

Original Research Article

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Genetic Variability Parameters for Yield and Yield Component Traits in the Mapping Population of Groundnut (*Arachis hypogea*)

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ABSTRACT

Groundnut is one of the major oilseed crops in the world. Variability studies are the basic studies to assess the genotypes for their variation in quantitative and qualitative characters. The extent of the genetic and non-genetic components of variation formulates proper breeding programme to reach the goal. A field experiment was conducted during kharif, 2010 at University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad to evaluate the genetic variation for yield and yield component traits in the mapping population. The field experiment was laid out in RCBD with 268 RILs (Recombinant inbred lines) and their two parents (TAG 24 x GPBD 4) (Gowda *et al.*, 2002). The seed phosphorous content ranged from 0.33 to 0.82% with high heritability, high GCV, PCV and GAM. Oil content and shelling percentage had lower estimates of GCV and PCV indicating a limited genetic variability for these quality traits. The average value of the test weight was 45.69 g with moderate PCV and low GCV values (12.40 % and 8.38%), respectively. The heritability and GAM estimates were moderate. The genetic advance was 5.33. The range for pod yield/plant was from 10.99 to 31.31 with a mean of 20.61. In the evaluated genotypes PCV and GCV values were moderate with high heritability with high GAM was observed.

Keywords

Groundnut, GCV, PCV, Heritability, seed phosphorous content, Oil content.

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Introduction

Groundnut is unique crop, combining the attributes of both oilseed and legume crops in the farming system of Indian agriculture. It is a valuable cash crop cultivated by millions of small farmers, because of its economic and nutritional value. It is an annual legume crop, grown mainly for quality edible oil (40- 50%) and easily digestible protein (25%) in the seeds. Pod growth and development occupy an important position in determining the final quality and economic yield in groundnut crop. It is known as “king of oilseed crop” is believed to be native of Brazil (South America). It belongs to the family

leguminosae and sub-family papilionaceae. Globally, fifty percent of groundnut produce is used for oil extraction, 37 per cent for confectionery and 12 per cent for seed purpose. In India 80 per cent of the produce is used for direct food uses and one per cent is exported. Ground nut haulms provide excellent hay for feeding livestock.

In India, Karnataka stands third with an area of 0.86 m ha and a production of 0.60 m tons of pods and ranks fifth in productivity with 702 kg/ ha (Anon., 2005). The productivity of the crop in Karnataka is very low as

compared to Gujarat (1335 kg/ha) and Tamil Nadu (1597 kg/ha), due to lack of variability of good quality seed, low multiplication ratio during *kharif* and poor storage of the summer seeds produced poor nutrient management and the major areas being under rain fed condition (Anon., 2004). Variability studies are the basic studies to assess the genotypes for their variation in quantitative and qualitative characters. The extent of the genetic and non-genetic components of variation formulates proper breeding programme to reach the goal. More variability in characters indicates the scope for selection of genotypes for further genetic studies (Khote *et al.*, 2009).

Materials and Methods

A field experiment was conducted during *kharif*, 2010 at College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad to evaluate the genetic variation for yield and yield component traits in the mapping population. The field experiment was laid out in RCBD with 268 RILs (Recombinant inbred lines) and their two parents. Recombinant inbred lines were developed from the cross TAG 24 x GPBD 4. These comprise 268 RILs which segregated for agronomic trait, foliar disease reaction, nutritional and oil quality traits (Gowda *et al.*, 2002).

A critical estimate and study on genetic variability is prerequisite for initiating appropriate breeding procedures in crop improvement programmes, which demands wide range of variability in a population. The determination of genetic variability and its partitioning in to various components in crop plants is necessary to have an insight in to genetic nature of yield and its components.

The most important objective in any crop improvement programme is to increase the

seed yield. Extent of improvement of a character would depend mainly on the amount of variability in the population where selection has to be made. Further, the quantitative traits are governed by large number of genes and are more influenced by the environment.

Phosphorus content in plant sample was determined by following the vanadomolybdate yellow colour (Jackson, 1973). Hundred seeds were counted from the samples drawn from seed yield of each genotype and the weight of 100- seeds was recorded and expressed in grams.

The oil percentage was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Oil percentage} = \frac{(\text{Initial weight of powder} - \text{Final weight of powder})}{\text{Initial weight of powder}} \times 100$$

Pods harvested from the three selected plants of each genotype, were dried and weighed. The average pod weight of the three plants was expressed as pod yield per plant in grams.

Results and Discussion

Analysis of variances of experimental population is presented in the Table 1. This indicated that RILs included in the study differed significantly for all traits studied viz., seed phosphorous content, oil content, shelling percentage, test weight and pod yield. All the traits differed significantly at 1% level. The present findings are in agreement with the findings of Kadam *et al.*, 2007, Khote *et al.*, (2009), Ladole *et al.*, (2009), and Shinde *et al.*, (2010) for the traits of oil content, pod yield per plant and test weight.

Effectiveness of selection depends on the magnitude of genetic variability present for a

particular character. It is necessary to study variability in respect of quantitative characters with reference to genetic parameters such as genotypic variance, phenotypic variance, heritability and genetic advance. An assessment of heritable and non-heritable components in the total variability observed is indispensable in adopting suitable breeding procedure. The heritable portion of the overall observed variation can be ascertained by studying the components of variation such as phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) and genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV).

The Genetic variability in the material was considered for further analysis. Range, mean, phenotypic and genotypic coefficient of variation, heritability estimates and predicted

genetic advance as per cent of mean for characters studied are presented in Table 2. The seed phosphorous content ranged from 0.33 to 0.82% with high heritability (h^2), high GCV, PCV and GAM (Genetic Advance over mean). Thus, there is a wide variability for seed P content in the RILs. The research on genetic variability for this trait in groundnut is hardly available. John *et al.*, (2006), Ladole *et al.*, (2009) Khote *et al.*, (2009) have found higher phenotypic coefficient of variation than genotypic coefficient of variation for most of the characters. However, the phenotypic coefficient of variation and genotypic coefficient of variation for seed P content remained same indicating least influence of environment on seed P accumulation in groundnut seed

Table.1 ANOVA for the traits studied including yield and yield component traits in 268 RILs of TAG 24 X GPBD 4 cross in groundnut

Source of variation	df	Seed P Content (%)	Oil content (%)	Shelling percentage (%)	Test weight(g)	Pod yield (g/plant)
Replications	1	0.04	3.19	32.36	37.08	13.87
Genotypes	269	3.51**	5.74**	91.52**	64.25**	27.42**
Error	269	0.02	2.05	55.00	34.91	3.70

* -significant at 5% level probability
 ** - significant at 1% level probability

Table.2 Genetic variability parameters for the traits studied including yield and yield component traits in 268 RILs of TAG 24 X GPBD 4 cross in groundnut

Parameters	Seed P content (%)	Oil Content (%)	Shelling percentage (%)	Test weight (g)	Pod yield (g/plant)
Mean	0.62	47.21	72.26	45.69	20.61
Range	0.33-0.82	42.8-51.6	26-82	23.0- 67.7	10.9 -31.3
GCV (%)	21.16	2.88	5.91	8.38	16.71
PCV (%)	21.24	3.59	9.36	12.40	17.97
h^2 (%)	99.27	64.33	39.90	45.66	86.49
GAM (%)	43.43	4.75	7.69	11.66	32.01
GA	0.27	2.24	5.56	5.33	6.59

GCV = Genotypic coefficient of variation PCV = Phenotypic coefficient of variation
 h^2 = Heritability GAM = Genetic advance as percent mean GA = Genetic advance

Gupta *et al.*, (2010) analyzing the seed phosphorous content in the groundnut reported that there was variation in seed phosphorous content among the groundnut genotypes. The availability of genetic variation is advantageous for crop improvement. Variability studies are the basic studies to assess the genotypes for their variation in quantitative and qualitative characters.

The knowledge on extent of genetic and non-genetic components of variation helps to formulate proper breeding programme to reach the goal. More variability in characters indicates the scope for selection of genotypes for further improvement. The genetic coefficient of variability gives an estimate of range of genetic variability for plant characters. A large variation in growth and yield is seen among the different improved cultivars of groundnut.

The oil content ranged from 42.87% to 51.67% and average value of the trait was 47.21%. The PCV and GCV values were low. The heritability estimate was high with low GAM. The genetic advance was 2.24. Shelling percentage exhibited a wide variation, which ranged from 26 to 82 % with overall mean of 72.26.

The trait revealed low PCV and GCV values. The heritability recorded was moderate with low GAM. The characters viz., oil content and shelling percentage had lower estimates of GCV and PCV indicating a limited genetic variability for these quality traits thus less opportunity to further improve these traits. These results were in accordance with the Mukul kumar *et al.*, (2010), Khote *et al.*, (2009), Naazer *et al.*, (2000).

The average value of the test weight was 45.69 g with moderate PCV and low GCV values (12.40 % and 8.38%), respectively. The heritability and GAM estimates were moderate. The genetic advance was 5.33. These findings are in accordance with the results obtained by Shinde *et al.*, (2010), Naazer *et al.*, (2000) and Prakash *et al.*, (2000). The range for pod

yield/plant was from 10.99 to 31.31 with a mean of 20.61. In the evaluated genotypes PCV and GCV values were moderate with high heritability with high GAM was observed for this trait indicating the presence of genetic variability to make effective selection for increasing pod yield (Mukul kumar *et al.*, 2010; Khote *et al.*, 2009; Prakash *et al.*, 2000; Kadam *et al.*, 2007 and John *et al.*, 2005).

High value of heritability and high genetic advance has been noticed for seed P content and pod yield (John *et al.*, 2005; Sarala and Gowda., 1998; Khote *et al.*, 2009; Kadam *et al.*, 2007) indicating that these traits are amenable for the selection. Moderate heritability coupled with low GAM were estimated for shelling percentage and oil content due to low genetic variability for these quality traits and selection for these traits may not be effective as reported by earlier writers (Reddy *et al.*, 1987; Nadaf and Habib., 1990; Vaddoria and Patel., 1990; Mukul kumar *et al.*, 2010; Meta, 2007; John *et al.*, 2008).

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