

Original Research Article

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Performance of Asiatic and Oriental Liliium Hybrids under Lower Altitudes of Nagaland

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

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An experiment was conducted during 2011-12 to evaluate the liliium hybrids at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Nagaland Centre, Nagaland. Three Asiatic liliium hybrids viz., Sulpice, Brunello, Barasso and three Oriental hybrids viz., Acapulco, Lamacha and Carmina were evaluated for their growth and yield characters. The results revealed that there was significant difference in growth, floral and flower quality characters. The data revealed that Barasso recorded maximum Plant height (68.75cm), stem diameter (0.65cm), whereas Brunello recorded maximum numbers of leaves (81.80) and took minimum days for bud burst (2.36 days), and bud emergence (27.85 days). Acapulco recorded maximum bud length (14.94 cm) and took minimum days for flowering (75.15 days). Lamacha recorded maximum bud diameter (3.40 cm) and diameter of flower (26.20 cm) and Carmina recorded maximum number of buds (3.85). Sulpice took less numbers of days to come to full bloom (3.73 days). Based on the study, the hybrids viz., Brunello, Barasso, and Lamacha were more suitable for lower altitudes of Nagaland in terms of growth, floral and flower quality traits.

Introduction

The genus *Lilium*, one of the most important bulbous plants, has more than 90 species, which are classified into different sections (Asano, 1989 and Smyth *et al.*, 1989). It ranks 6th among the top ten cut flowers in

international trade, has beautiful, attractive and bright flowers with comparative long vase life. It fetches relatively higher price in the market than other commercial flowers. Lilies are attractive ornamental plants with variety of colours, fragrance and adaptability to several environmental conditions (Bahr and

Compton 2004). They are widely used in the floral industry as cut flower and potted plant. In recent years much improved forms and colors in varieties have been developed. There are number of hybrids in various liliaceae species available and every new cultivar is introduced for commercial forcing as cut flower and pot plants. The floriculture sector in India is steadily growing with total export of 22,485.21 MT worth Rs. 455.90 crores in 2013-14 (APEDA, 2015). The floriculture crops have been cultivated in an area of about 2.54 lakh hectares with production of 20.47 lakh mt of loose flowers and 81,156 lakh stems of cut flowers during 2015-16 (NHB, 2017). Northeast India is best endowed with climatic conditions which support the cultivation of variety of cut flowers (APEDA, 2015).

Nagaland, popularly called as “Land of Festivals” requires plenty of cut flowers particularly winter season. The cut flower industry is steadily growing in the state and the cut flowers have been cultivated in an area of about 8.85 ha with the production of 7102000 stems. Of which, liliaceae is cultivated in an area of about 2.13 ha with production of 1276800 stems and the productivity is 60 stems/m² during 2014-15 (Statistical hand book of Nagaland, 2015). It is mainly cultivated in Kohima, Mokokchung, Wokha and Phek districts of Nagaland. The growth and development of liliaceae is governed by its genetic makeup and the environmental factors of the growing region and various management practices. The liliaceae cultivation is mainly restricted to cooler areas of Nagaland. Due to the efforts of researchers, the cultivation of liliaceae is possible in plains with the development of new hybrids. Therefore, the present study was undertaken to evaluate the liliaceae hybrids for growth and yield under low altitude conditions of Nagaland so that the farmer’s could use the appropriate cultivar for cultivation in lower altitudes to gain better income.

Materials and Methods

The present experiment was carried out in ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Nagaland Centre, Jharnapani during 2011-12 to evaluate three Asiatic liliaceae hybrids *viz.*, Sulpice, Brunello, Barasso and three Oriental hybrids *viz.*, Acapulco, Lamacha and Carmina for their growth and yield characters under 50 per cent shade net (Fig. 1 and 2). The experimental field is situated at 25°45’24” N latitude, 93°50’26” E longitude and an altitude of 281m msl. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with 4 replications. The liliaceae bulbs were planted at 30 x 30 cm spacing. The standard package of practices was followed for all the hybrids throughout the experiment. Eleven traits *viz.*, plant height (cm), number of leaves, days taken for bud emergence (days), number of buds, days taken for flowering, length of bud (cm), diameter of bud (cm), diameter of stem (cm), diameter of flower (cm), days taken for bud burst (days), and days taken for full bloom were recorded. The data were statistically analyzed for analysis of variance using HAU OPSTAT statistical software packages (Sheoran *et al.*, 1988).

Results and Discussion

The analysis of data revealed significant variations in growth and floral characters of different hybrids and the results were presented in table 1. The data revealed that there were significance difference in plant height (cm), number of leaves, stem diameter (cm), days taken for bud emergence, and no. of buds per plant. It was observed that the Asiatic hybrids were vigorous than Oriental hybrids. The highest plant height was found in Barasso (68.75cm) followed by sulphice (54.50cm), while it was minimum in Carmina (39.85cm). The maximum number of leaves was found in Brunello (81.80) and the minimum number of leaves was found in

Carmina (39.85). The maximum stem diameter of 0.65 cm was recorded by Barasso and the minimum stem diameter of 0.52 cm was recorded by Sulphice and Brunello. The variation in vegetative growth may be due to growth rate, growing environment and genetic makeup of hybrids (Mishra, 1997) and similar observations on vegetative characters were earlier reported by (Vidalie *et al.*, 1985; Dhinam, 2003; Pandey *et al.*, 2008 and Negi *et al.*, 2016). Brunello took minimum of 27.85 days for bud emergence and Carmina took maximum of 45.60 days for bud emergence. The maximum number of buds per plant was recorded by Carmina (3.85) which was closely followed by Brunello (3.80). The minimum number of buds per plant was recorded by Barasso (1.80). These results are in close conformation with the result obtained

by Dhiman (2003), Kumar *et al.*, (2011) and Negi *et al.*, (2016). The variation in floral characters might be due to genetic difference of genotypes and are governed by the genetic makeup of the plant. Superiority of some genotypes over other genotypes was also reported by several works in gladiolus (Arora and Khanna, 1985; Pant and Lal, 1991).

The data of floral and its quality characters revealed that significant variations were observed among the hybrids and the results were presented in the table 2. The maximum days taken for bud burst after bud emergence was recorded by Barasso (6.31 days) and the minimum days for bud burst was recorded by Brunello (2.36 days) which was closely followed by Sulphice (2.64 days).

Table.1 Growth characters of liliun hybrids under lower altitudes of Nagaland

Cultivar	Plant height (cm)	Number of leaves	Diameter of stem (cm)	Days taken for bud emergence (days)	Number of buds
Sulpice	54.50	66.85	0.52	34.05	2.10
Brunello	47.00	81.80	0.52	27.85	3.80
Barasso	68.75	47.90	0.65	43.50	1.80
Acauplco	52.05	30.15	0.61	40.20	2.10
Lamacha	42.60	28.00	0.61	35.55	2.55
Carmina	39.85	35.20	0.61	45.60	3.85
CD at 5%	7.33	4.79	0.03	4.85	0.47

Table.2 Flowering and flower quality of liliun hybrids under lower altitudes of Nagaland

Cultivar	Days taken for bud burst (days)	Days taken for full bloom (days)	Days taken for flowering	Length of bud (cm)	Diameter of bud (cm)	Diameter of flower (cm)
Sulpice	2.64	3.73	81.10	9.56	2.85	23.51
Brunello	2.36	3.75	78.15	7.13	2.08	18.14
Barasso	6.31	5.55	82.50	10.38	2.72	20.51
Acauplco	5.34	6.35	75.15	14.94	3.08	25.92
Lamacha	3.16	4.51	117.27	11.51	3.40	26.20
Carmina	3.74	4.23	118.45	11.51	2.58	24.41
CD at 5%	0.06	1.28	4.85	0.13	0.35	2.44

Fig.1&2 Evaluation of liliium hybrids



Acauplco took maximum days for full bloom after bud burst (6.35 days) and Sulpice took minimum days for full bloom (3.73 days) which was closely followed by Brunello (3.75 days). Acauplco (75.15 days) and Brunello (78.15 days) flowered early whereas Lamcha (117.27 days) and Carmina (118.45 days) flowered late. The maximum bud length was recorded in Acauplco (14.94 cm) and the minimum bud length was recorded in Brunello (7.13 cm). Lamacha recorded the maximum bud diameter (3.40 cm) whereas Brunello recorded the minimum bud diameter (2.08 cm). The maximum diameter of flower was recorded by Lamacha (26.20 cm) which was closely followed by Acauplco (25.92 cm) and the minimum flower diameter was recorded by Brunello (18.14 cm). The differences in floral and quality characters might be due to genetic difference of genotypes and are governed by the genetic makeup of the plant. Similar kind of variation in floral characters in liliium was earlier reported by Dhinam (2003), Kumar *et al.*, (2011), Negi *et al.*, (2014) and Negi *et al.*, (2016). Based on the findings, the hybrids, *viz.*, Brunello, Barasso, and Lamacha were performed well under lower altitude conditions of Nagaland.

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