

Original Research Article

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## Characterization of Rice Genotypes Based on Physical, Chemical and Molecular Methods

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Biovis seed image analyzer, Phenol test, FeSO<sub>4</sub> test, KOH test, NaOH test, Peroxidase test, SSR markers

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The present investigation was carried out to know the response and characterization of rice genotypes by physical, chemical and molecular methods. Seeds of 17 rice genotypes were analysed for seed dimension using Biovis seed image analyzer. The mean performance for seed length varied from 9.28 mm in genotype RYC-230 to 11.50 mm in genotype MT-4420 and seed width varied from 2.64 mm in genotype IET-18299 to 4.85 mm in genotype MT-4420. The mean seed length/seed width ratio ranged from 2-37 to 3-53 among the genotypes. Rice genotypes also well responded to chemical tests such as phenol test, FeSO<sub>4</sub> test, NaOH test and KOH test and helpful in grouping of the rice genotypes. Of the 22 single sequence repeats (SSR) markers used in the study, all markers were able to distinguish rice genotypes and may be utilized to develop new varieties during crop improvement programme.

### Introduction

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is the primary cereal crop grown in many countries especially in Asia. The increasing population rate challenges the world's food requirements and an area expansion under rice likely to decline nowadays because of urbanization, climate change and high-value agriculture. Hence, more stress has been given for rice crop improvement since ages, which has resulted in the release of a large number of varieties

with improved yield or tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses. As India is a signatory for the WTO, and The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmer's Rights (PPV & FR) Act, 2001 came into existence, varietal characterization and identification became more significant in the present scenario because India is having rich gene pool. Many countries including International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), Switzerland have been conducting elaborate research for developing standard chemical tests, physiological tests and use of

various biomolecular markers for varietal identification in crops.

The shape, size and colour of seeds are normally employed to identify rice varieties. Use of computer-based image analysis is a good alternative to visual identification. Hiremath (2013) grouped rice genotypes based on seed length and seed width using Marvin seed image analyser. Similarly, Maruthi (2016) classified 180 paddy genotypes based on seed length and seed width using Biovis seed image analyser. Various studies on the characterization of cultivars confirmed that the response of seed and seedlings to various chemical tests *viz.*, phenol test, modified phenol test, ferrous sulphate test, potassium hydroxide test offer a wider variability and can be used in the characterization of genotypes.

The simple, reliable and quick chemical tests can be used for varietal identification in rice crop (Vijayalakshmi and Vijay, 2009). The chemical tests gave the stable results and could be effectively used for cultivar differentiation and determining the varietal purity of rice for routine testing in seed testing laboratories as some of the cultivars showed a distinct response to these phenol test (Anitalakshmi *et al.*, 2014). Masuthi *et al.*, (2015) used 32 paddy genotypes for phenol test, out of which 12 genotypes showed no colour change, 15 genotypes were light brown, 8 genotypes were brown and 6 genotypes were dark brown in colour. Saharan (1991) classified 33 genotypes of rice into four groups *viz.*, brown spot, brown streaks, grey spot and grey streaks kernels by using 1.5 per cent ferrous sulphate solution. Similar classification was also done by Hiremath (2013) in rice genotypes and Raju *et al.*, (2017) in rice hybrid with FeSO<sub>4</sub> test. Among the ten rice genotypes, four genotypes (Gangavatimallige, Gangavatisanna, Gidda emergency and JGL-1798) showed light

brown and six genotypes (Mysore mallige, GGV-05-01, Gangavati emergency, CSR-22, BPT-5204 and Ratansagar) showed yellow colour reaction with KOH test (Hiremath, 2013). The similar grouping was done by Masuthi *et al.*, (2015) in rice genotypes and Raju *et al.*, (2017) in rice hybrids by using KOH test.

Therefore, an investigation was carried with the seventeen rice genotypes to characterize and to know the response of rice genotypes to various physical, physiological, chemical tests and by molecular markers, which helps in the determination of cultivar purity in rice.

## **Materials and Methods**

The present investigation was carried out during the year 2016-17 in the Department of Seed Science and Technology, College of Agriculture, Raichur. Seventeen rice genotypes (G<sub>1</sub>:RYC-230, G<sub>2</sub>:GNV-1405, G<sub>3</sub>:GNV-1089, G<sub>4</sub>:GNV-1301, G<sub>5</sub>:GNV-05-01, G<sub>6</sub>:GNV-1109, G<sub>7</sub>:MT-4253, G<sub>8</sub>:IET-22066, G<sub>9</sub>:MT-4021, G<sub>10</sub>:BPT-5204, G<sub>11</sub>:IET-18299, G<sub>12</sub>:MT-4420, G<sub>13</sub>:MTU-1010, G<sub>14</sub>:MT-4541, G<sub>15</sub>:IET-19251, G<sub>16</sub>:MAS-26 and G<sub>17</sub>:MAS-946-1) were used for image analysis, chemical tests and molecular studies.

## **Physical method by Biovis seed image analyzer**

The seed image analyzer provides more information than a traditional counting device. It works fast, noiseless and easily operated. The features of varieties may be stored in a pre-configured, able to learn database for recognizing and identifying main seeds, foreign seeds and non-seed particles. The Biovis seed image analyzer is a device that comprises a scanner, which scans the images and captures the same with their length, width, area, perimeter and roundness with coloured images. The special Biovis

image analysis software offers a lot of possibilities, to adjust the recording of the analysis results and statistical interpretation according to the requirements and demands of the user. Thus, it is suitable for the analysis of the seeds of many crops.

### **Seed length**

100 seeds of each genotype were measured using Biovis image analyzer. The mean value of seed length was expressed in millimetre and was grouped according to DUS test guidelines for rice as very short (< 6.0 mm), short (6.1-8.5 mm), medium (8.6-10.5 mm), long (10.6-12.5 mm) and very long (>12.5 mm)

### **Seed width**

100 seeds of each genotype were measured using Biovis image analyzer. The mean value of seed length was expressed in millimetre and was grouped according to DUS test guidelines for rice as very narrow (< 2.0 mm), narrow (2.1-2.5 mm), medium (2.6-3.0 mm), broad (3.1-3.5 mm) and very broad (> 3.5 mm).

### **By chemical tests**

The chemical tests find variations among the seeds and seedlings of different crop varieties. These tests do not require technical expertise or training and can be completed in a relatively short period time. The results of these tests are usually distinct, easily interpreted and help in the grouping of the genotypes.

### **Phenol test**

The standard phenol test for varietal purity testing suggested by Walls (1965) was followed. Four replicates of 50 seeds each were soaked in distilled water for 18 h. The

seeds were then placed in Petri dishes containing filter paper moistened with 4 ml of 2 per cent phenol solution and kept at room temperature (28°C). After 24 h, seeds were examined and grouped into different colour classes viz., as no colour change, light brown, brown and dark brown.

### **Ferrous Sulphate (FeSO<sub>4</sub>) test**

As described by Gupta and Agrawal (1988), fifty seeds each in four replications were soaked in 1.5 per cent FeSO<sub>4</sub> solution for 4 h under ambient condition and later the seeds were taken out and the excess moisture was removed using blotting paper before evaluation. The seeds were examined for colour reaction and the distinct colour groups were recorded as brown spots, grey spots and grey streaks.

### **Potassium hydroxide (KOH) test**

Seeds were soaked in 5 per cent KOH solution in 4 replications of 50 seeds each and kept at room temperature (28°C) for three hours. The colour change of the KOH solution was observed and based on the colour reaction the genotypes were divided into two groups viz., deep wine red and no staining.

### **Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) test**

Four replications of 50 seeds each were soaked in 5 per cent NaOH solution for one hour and the change in colour of the solution was observed. Based on the colour developed, varieties were classified into three groups viz., dark yellow, light yellow and no colour.

### **Peroxidase (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) test**

It was studied as per the procedure given by Buttery and Buzzell (1968). Ten seed coats were removed and placed separately in the

test tube, with three replications for genotypes and added 10 drops of 0.5 per cent Guaiacol solution into the test tube, after ten minutes one drop of 0.1 per cent solution of hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) was added and the reactions were noted exactly after sixty seconds. The colouration due to peroxidase activity was observed to group the varieties as present and absent of brown colour solution.

### **By Molecular markers**

Twenty two Rice Microsatellite (RM) markers were used to study the polymorphism among the seventeen rice genotypes (Table 1.) that are screened under Direct seeded rice (DSR) method. The method followed for DNA extraction was Modified Cetyltrimethyl Ammonium Bromide (CTAB) method (Cao and Oard, 1997).

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Grouping of genotypes based on seed morphology using Biovis Seed Image Analyzer**

#### **Seed length (mm)**

Seeds of 17 rice genotypes were analyzed for seed dimension using Biovis seed image analyser. The mean performance for seed length varied from 9.28 mm in RYC-230 to 11.50 mm in MT- 4420 and seed width varied from 2.64 mm in IET-18299 to 4.85 mm in MT-4420 (Table 2.& 3.). The genotypes *viz.*, RYC-230, GNV-1405, GNV-1089, GNV-05-01, GNV-1109, BPT-5204, IET-18299 and IET-19251 are having medium seed length and genotypes GNV-1301, MT-4253, IET-22066, MT-4021, MT-4420, MTU-1010, MT-4541, MAS-26 and MAS-946-1 possess longer seed length and none of them are very short, short and very long. Similarly, seed width in rice genotypes *viz.*, RYC-230, GNV-1405, GNV-05-01, BPT-5204, IET-18299 and

IET-19251 was medium while, genotype GNV-1089 was broad type and genotypes GNV-1301, GNV-1109, MT-4253, IET-22066, MT-4021, MT-4420, MTU-1010, MT-4541, MAS-26 and MAS-946-1 falls under very broad width category. None of the genotypes in seed width was a very narrow and narrow group. So also, the mean seed length/seed width ratio ranged from 2.37 to 3.53 among the genotypes. Four genotypes were grouped as semi-spherical, five genotypes as semi-long and remaining eight genotypes were grouped as elongated. A similar study of image analysis on seed length and width were carried out by Paulsen et al (1989) in maize, Zayas *et al.*, (1989, 1996), Utku *et al.*, (1998) in rice, Suchowilska and Wiwari (2006) and Sainis *et al.*, (2009) in wheat. Variations based on seed size and shape and other seed parameters have also been reported by Anuradha *et al.*, (2009), Iwata *et al.*, (2010), Hiremath (2013) and Maruthi (2016) in paddy.

### **Identification of rice genotypes through chemical tests**

#### **Phenol test**

Based on seed colouration with phenol, the rice genotypes studied were grouped into three categories *viz.*, no colour, light brown, brown and dark brown. Three genotypes *viz.*, G<sub>2</sub>:GNV-1405, G<sub>11</sub>:IET-18299 and G<sub>14</sub>:MT-4541 showed no colour, four genotypes (G<sub>1</sub>:RYC-230, G<sub>4</sub>:GNV-1301, G<sub>6</sub>:GNV-1109 and G<sub>9</sub>:MT-4021) showed brown colour, two genotypes (G<sub>3</sub>:GNV- 1089 and G<sub>8</sub>:IET-22066) showed dark brown and eight genotypes (G<sub>5</sub>:GNV-05-01, G<sub>7</sub>:MT-4253, G<sub>10</sub>:BPT-5204, G<sub>12</sub>:MT-4420, G<sub>13</sub>:MTU-1010, G<sub>15</sub>:IET-19251, G<sub>16</sub>:MAS-26 and G<sub>17</sub>:MAS-946-1) showed light brown colour (Fig.1). Similarly, the genotypes were grouped earlier based on phenol colour reaction in rice by Meshram and Rahangdale

(1988), Wang and Shen (1992), Vanagamudi *et al.*, (1988), Jaiswal and Agarwal (1995), Bora *et al.*, (2008), Devi Singh *et al.*, (2011), Tiwari *et al.*, (2013) and Masuthi *et al.*, 2015) in rice. The present findings reveal that phenol test could be used as a simple, quick and cheap method for grouping paddy genotypes. The difference in the phenol colour reaction of hulls seems to be due to the differences in the genetic background, presumably concerning the enzyme system. Seed colouration with phenol is one of the important qualitative characteristics which is not affected by the environmental condition.

The result of phenol test is usually distinct and easily interpreted. Walls (1965) reported that the phenol colour reaction depends on the quality and quantity of oxidase enzymes present in seeds. Whereas, Takahashi and Hamza (1983) reported monophenol oxidase was extremely localized in grains even though it is present in all other plant parts. Phenol colour reaction, which is an index of polyphenol oxidase activity, has been utilized to distinguish the crop varieties by earlier workers Joshi and Banerjee (1970) in wheat, Abrol and Uprety (1972) and Chauhan and Nanda (1984) in rice.

**Table.1** List of SSR primers used to study the polymorphism among rice genotypes

Sl.No.	Marker	Forward primers (5'-3')	Reverse primers (3'-5')
1.	RM241	Gagccaaataagatcgctga	Tgcaagcagcagatttagtg
2.	RM257	Cagttccgagcaagagtactc	Ggatcggacgtggcatatg
3.	RM224	Atcgatcgatcttcacgagg	Tgctataaaaggcattcggg
4.	RM219	Cgtcggatgatgtaaagcct	Catatcggcattcgcctg
5.	RM252	Ttcgctgacgtgatagttg	Atgacttgatcccgagaacg
6.	RM562	Cacaaccacaaacagcaag	Cttcccccaggtttagcc
7.	RM140	Tgcctcttcctggctcccctg	Ggcatgccgaatgaaatgcatg
8.	RM448	Tctgatcttgatgcaggcac	Tctcccgatttggacagatc
9.	RM578	Ggcgtcgtgtttctctctc	Caaaaggaggagcagatcg
10.	RM286	Ggcttcatctttggcgac	Ccggattcacgagataaactc
11.	OSR28	Agcagctatagcttagctgg	Actgcacatgagcagagaca
12.	RM311	Tggtagtataggtactaaacat	Tctatacacatacaaacatac
13.	RM171	Aacgcgaggacacgtacttac	Acgagatacgtacgcctttg
14.	RM452	Ctgatcgagagcgttaaggg	Gggatcaaaccacgtttctg
15.	RM13	Tccaacatggcaagagagag	Ggtggcattcgattccag
16.	RM306	Caaggtcaagaatgcaatgg	Gccactttaatcattgcatc
17.	RM5389	Tcttgcatgagagccaacac	Gctattgcgcgagattatcc
18.	RM161	Tgcagatgagaagcggcgctc	Tgtgtcatcagacggcgctccg
19.	RM44	Acgggcaatccgaacaacc	Tcgggaaaacctaccctacc
20.	RM547	Taggttggcagaccttttcg	Gtcaagatcatctcgtagcg
21.	RM55	Ccgtcgcctgtagtagagaag	Tcccggttattttaaggcg
22.	RM231	Ccagattttctgaggtc	Cacttgcattgttctgcattg

**Table.2** Seed length, seed width and seed length/ width ratio as influenced by rice genotypes

Genotypes	Seed length (mm)			Seed width (mm)			Seed length/ width ratio		
	2015	2016	Pooled mean	2015	2016	Pooled mean	2015	2016	Pooled mean
<b>G<sub>1</sub>: RYC-230</b>	9.23	9.33	9.28	2.73	2.64	2.69	3.45	3.54	3.49
<b>G<sub>2</sub>: GNV-1405</b>	9.40	9.53	9.47	2.90	2.80	2.85	3.25	3.40	3.32
<b>G<sub>3</sub>: GNV-1089</b>	9.97	10.10	10.03	3.47	3.35	3.41	2.88	3.01	2.95
<b>G<sub>4</sub>: GNV-1301</b>	10.16	10.33	10.25	3.66	3.54	3.60	2.78	2.92	2.85
<b>G<sub>5</sub>: GNV-05-01</b>	9.43	9.57	9.50	2.93	2.84	2.88	3.23	3.38	3.30
<b>G<sub>6</sub>: GNV-1109</b>	10.43	10.57	10.50	3.93	3.80	3.87	2.65	2.78	2.72
<b>G<sub>7</sub>: MT-4253</b>	11.33	11.47	11.40	4.83	4.67	4.75	2.35	2.46	2.40
<b>G<sub>8</sub>: IET-22066</b>	10.23	10.37	10.30	3.73	3.61	3.67	2.76	2.88	2.82
<b>G<sub>9</sub>: MT-4021</b>	11.37	11.40	11.38	4.87	4.70	4.79	2.34	2.43	2.38
<b>G<sub>10</sub>: BPT-5204</b>	9.47	9.60	9.53	2.97	2.87	2.92	3.19	3.35	3.27
<b>G<sub>11</sub>: IET-18299</b>	9.18	9.32	9.25	2.68	2.59	2.64	3.47	3.59	3.53
<b>G<sub>12</sub>: MT-4420</b>	11.43	11.57	11.50	4.93	4.77	4.85	2.32	2.43	2.37
<b>G<sub>13</sub>: MTU-1010</b>	11.34	11.34	11.34	4.83	4.67	4.75	2.35	2.43	2.39
<b>G<sub>14</sub>: MT-4541</b>	10.47	10.60	10.53	3.97	3.83	3.90	2.64	2.77	2.70
<b>G<sub>15</sub>: IET-19251</b>	9.47	9.60	9.53	2.97	2.87	2.92	3.19	3.35	3.27
<b>G<sub>16</sub>: MAS-26</b>	10.45	10.87	10.66	3.93	3.80	3.87	2.69	2.86	2.77
<b>G<sub>17</sub>: MAS-946-1</b>	10.33	10.47	10.40	3.83	3.71	3.77	2.78	2.82	2.80
<b>Mean</b>	<b>10.22</b>	<b>10.35</b>	<b>10.29</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>3.59</b>	<b>3.65</b>	<b>2.84</b>	<b>2.96</b>	<b>2.90</b>
<b>S.Em±</b>	0.23	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.07	0.12	0.14	0.07	0.04
<b>CD @ 1%</b>	0.89	0.91	0.84	0.89	0.28	0.44	0.55	0.27	0.16



**Table.3** Grouping of rice genotypes based on seed length (mm), seed width (mm) and seed length / width ratio (mm)

Sl.no.	Groups	Number of Genotypes	Name of the Genotype
<b>Seed length (cm)</b>			
1.	Short (6.1-8.5 mm)	-	-
2.	Medium (8.6-10.5 mm)	8	RYC-230, GNV-1405, GNV-1089, GNV-05-01, GNV-1109, BPT-5204, IET-18299 and IET-19251
3.	Long (10.6-12.5 mm)	9	GNV-1301, MT- 4253, IET-22066, MT- 4021, MT- 4420, MTU- 1010, MT- 4541, MAS -26 and MAS-946-1
<b>Seed width (mm)</b>			
1.	Very narrow < 2.0 mm	-	-
2.	Narrow (2.1-2.5 mm )	-	-
3.	Medium (2.6-3.0 mm)	6	RYC-230, GNV-1405, GNV-05-01, BPT-5204, IET-18299 and IET-19251
4	Broad (3.1-3.5 mm)	1	GNV-1089
<b>Seed length / width ratio (mm)</b>			
1.	Semi spherical	4	MT-4253, MT-4021, MT-4420 and MTU-1010
2.	Semi long	5	GNV-1409, IET-22066, MT-4541, MAS-26 and MAS-946-1
3.	Elongated	8	RYC-230, GNV-1405, GNV-1089, GNV-1305, BPT-5204, IET-18299 and IET-19251

**Table.4** Identification of rice genotypes through chemical tests

Genotypes	Phenol test	FeSO4 test	KOH test	NaOH test	Peroxidase test
<b>G<sub>1</sub>: RYC-230</b>	Brown	Grey Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>2</sub>: GNV-1405</b>	No colour	Grey Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>3</sub>: GNV-1089</b>	Dark Brown	No streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>4</sub>: GNV-1301</b>	Brown	No streaks	Dark Brown	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>5</sub>: GNV-05-01</b>	Light Brown	No streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>6</sub>: GNV-1109</b>	Brown	Brown Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>7</sub>: MT-4253</b>	Light Brown	Grey Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>8</sub>: IET-22066</b>	Dark Brown	Brown Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>9</sub>: MT-4021</b>	Brown	Grey streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>10</sub>: BPT-5204</b>	Light Brown	No streaks	Light brown	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>11</sub>: IET-18299</b>	No colour	Grey Streaks	Light brown	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>12</sub>: MT-4420</b>	Light Brown	Brown Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>13</sub>: MTU-1010</b>	Light Brown	Brown Streaks	Dark Brown	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>14</sub>: MT-4541</b>	No colour	No streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>15</sub>: IET-19251</b>	Light Brown	Grey Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>16</sub>: MAS-26</b>	Light Brown	No streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent
<b>G<sub>17</sub>: MAS-946-1</b>	Light Brown	Brown Streaks	Light Yellow	Yellow	Absent

Phenol test: No colour, Light brown, Dark brown and Brown
FeSO <sub>4</sub> test : Dark Grey streaks, Brown streaks and No streaks
KaOH test: No colour, Light Yellow, Dark Brown, Brown
NaOHtest : No Colour, Yellow Colour and Wine Red
Peoxidasetest : Present, Absent

**Table.5** DNA polymorphism generated using 22 SSR primers in 17 rice genotypes

Sl. No.	SSR marker	Expected product size (bp)	Observed product size (bp)	No. of a Alleles produced	Major allele frequency	PIC Value
1	RM-241	100-170	125-140	3	0.70	0.46
2	RM-257	100-175	140-150	2	0.76	0.36
3	RM-224	150-180	155-170	3	0.53	0.61
4	RM-219	200-300	190-210	3	0.58	0.55
5	RM-252	215-254	215-220	3	0.52	0.58
6	RM-562	243	200-260	3	0.58	0.55
7	RM-140	261	240-260	3	0.41	0.65
8	RM-448	228	210-240	3	0.41	0.66
9	RM-578	280-310	300-320	3	0.52	0.50
10	RM-286	98-122	90-110	3	0.52	0.55
11	OSR-28	120-140	125-150	3	0.64	0.52
12	RM-311	179	170-190	2	0.76	0.36
13	RM-306	155	160-170	2	0.58	0.48
14	RM-5389	132	120-130	3	0.58	0.57
15	RM-161	187	180-190	2	0.94	0.11
16	RM-44	100-130	90-100	3	0.52	0.55
17	RM-547	235	230-250	3	0.82	0.30
18	RM-55	215-240	200-220	3	0.64	0.51
19	RM-231	168-185	170-190	3	0.58	0.57
20	RM-13	130-150	130-150	3	0.88	0.19
21	RM-452	105	105-110	2	0.88	0.21
22	RM-171	320-345	340-260	3	0.52	0.60
<b>Minimum</b>		<b>98</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.11</b>
<b>Maximum</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.66</b>
<b>Mean</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>

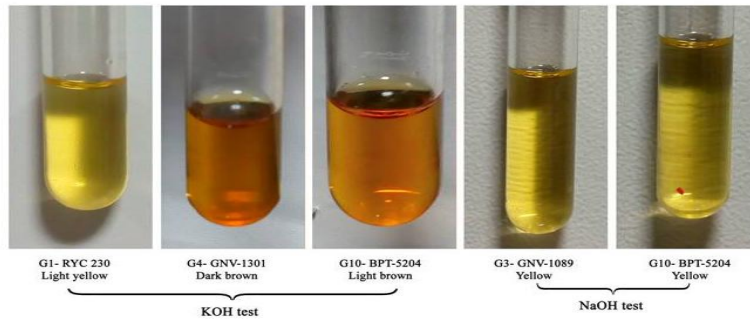




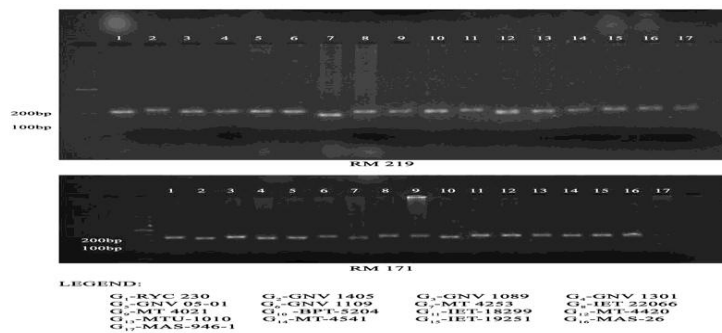
**Fig. 1** Response of rice genotypes to Phenol test



**Fig.2** Response of rice genotypes to FeSO<sub>4</sub> test



**Fig. 3** Response of rice genotypes to KOH test and NaOH test



**Fig. 4** SSR marker profile of rice genotypes generated by the primer RM 219 and RM 171

### **Ferrous sulphate (FeSO<sub>4</sub>) test**

In ferrous sulphate test, the genotypes were grouped into two groups (No streaks, Grey streaks and Brown streaks). Six genotypes (G<sub>1</sub>:RYC-230, G<sub>2</sub>:GNV-1405, G<sub>7</sub>:MT - 4253, G<sub>9</sub>:MT- 4021, G<sub>11</sub>:IET-18299 and G<sub>15</sub>:IET-19251) showed grey streaks, six genotypes (G<sub>3</sub>:GNV-1089, G<sub>4</sub>:GNV-1301, G<sub>5</sub>:GNV-05-01, G<sub>10</sub>:BPT-5204, G<sub>14</sub>:MT-4541 and G<sub>16</sub>:MAS-26) showed no streaks and five genotypes (G<sub>6</sub>:GNV-1109, G<sub>8</sub>:IET 22066, G<sub>12</sub>:MT-4420, G<sub>13</sub>:MTU-1010 and G<sub>17</sub>:MAS-946-1) (Fig. 2) showed brown streaks. The similar grouping was also reported by Gupta and Agrawal (1988) in paddy, Saharan (1991) in paddy, Ponnusamy *et al.*, (2003) in cotton and Mathad *et al.*, (2019) in pigeon pea using pixel luminance test.

### **Potassium hydroxide (KOH) test**

In the case of potassium hydroxide test, the genotypes showed a positive response to this test, as well they turned yellow colour solution. However, the intensity of colour varied among the varieties. Out of seventeen genotypes, two genotypes (G<sub>4</sub>: GNV-1301 and G<sub>13</sub>: MTU-1010) (Fig. 3) have shown dark brown colour change and the rest of the genotypes reacted to light yellow colour. Similar groupings were reported by Mckee (1973) in wheat, Rosta (1975), SambasivaRao *et al* (2002) in groundnut and BiradarPatil *et al.*, (2006) in safflower genotypes and Masuthi *et al.*, (2015) in rice. The varied colour reaction may be due to the chemical composition of seed or selective action of enzymes present which may be governed genetically.

### **Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) test**

All the 17 rice genotypes showed yellow colour reaction with sodium hydroxide solution (Fig. 3). Similar results were reported

by Sambasivarao *et al.*, (2002) in rice, Ponnuswamy *et al.*, (2003) in cotton and BiradarPatil (2006) in safflower genotypes, Tiwari *et al.*, (2013) in rice, Masuthi *et al.*, (2015) in rice and Mathad *et al.*, (2019) in pigeon pea. The colour reaction to sodium hydroxide solution was obtained due to the reaction of seeds to secondary metabolites (Vanderburg and Vanzwol, 1991). The difference in colour reaction of seeds seems to be due to differences in the genetic background concerning the enzyme system (Chakrabarthy and Agrawal, 1990). Potassium hydroxide and sodium hydroxide tests are useful to distinguish red seed varieties from white seed varieties if the seed coat colour of red seeded varieties vanished due to unfavourable climate condition. Vanagamudi *et al.*, (1988) reported that among 85 rice varieties, 71 varieties showed negative reaction to these chemicals and remaining varieties showed deep-wine red staining.

### **Peroxidase (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) test**

All the genotypes studied showed the negative reaction to peroxidase activity. Similar negativity of the reaction was also reported by Hiremath (2013) in rice genotypes. The results of peroxidase test are not conformity with previous work reported by Chakrabarthy and Agrawal (1989) in black gram, Agarwal and Pawar (1990) in soybean and Kirankumar Reddy (2004) in cotton,

### **Identification of rice genotypes using SSR molecular markers**

In the present study, 22 SSR primers were used which produced scorable, unambiguous markers. A total of 61 alleles were produced and all are polymorphic (Fig. 4). The number of alleles detected per primer pair ranged from 2 in five primers to 3 in rest of 17 primers with an average of 2.77. The SSR

products size ranged from 90 to 340 bp. The alleles showed a high degree of polymorphism. PIC value varied significantly for all the studied SSR loci. In the present study, the level of polymorphism among the 17 genotypes was evaluated by calculating PIC values for each of the SSR loci. The PIC value ranged from 0.11 (RM161) to 0.66 (RM 448) with an average of 0.46 per marker.

Markers with PIC values of 0.5 or higher are highly informative for genetic studies and are extremely useful in distinguishing the polymorphism rate of a marker at a specific locus. This indicated that the genotypes used in the present study were more diverse due to differences in their genetic constitution. Presence of polymorphism between genotypes revealed that the presence of genetic diversity at the molecular level was high among the selected genotype which implies that, the genetic diversity is more than the morphological diversity and there is ample scope to utilize the material in the breeding programme. These results corroborate the earlier findings of Shahriar *et al.*, (2014), Kundur *et al.*, (2015) and Maruthi (2016) in rice.

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