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## Genetic variability, correlation and path coefficient analysis of introduced genotypes of linseed (*Linum usitatissimum* L.) in mid-hills of North-West Himalayas

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#### Abstract

Present study comprises of 45 introduced and 2 indigenous genotypes of linseed which were evaluated at Experimental Farm of the Department of Crop Improvement, CSK HPKV, Palampur during rabi 2018-19. The experiment was carried out in RCBD with three replications. Each genotype was evaluated for 10 yield contributing characters. High heritability coupled with high genetic advance was recorded for primary branches, secondary branches, number of capsules, biological yield and seed yield. Seed yield showed highest significant positive correlation with biological yield (0.847) followed by plant height, primary branches and secondary branches. Significant negative correlation was observed for days to 50 per cent flowering and days to 75 per cent maturity. The results of path analysis revealed highest direct effect of biological yield (1.088) and harvest index (0.554) with seed yield, while primary branches, secondary branches showed higher indirect effects via biological yield.

Keywords: Linseed, variability, path analysis, GCV, PCV

#### Introduction

Linseed (Linum usitatissimum L., 2n=30) commonly known as Alsi, is one of the most important industrial oilseed crops of India as well as world, cultivated for both seed and fibre. Linseed is extensively cultivated throughout the world and India ranks second in terms of area after Canada and third in production in the world. L. usitatissimum is the sole cultivated species grown by man having 6,000-7,000 years of planting history. Every aerial part of the linseed plant is utilized commercially either directly or after processing. Linseed contains good percentage of oil varying from 33-42 per cent in different varieties and oil is the richest plant source of omega-3 (36-57%) and omega-6 (18-24%) (Ganorkar and Jain 2013). Any breeding programme rely on the variation present among the genotypes for different traits, which can be harnessed after evaluating various parameters of genetic variability like genotypic coefficient of variation, phenotypic coefficient of variation, heritability and genetic advance. These parameters gives estimates of variation available for selection. The estimates of correlation and path coefficients provides us the direct and indirect effects of various characters on complex character like yield which can be useful for improving selection method for yield contributing traits. This selection criterion takes into account the information on relationships among characters.

#### **Materials and Methods**

During rabi season 2018-19, present investigation consisting of 45 introduced and 2 indigenous genotypes of linseed genotypes carried out at Experimental Farm of the Department of Crop Improvement, CSK HPKV, Palampur. The experiment was carried out in Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with three replications. Each genotype was sown in three rows with the plot size of  $1.0 \times 0.75$  m<sup>2</sup> with row to row and plant to plant spacing of 25 cm and 5 cm, respectively. The list of genotypes evaluated during experiment is presented in Table 1. The characters taken under consideration were days to 50 per cent flowering, days to 75 per cent maturity, plant height (cm), technical height (cm), primary branches per plant, secondary branches per plant, number of capsules per plant, biological yield per plant (g), seed yield per plant (g) and harvest index (%). The data was recorded on five randomly selected competitive plants in each replication except days to 50 per cent flowering and days to 75 per cent maturity, for which data was recorded on plot basis. In statistical analysis, heritability was calculated as per the method suggested by Allard (1960)<sup>[2]</sup>,

 Table 1: List of introduced and indigenous linseed genotypes

 evaluated in the study

Sr.	Constynes	Sr.	Cenatype	Sr.	Conotype	Sr.	Cenotype	
no.	Genotypes	no.	Genotype	no.	Genotype	no.	Genotype	
1	Hearmis	13	JRF-4	25	P4-211911-4	37	Kenya	
2	Viking	14	JRF-2	26	Nataja	38	Wilden	
3	Rejeena	15	JRF-1	27	Ariane	39	Barnes	
4	Mariene	16	Birio	28	Belinka	40	Towner	
5	Giza-5	17	Bolygolden	29	Faking	41	Bison	
6	Giza-6	18	Linore	30	Flak-1	42	Ward	
7	Giza-7	19	Kugene	31	KL-284	43	Victory	
8	Giza-8	20	Williston	32	Coly	44	Polk	
9	Canada	21	Cass	33	K1-Raja	45	Kota	
10	Belinka-60	22	Cort land	34	Ottawa	46	Akmolinsk	
11	Aoyagi	23	MB-12008-9	35	B4 x Burke	47	Lene	
12	Nagarkot	24	Bombay	36	Stewart			

Genetic Advance (GA) as per method suggested by Johnson *et al.* (1955) <sup>[7]</sup>, correlation coefficients and path analysis were carried out as per the equations of Burton (1952.) and Dewey and Lu (1959) <sup>[5]</sup>, respectively with the help of software OP stat.

## **Results and Discussion**

Genetic coefficient of variation (GCV) is found to be more effective for trait selection and formulating a successful

breeding programme as it explains the genetic component of variation. By considering the phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) along with GCV to improve the efficiency of the breeding programme. Estimates of high GCV, PCV and heritability coupled with high genetic advance were recorded for primary branches per plant, secondary branches per plant, number of capsules per plant, biological yield per plant and seed yield per plant whereas low GCV and PCV for days to 50 per cent flowering and 75 with high heritability (>80%) and lower genetic advance (Table 2). These results indicates that the selection for these traits can be used for significant improvement in the breeding materials. Moderate GCV and PCV with high heritability (>80%) coupled with high genetic advance was observed for plant height. High PCV and moderate GCV along with high heritability (>80%) and genetic advance recorded for technical height. Higher heritability and genetic advance indicates the scope of selection to improve the genotypes for these traits. Harvest index showed moderate PCV, low GCV, heritability and genetic advance. In these results, the environmental influence can be noticed by the higher estimates of PCV than the GCV. Similar results were also observed by Kumar et al. (2013)<sup>[10]</sup>, Paul et al. (2017a)<sup>[13]</sup>, Paul et al. (2017b)<sup>[14]</sup> and Patial et al. (2018b)<sup>[12]</sup>.

 Table 2: Genetic parameters of variability for different characters in exotic collection of linseed.

Characters	Range	Mean ± S.E (d)	PCV	GCV	Heritability (bs)	Genetic Advance	GA (%)
50% flowering	148-175	$166.149 \pm 2.351$	3.64	3.201	77.325	9.633	5.798
75% maturity	192-215	$205.106\pm1.93$	2.879	2.638	83.977	10.215	4.98
Plant height	47.92-112.42	$80.338 \pm 2.152$	15.676	15.329	95.62	24.806	30.878
Technical height	23.84-84.3	$50.564 \pm 2.211$	20.499	19.787	93.174	19.895	39.345
Primary branches	3.32-11.56	$6.305 \pm 0.377$	24.042	22.898	90.704	2.832	44.923
Secondary branches	5.17-13.7	$7.782 \pm 0.283$	19.348	18.829	94.711	2.938	37.748
Number of capsules	13.2-61.46	$34.125 \pm 2.951$	28.471	26.428	86.16	17.244	50.533
Biological yield	1.83-9.93	$5.009 \pm 0.726$	36.789	32.219	76.697	2.911	58.125
Seed yield	0.44-2.59	$1.484\pm0.13$	31.315	29.409	88.198	0.845	56.896
Harvest index (%)	19.37-44.48	$30.721 \pm 4.254$	19.079	8.742	20.994	2.535	8.251

Seed yield per plant showed significant positive correlation with the characters namely, plant height, technical height, primary branches per plant, secondary branches per plant, number of capsules per plant, biological yield per plant and harvest index except days to 50 per cent flowering and days to 75 per cent maturity at phenotypic level (Table 3, Figure 1) showing that these characters can be used for selection criteria for high yield. Days to 50 per cent flowering showed significant positive correlation with days to 75 per cent maturity, plant height, technical height, primary branches per plant, secondary branches per plant, number of capsules per plant and biological yield whereas significant negative correlation.

Table 3: Phenotypic and genotypic correlation coefficients between different characters in linseed.

		Days to 50%	Days to 75%	Plant	Technical	Primary	Secondary	Number of	Biological	Seed	Harvest
		flowering	maturity	height	height	branches	branches	capsules	yield	yield	index (%)
Dans to 500/ flamming	Р	1.00	0.282**	0.307**	0.362**	0.358**	0.303**	0.400**	0.492**	-0.451**	-0.180*
Days to 50% flowering	G	1.00	0.320**	0.372**	0.402**	0.410**	0.378**	0.453**	0.620**	-0.540**	-0.387**
Davis to 75% maturity	Р		1.00	0.116	0.334**	0.056	0.003	-0.039	0.226**	-0.155	-0.171*
Days to 75% maturity	G		1.00	0.106	0.364**	0.007	-0.018	-0.086	0.253**	-0.255**	-0.046
Dlauthai abt	Р			1.00	0.800**	0.395**	0.362**	0.476**	0.443**	0.380**	-0.245**
Plant neight	G			1.00	0.818**	0.430**	0.371**	0.529**	0.471**	0.414**	-0.380**
Teshaiselheishe	Р				1.00	0.278**	0.211*	0.232**	0.399**	0.312**	-0.292**
Technical neight	G				1.00	0.306**	0.213*	0.254**	0.455**	0.351**	-0.542**
Drimory bronches	Р					1.00	0.896**	0.714**	0.378**	0.379**	-0.133
Primary branches	G					1.00	0.945**	0.758**	0.444**	0.439**	-0.215*
Sacandam, huanahaa	Р						1.00	0.695**	0.372**	0.373**	-0.132
Secondary branches	G						1.00	0.771**	0.423**	0.430**	-0.174*
Number of concules	Р							1.00	0.315**	0.304**	-0.092
inumber of capsules	G							1.00	0.392**	0.343**	-0.285**
Biological yield	Р								1.00	0.847**	-0.480**

	G				1.00	0.944**	-0.473**
Soud viald	Р					1.00	0.018
Seed yield	G					1.00	-0.163
Homeostinday (0/)	Р						1.00
marvest index (%)	G						1.00

\*, \*\* significant at 5% and 1% level, respectively



Fig 1: Diagrammatic representation of correlation coefficients for different characters in exotic lines of linseed

		Days to 50%	Days to 75%	Plant	Technical	Primary	Secondary	Number of	Biological	TTT	Tatal
		flowering	maturity	height	height	branches	branches	capsules	yield	HI	Totai
Dave to 50% flowering	Р	-0.0027	-0.0035	0.0017	0.0117	0.0102	0.0115	-0.019	0.5355	-0.0998	0.4512
Days to 50% nowening	G	-0.0296	-0.0152	-0.0357	0.0671	-0.0144	0.0175	0.0139	0.6988	-0.1625	0.5398
Dava to 75% moturity	Р	0.0007	-0.0124	0.0006	0.0108	0.0016	0.0001	0.0018	0.2459	-0.0946	0.1546
Days to 75% maturity	G	-0.0094	-0.0476	-0.0101	0.0608	-0.0002	-0.0008	-0.0026	0.2849	-0.0194	0.2554
Plant haight	Р	0.0008	-0.0014	0.0056	0.0259	0.0113	0.0138	-0.0225	0.4824	-0.1360	0.3800
Flaint neight	G	-0.0110	-0.0050	-0.0960	0.1361	-0.0152	0.0171	0.0162	0.5304	-0.1594	0.4135
Tashnisal haight	Р	0.0009	-0.0041	0.0045	0.0324	0.0079	0.0080	-0.0109	0.4347	-0.1620	0.3115
rechnical height	G	-0.0119	-0.0173	-0.0785	0.1669	-0.0108	0.0098	0.0078	0.5122	-0.2273	0.3509
Drimoury bronchos	Р	0.0009	-0.0007	0.0022	0.0090	0.0287	0.0342	-0.0338	0.4114	-0.0735	0.3785
Fillinary branches	G	-0.0121	-0.0003	-0.0413	0.0511	-0.0353	0.0437	0.0232	0.5004	-0.0903	0.4390
Sacandam, heanahaa	Р	0.0008	-0.0000	0.0020	0.0068	0.0257	0.0382	-0.0329	0.4053	-0.0733	0.3727
Secondary branches	G	-0.0112	0.0008	-0.0356	0.0356	-0.0333	0.0462	0.0236	0.4765	-0.0729	0.4298
Number of concules	Р	0.0011	0.0004	0.0026	0.0075	0.0205	0.0265	-0.0474	0.3432	-0.0508	0.3038
Number of capsules	G	-0.0134	0.0040	-0.0507	0.0424	-0.0267	0.0356	0.0306	0.4413	-0.1197	0.3434
Diplogical viald	Р	0.0013	-0.0028	0.0025	0.0129	0.0108	0.0142	-0.0149	1.0888	-0.2662	0.8467
biological yield	G	-0.0184	-0.0120	-0.0452	0.0759	-0.0156	0.0195	0.0120	1.1265	-0.1985	0.9441
ш	Р	-0.0004	0.0021	-0.0013	-0.0095	-0.0038	-0.0050	0.0043	-0.5229	0.5542	0.0175
r11	G	0.0114	0.0022	0.0365	-0.0904	0.0076	-0.0080	-0.0087	-0.5329	0.4196	-0.1627

Table 4: Direct and indirect effects of different characters to seed yield in different exotic lines of linseed.

Residual effects: 0.0461 (P) and -0.00088 (G)

With harvest index at phenotypic level. Significant positive correlation of technical height and biological yield was observed with days to 75 per cent maturity while significant negative correlation with harvest index. Significant positive correlation of technical height with primary branches per plant, secondary branches per plant, number of capsules per plant and biological yield while significant negative correlation with harvest index. Primary branches showed significant positive correlation with secondary branches, number of capsules per plant and biological yield at phenotypic level. Number of capsules per plant showed significant positive correlation with biological yield. Significant negative correlation of biological yield was observed with harvest index. These results are in accordance with the results of earlier workers viz., Kumar and Paul (2016)<sup>[9]</sup>, Patial *et al.* (2018a)<sup>[11]</sup> and Kasana *et al.* (2018)<sup>[8]</sup>. Results of path analysis gives idea about the cause and effect relationship between the characters and helps in identifying the traits which are directly or indirectly involved in seed yield. The results revealed highest direct effect of biological yield (1.088) and harvest index (0.554) with seed yield per plant whereas negative effects with days to 50 per cent flowering (-0.00274) and days to 75 per cent maturity (-0.01244) (Table 4). Concluding that the direct selection for

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biological yield and HI can be used to improve yield while negative selection for days to 50 per cent flowering and days to 75 per cent maturity can be used to improve the seed yield. The direct effects of the other characters on seed yield were having low magnitude. Similar findings also reported by Dash *et al.* (2016)<sup>[4]</sup> and Akbar *et al.* (2003)<sup>[1]</sup>. The residual effects were very low (0.0461), hence the characters taken for the study were enough to calculate the direct and indirect effects to the seed yield per plant.

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