kept in main plots and three seed rates in nursery (10, 20 and 30 g/m²) were allotted in subplots. The soil was clay loam with 7.8 pH, 0.23 percent organic carbon and 0.43 dsm² electrical conductivity and 125.3, 10.5 and 465.2 kg ha² of available N,P and K respectively. Hybrid rice ADTRH1 was transplanted on 15 and 17 June during 1996 and 1997 respectively at a spacing of

20x15/cm with one seedling/hill. Basal dose of 50kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and 50 kg K<sub>2</sub>O was broadcasted uniformally and ZnSo<sub>4</sub> 25 Kg/ha was applied after transplanting. Nitrogen was applied in three equal splits viz., 7 days after transplanting (DAT), active tillering and panicle initiation stage. The observation on plant height, number of productive tillers/m<sup>2</sup> and dry matter accumulation was recorded at harvest.

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

There was significant increase in plant height, number of productive tillers/m² and dry matter accumulation with each successive increase in N from 0 to 225 kg/ha (Table I). Addition in N dose from 150 to 225 kg/ha could not bring significant improvement in the above parameters. However, the maximum values of yield attributes were recorded in the highest N level. Plant height was relatively lesser, whereas productive tillers/m² and dry matter accumulation were higher in 1996 than in 1997. This might be due 41.5 percent more bright sunshine hours in 1996 than in 1997 during July-August. Murty et al. (1975) and Venkateswaraht et al. (1977) reported beneficial effect of bright