

Original Research Article

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Genetic Variability, Correlation, Path Coefficient and Stability Analysis for Yield and its Attributing Traits in Summer Green Gram [*Vigna radiata* (L.) Wilczek] Accessions

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

Green gram, GCV, PCV, Heritability, Genetic advance, Correlation, Path analysis and stability analysis

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The experiment was conducted to estimate the extent of genetic variability, heritability, genetic advance, correlation coefficient, path coefficient and stability analysis in twenty green gram genotypes for twelve agro-morphological traits using randomized block design (RBD) and 3 replications in summer, 2018. Stability is analysed by creating four environments by varying dates of sowing. Significant differences were found among twenty genotypes for twelve characters in the analysis of variance. Maximum GCV and PCV estimates were found for seed yield per plant, number of pods per plant and number of clusters per plant except in E1. Different values of heritability and genetic advance were observed in different environments among which in E1, heritability was found highest for number of seed per pod, test weight and seed yield per plant, while genetic advance was found highest for number of clusters per plant and seed yield per plant. Seed yield was positively and significantly associated with the yield component at the genotypic and phenotypic level. Two genotypes viz., GM-4 followed by GM-3 was found highest yielder as well as stable genotype among all the genotypes tested.

Introduction

Green gram [*Vigna radiata* (L.) Wilczek], $2n=22$ is an important wide-spreading herbaceous, annual, self-pollinated pulse crop in India and occupies third important pulse crop after Chickpea and Pigeon pea. India is the largest producer and consumer of green gram accounting for about 65 per cent of the world's acreage sharing 54 per cent of the world's production (Singh and Singh, 2011).

It is rich in quality proteins, minerals, vitamins and often preferred to other pulses due to its better digestibility and less flatulence problem owing to a lower content of raffinose, stachyose and verbascose (Poehlman, 1991).

It is a cheap and rich source of protein 24.5% and 59.9% carbohydrate. It also contains 75 mg calcium, 8.5 mg iron and 49 mg R-carotene per 100 g of split dual (Bhowland

and Bhowmik, 2014). The protein content of green gram is two to three times more than that of cereals. It is also a rich source of Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, β -carotene, folic acid, calcium, phosphorous, iron. Ascorbic acid (Vitamin C) is synthesized in sprouted seeds of green gram with increment in niacin, riboflavin and thiamine due to which the majority of salad eaters prefer it as a favourite salad. Among the pulses, green gram occupies an area of about 3.83 million hectares, producing 1.60 million tonnes and productivity of green gram 481 kg/ha in India (DE & S, 2016). In Gujarat, it is cultivated in 1.53 lakh ha with an annual production of 0.86 lakh metric tonnes leading to the average productivity of 561 kg/ha (DOA, 2018). Genetic improvement of the crop is largely depending on the magnitude of genetic variability and the extent to which desirable traits are heritable. Genetic variability helps for the choice of the best yield attributes either for selection or for hybridization. It is of utmost importance as it provides the basis for effective selection. Correlation and path analysis facilitates the partitioning of the correlation coefficient into the direct and indirect effect of various character on seed yield or any other attributes and computed as per method given by Wright (1921)-Dewey and Lu (1959). The evaluation of genotype \times environmental interactions gives an idea of the buffering capacity of the population under study. Thus, Genotype \times Environment interaction certainly plays an important role in the evaluation and execution of breeding programmes as well as predicting the stable genotypes.

Materials and Methods

The present investigation was carried out at agronomy instructional farm, C. P. College of Agriculture, S. D. Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar during the summer season of 2018 in randomized block design (RBD)

with three replications and four different environments at research area. The experimental material was comprised of twenty genotypes of green gram collected from the pulse research station, S. D. Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar, Gujarat. The data were collected on twelve morphological characters *viz.*, days to flowering, days to maturity, plant height, number of branches per plant, number of clusters per plant, number of pods per cluster, pod length, number of seeds per pod, number of pods per plant, test weight, leaf area and seed yield per plant. Genotypes were sown with the inter-row spacing of 45 cm and intra-row spacing of 10 cm. All the recommended package of practices was adopted to raise a good crop. Observations on various metric traits were recorded on five randomly selected competitive plants in genotype and replication in mean basis. Analysis of variance for the observations recorded on different characters was carried out as per the standard procedure by Panse and Sukhatme (1985). Genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) and Phenotypic Coefficient of Variation (PCV) were estimated as per Burton (1952); Heritability (h^2) and Genetic Advance (GA) were estimated according to Johnson *et al.*, (1955). Phenotypic and genotypic correlation and path coefficients of variation were computed as per the method given by Panse and Sukhatme (1985), Dewey and Lu (1959). Stability analysis was carried out as per procedures of Eberhart and Russel (1966). All the statistical analysis was performed at the department of agricultural statistics using INDOSTAT v8.1. The details of the environments under which the genotypes were grown is given in Table 1.

Results and Discussion

All the twelve characters under investigation showed significant variation amid the genotypes signifying their prominence in the

study of genetic variability (Table 2). The significance of genotype difference indicates the presence of variability for each of the characters among the tested entries (Haile *et al.*, 2015). Availability of variability in the material is of enormous importance for the success of any breeding programme. Mean performance over the different environments are given in Table 3 and pooled analysis of variance mean squares over the environment for different characters are given in Table 4.

Genetic variability

Estimation for the GCV, PCV, heritability in a broad sense (h^2) and GA as a per cent of mean are presented in Table 5. High phenotypic coefficient of variation than genotypic coefficients of variation for all the traits in the study might be due to environmental error. The GCV and PCV estimates were found high for seed yield per plant, number of pods per plant and number of clusters per plant except in E1; high PCV for leaf area per plant for all the environments, number of clusters per plant and number of pods per cluster in E1. The PCV and GCV values were low for days to flowering, days to maturity, plant height, test weight for all the environments and number of primary branches per plant in E1, E2 and E3. Low GCV values observed for number of pods per cluster in E2 and leaf area in E3 and number of seeds per pod in E1 and E3; Low GCV and PCV for pod length in E1 and E2.

Similar results were obtained by Pavan *et al.*, (2019), Sreelakhmi *et al.*, (2012), Muralidhara *et al.*, (2015), Varma *et al.*, (2018), Hemavathy *et al.*, (2015) and Anand *et al.*, (2015) for days to flowering; Pavan *et al.*, (2019), Sreelakhmi *et al.*, (2012), Varma *et al.*, (2018) and Hemavathy *et al.*, (2015) for days to maturity; Pavan *et al.*, (2019), Sreelakhmi *et al.*, (2012) and Kumar *et al.*, (2013) for plant height; Pavan *et al.*, (2019)

for number of primary branches per plant and number pods per cluster; Pandiyan^a *et al.*, (2006), Singh *et al.*, (2014), Raje *et al.*, (2000), Hemavathy *et al.*, (2015) and Susmitha and Jayamani (2018) for number of clusters per plant; Ramakrishnan *et al.*, (2018) for number of seeds per pod; Kousar *et al.*, (2007) Raje *et al.*, (2000), Hemevathy *et al.*, (2015), Degefa *et al.*, (2014) and Narasimhula *et al.*, (2013) for number of pods per plant; Pavan *et al.*, (2019) for test weight; Raje *et al.*, (2000), Kousar *et al.*, (2007), Pandiyan^b *et al.*, (2006), Arshad *et al.*, (2009), Narasimhulla *et al.*, (2013) and Hemavatha *et al.*, (2015) for seed yield per plant.

Heritability and genetic advance

Most of the traits exhibited moderate to high heritability in almost all the characters in four different environments excluding low heritability for days to flowering, plant height and leaf area in E1 and E3, days to maturity in E2, E3 and E4, number of primary branches per plant and number of pods per cluster in E1, E2, pod length in E1, leaf area in E1, E2 and E3. High heritability for some of the traits like seed yield per plant for all the environments, number of seeds per pod in E1, E2 and E4, number of clusters per plant and number of pods per plant in E2, E3 and E4, plant height in E2 and E4, pod length in E3, number of primary branches per plant in E4, test weight in E1 and E4. Seed yield per plant indicates that the improvement for these traits could be made by simple phenotypic selection.

Higher genetic advance as percent of mean was found for number of clusters per plant and seed yield per plant for all the environments. Number of seeds per pod in E2 and E3, number of pods per plant in E2, E3 and E4 and pod length in E1 expressed high genetic advance as percent of mean. Low genetic advance as percent of mean value

observed for days to flowering, days to maturity for all the environments. Plant height in E1, E3, number of primary branches per plant except for E4, number of pods per cluster in E2, pod length in E1 and E2, test weight only in E4, leaf area only in E3 showed low genetic advance as per cent of mean.

Similar results were found by Sreelakhmi *et al.*, (2012) and Hemavathy *et al.*, (2015) for days to flowering and days to maturity; Pandiyan^a *et al.*, (2006), Pandey *et al.*, (2007) and Kousar *et al.*, (2007) for plant height; Pavan *et al.*, (2019) for number of primary branches per plant; Pandiyan *et al.*, (2006) for number of clusters per plant.

Contradictory results for number of pods per cluster reported by Kousar *et al.*, (2007) and Kumar *et al.*, (2017); Dhole and reddy (2018) for pod length; Pandiyan^b *et al.*, (2006), Yusufzai *et al.*, (2017) and Rahim *et al.*, (2010) for number of pods per plant and number of seeds per pod; Raje *et al.*, (2000), Pandiyan^a *et al.*, (2006), Pandiyan^b *et al.*, (2006), Kumar *et al.*, (2013) and Ahmad *et al.*, (2014) for test weight; Pandiyan^a *et al.*, (2006), Pandiyan^b *et al.*, (2006), Arshad *et al.*, (2009), Rahim *et al.*, (2010) and Degefa *et al.*, (2014) for seed yield per plant.

Variability for pooled over environments

Variability parameters, heritability and genetic advance for different traits in pooled over environment presented in table 6 revealed that moderate GCV value for number of clusters per plant (13.55%), number of pods per plant (11.24%) and seed yield per plant (16.02%). The rest of the traits showed a low value of GCV.

High PCV value for number of clusters per plant (21.75%) and leaf area per plant (22.18%). The moderate PCV value for

number of pods per cluster(18.42%), number of seeds per pod (11.84%), number of pods per plant (15.47%) and seed yield per plant. The rest of the traits showed a low value of PCV. High heritability for test weight (67.92) and seed yield per plant (70.100). The moderate heritability for days to flowering (30.28), plant height (44.48), number of branches per plant (34.65), number of clusters per plant(38.81), pod length (35.80), number of seeds per pod (51.43) and number of pods per plant (52.78). The rest of the traits showed low heritability. High genetic advance for seed yield per plant (27.64). The moderate heritability value for number of clusters per plant (17.389), number of seeds per pod (12.54) and number of pods per plant (16.82). The rest of the traits showed low genetic advance.

Correlation

Genotypic and phenotypic correlations presented in Table 7, indicated that seed yield per plant was significant and positively associated with number of primary branches per plant($r_g=0.905^{**}$ and $r_p=0.719^{**}$), number of clusters per plant($r_g=0.977^{**}$ and $r_p=0.853^{**}$), pod length($r_g=0.890^{**}$ and $r_p=0.758^{**}$), number of seeds per pod($r_g=0.956^{**}$ and $r_p=0.823^{**}$), number of pods per cluster($r_g=0.644^{**}$ and $r_p=0.235^{**}$), number of pods per plant($r_g=0.998^{**}$ and $r_p=0.977^{**}$), test weight ($r_g=0.649^{**}$ and $r_p=0.486^{**}$) and leaf area ($r_g=0.515^{**}$ and $r_p=0.411^{**}$) at genotypic and phenotypic level.

Some character showed negative but significant at both the level like days to flowering ($r_g=-0.767^{**}$ and $r_p=-0.505^{**}$) and plant height ($r_g=-0.863^{**}$ and $r_p=-0.490^{**}$). Days to maturity ($r_g=-0.410^{**}$ and $r_p=0.030$) showed negative and significant at genotypic level but negative and non-significant at phenotypic level.

These results are in conformity with Kumar *et al.*, (2017) and Bhutia *et al.*, (2016) for days to flowering, plant height and number of clusters per plant; Patel *et al.*, (2014) and Kumar *et al.*, (2017) for days to maturity and number of primary branches per plant; Ahmad *et al.*, (2012) for number of pods per cluster; Bhutiya *et al.*, (2016), Das *et al.*, (2015) and Kumar *et al.*, (2017), for pod length, number of seeds per pod, number of pods per plant and test weight.

Path co-efficient analysis

To describe the phenotypic correlation values further path coefficient analysis was done to identify characters having significant direct and indirect effects on grain yield (Table 8). Highest positive direct effect on yield was registered by the number of pods per plant (0.671) followed by number of clusters per plant (0.405). Interestingly, these characters also exhibited a significant positive correlation with yield and therefore, should be considered as important selection criteria for yield improvement of green gram.

While, days to flowering (-0.114), days to maturity (-0.056), number of primary branches per plant (-0.120) and pod length (-0.101) had a negative direct effect on seed yield per plant. The residual effect of the path analysis was medium (0.420) suggesting the characters considered in the study were ample and defensible. Similar results were also reported by Kumar *et al.*, (2010) for days to

flowering; Bhutiya *et al.*, (2016) for days to maturity, plant height, number of clusters per plant, pod length and number of seeds per pod; Ramakrishnan *et al.*, (2018) and Tabasum *et al.*, (2010) for number of branches per plant, Patel *et al.*, (2014) for number of pods per cluster and number of pods per plant and Das *et al.*, (2015) for the test weight.

Stability analysis

The pooled analysis of variance (mean square) for stability (Table 9) in respect to the twelve characters of green gram genotypes evaluated across the environments indicated the existence of substantial differences among the four environments in respect to their influence on the expression of twelve characters of 20 green gram genotypes. The mean sum of squares due to genotypes was highly significant for day to flowering (3.38**), days to maturity (18.86**), plant height (19.73**), number of branches per plant (1.47**), number of seeds per pod (1.67**) and test weight (0.58**) which indicating that the genotypes interacted strongly with the environments. Similar results were found by Singh *et al.*, (2014) for number of primary branches per plant, pod length, number of seeds per pod and test weight. For the environment, all the characters except days to maturity and number of pods per cluster indicating that the genotypes interacted strongly with the environments (Fig. 1).

Table.1 Details of the environments under which the genotypes were grown

No.	Date of Sowing	Environments
1.	12.3.2018	Environments (E ₁)
2.	19.3.2018	Environments (E ₂)
3.	26.3.2018	Environments (E ₃)
4.	2.4.2018	Environments (E ₄)

Table.2 Analysis of variance mean squares for characters in the individual environment

Character	Df	Days to Flowering	Days to Maturity	Plant Height	No. of Primary Branches/ Plant	No. of Clusters/ Plant	No. of Pods/ Cluster	Pod Length	No. of Seeds/ Pod	No. of Pods /plant	Test weight	Leaf area per plant	Seed Yield /Plant
Environment 1													
Replication	2	4.55	12.82	0.52	3.49*	3.44	5.60*	0.22	0.26	8.79	0.0700	58202.87	6.47
Genotypes	19	3.82*	36.47**	11.58*	1.83	11.24**	2.55*	0.70*	2.62**	66.67**	0.7723**	150234.18*	20.03**
Error	38	1.99	12.90	5.23	1.02	2.10	1.24	0.35	0.41	14.63	0.09	68735.79	2.37
Environment 2													
Replication	2	4.85	1.52	21.30*	1.71	2.21	0.99	0.88	1.47*	6.55	0.1272	242046.87	6.38
Genotypes	19	3.68*	26.99	35.07**	1.23*	11.79**	0.94	0.73**	4.22**	163.57**	0.64**	188832.07*	59.37**
Error	38	1.55	17.06	5.47	0.61	1.94	0.64	0.29	0.43	11.50	0.06	99743.74	2.18
Environment 3													
Replication	2	1.72	10.62	19.31	0.53	1.49	0.29	0.34	0.13	3.30	0.08	4997.42	0.17
Genotypes	19	2.75*	32.10	12.17*	1.30**	4.22**	1.28**	1.36**	1.23**	83.07**	0.57**	167132.99	18.80**
Error	38	1.38	22.20	6.13	0.34	0.68	0.32	0.21	0.33	3.54	0.06	151294.48	0.57
Environment 4													
Replication	2	3.27	15.81	15.63	0.74	1.09*	0.27	0.15	0.09	0.90	0.21*	56335.33	0.23
Genotypes	19	7.67**	27.84	45.25**	2.64**	8.17**	1.10**	2.86**	2.55**	111.06**	0.36**	220209.08**	25.47**
Error	38	1.62	16.11	5.49	0.44	0.26	0.29	0.23	0.30	4.10	0.05	69533.04	0.51

** - Significance at 1.0 per cent level of probability, * - Significance at 5.0 per cent level of probability

Table.3 Mean performance over the different environment

Sr. no.	Days to Flowering	Days to Maturity	Plant Height	No. of Primary Branches/Plant	No. of Clusters/Plant	No. of Pods/Cluster	Pod Length	No. of Seeds/Pod	No. of Pods/Plant	Test Weight	Leaf Area Per Plant	Seed Yield /Plant
Environment 1	43.10	70.68	37.99	11.86	9.02	4.86	8.22	9.55	39.36	7.74	1542.08	17.81
Environment 2	43.70	70.12	42.18	10.57	7.38	4.64	7.16	7.78	30.83	7.44	1501.26	13.45
Environment 3	45.17	71.42	42.34	9.48	4.98	4.58	5.24	6.44	20.98	7.05	1572.67	7.96
Environment 4	47.27	71.48	46.59	7.84	4.86	4.28	5.73	5.55	18.13	7.06	1298.81	6.15

Table.4 A pooled analysis of variance mean squares over the environment for different characters

Source of variation	Df	Days to Flowering	Days to Maturity	Plant Height	No. of Primary Branches /Plant	No. of Clusters/ Plant	No. of Pods/ Cluster	Pod Length	No. of Seeds/ Pod	No. of Pods/plant	Test weight	Leaf area per plant	Seed Yield /Plant
Environment	3	206.37**	25.31	740.27**	173.86**	242.15**	3.41	110.92**	181.60**	5639.09**	6.65**	914365.73**	1692.27**
Genotype	19	10.16**	56.60**	59.22**	4.42**	10.72	1.73	2.09	5.02**	121.66	1.75**	220128.66	41.05
G×E	57	2.60*	22.27	14.96**	0.86*	8.23**	1.38**	1.19**	1.87**	100.90**	0.19**	168759.87**	27.53**
Pooled Error	152	1.64	17.06	5.58	0.60	1.25	0.62	0.27	0.37	8.45	0.07	97326.76	1.40

** - Significance at 1.0 per cent level of probability, * - Significance at 5.0 per cent level of probability

Table.5 Mean, variability parameters for a different character in an individual environment

Environment-1							Environment-2					
Parameters	Mean	Range	PCV%	GCV%	h ² (b)%	GA% (MEAN)	Mean	Range	PCV%	GCV%	h ² (b)%	GA% (MEAN)
DF	43.1	41.33-45	3.74	1.82	23.57	1.82	43.7	41.66-45.33	3.44	1.93	31.38	2.22
DM	70.68	65-77.66	6.45	3.97	37.84	5.03	70.12	64.33-74	6.44	2.59	16.25	2.16
PH	37.99	34.8-44	7.14	3.83	28.78	4.23	42.18	36.47-47.88	9.28	7.45	64.35	12.3
B/P	11.86	10.6-13.53	9.58	4.42	21.29	4.2	10.57	9.73-11.66	8.55	4.32	25.52	4.49
C/P	9.02	6.52-13.65	25.15	19.34	59.15	30.65	7.38	3.48-10.95	30.96	24.55	62.9	40.12
P/C	4.86	3.26-6.04	26.65	13.56	25.88	14.21	4.64	3.86-5.67	18.53	6.83	13.57	5.18
PL	8.22	7.53-9.21	8.31	4.12	24.54	4.2	7.16	5.93-8.16	9.23	5.38	33.97	6.46
S/P	9.55	6-10.4	11.19	8.99	64.45	14.86	7.78	4.6-9.46	16.72	14.45	74.68	25.72
P/P	39.36	25.21-47.45	14.37	10.58	54.24	16.06	30.83	19.13-41.90	25.58	23.09	81.51	42.95
TW	7.74	6.68-8.79	7.29	6.15	71.13	10.68	7.44	6-7.93	6.78	5.89	75.52	10.55
LA	1542.08	1100.23-2005.78	20.08	10.69	28.33	11.72	1501.26	1150.58-2047.67	23.97	11.48	22.94	11.33
Y/P	17.81	10.90-22.11	16.13	13.62	71.25	23.67	13.45	6.53-19.46	34.28	32.47	89.73	63.36
Environment-3							Environment-4					
Parameters	Mean	Range	PCV%	GCV%	h ² (b)%	GA% (MEAN)	Mean	Range	PCV%	GCV%	h ² (b)%	GA% (MEAN)
DF	45.17	43.66-47	3	1.5	24.83	1.53	47.27	45-50.33	4.03	3.01	55.5	4.61
DM	71.42	65-76.33	7.07	2.54	12.95	1.89	71.48	65-79	6.26	2.77	19.52	2.52
PH	42.34	39.16-45.6	6.74	3.3	24.74	3.44	46.59	43.13-61.06	9.29	7.82	70.73	13.54
B/P	9.48	7.46-10.73	8.54	5.97	48.78	8.58	7.84	6-9.6	13.83	10.92	62.37	17.77
C/P	4.98	2.45-6.79	27.39	21.8	63.38	35.76	4.86	2.19-7.95	35.01	33.39	90.98	65.62
P/C	4.58	3.08-5.78	17.45	12.32	49.85	17.92	4.28	3.24-5.46	17.44	12.16	48.59	17.46
PL	5.24	4.06-6.6	14.71	11.79	64.25	19.47	5.73	3.43-7.46	18.39	16.34	78.91	29.89
S/P	6.44	5.66-7.8	12.3	8.48	47.56	12.05	5.55	4.4-7.13	18.47	15.61	71.39	27.16
P/P	20.98	13.4-30.90	26.13	24.54	88.23	47.49	18.13	9.54-28.23	34.78	32.94	89.69	64.26
TW	7.05	5.7-7.66	6.8	5.8	72.66	10.18	7.06	6.23-7.5	5.54	4.58	68.3	7.79
LA	1572.67	1159.06-2014.93	25.16	4.62	3.37	1.75	1298.81	879.76-1813.13	26.64	17.26	41.94	23.02
Y/P	7.96	3.98-12.33	32.37	30.96	91.48	61	6.15	2.38-10.8	48.29	46.87	94.19	93.7

DF= Days to flowering (50%), DM= Days to maturity, PH= Plant height (cm), B/P= Number of primary branches/plant, C/P= number of clusters per plant, P/C= number of pods per cluster, PL= Pod length (cm), S/P= Number of seeds/pod, P/P= Number of pods/plant, TW= 100-seed weight (g), LA= leaf area and Y/P= Seed yield/plant (g)

Table.6 Mean, range, variability parameters for different traits in pooled over the environment in green gram

Parameters	DF	DM	PH	B/P	C/P	P/C	PL	S/P	P/P	TW	LA	Y/P
Mean	44.81	70.93	42.27	9.94	6.56	4.59	6.59	7.33	27.33	7.32	1478.70	11.34
Range	43.58-46.91	66.33-73.66	39.40-47.46	8.51-10.91	4.87-8.34	3.92-5.16	5.58-7.2	5.45-8.32	22.33-32.83	6.27-7.92	1240.15-1701.75	8.83-14.92
PCV%	3.42	6.36	7.50	9.65	21.75	18.42	9.88	11.84	15.47	6.21	22.18	19.14
GCV%	1.88	2.56	5.00	5.68	13.55	6.62	5.91	8.49	11.24	5.12	6.84	16.02
h ² (b)%	30.28	16.18	44.48	34.65	38.81	12.92	35.80	51.43	52.78	67.92	9.51	70.10
GA% (MEAN)	2.13	2.12	6.87	6.89	17.39	4.90	7.29	12.54	16.82	8.69	4.35	27.64

DF= Days to flowering (50%), DM= Days to maturity, PH= Plant height (cm), B/P= Number of primary branches/plant, C/P= number of clusters per plant, P/C= number of pods per cluster, PL= Pod length (cm), S/P= Number of seeds/pod, P/P= Number of pods/plant, TW= 100-seed weight (g), LA= leaf area and Y/P= Seed yield/plant (g)

Table.7 Genotypic (r_g) (above diagonal) and Phenotypic (r_p) (below diagonal) correlation coefficients among various characters in green gram

Sr. No.	DF	DM	PH	B/P	C/P	P/C	PL	S/P	P/P	TW	LA	Y/P
DF	1.000	0.406**	0.765**	-0.881**	-0.684**	-0.791**	-0.705**	-0.752**	-0.767**	-0.550**	-0.500**	-0.767**
DM	0.362**	1.000	0.401**	-0.669**	-0.240**	-0.321**	-0.486**	-0.473**	-0.481**	-0.805**	-0.196**	-0.410**
PH	0.353**	0.099	1.000	-0.961**	-0.828**	-0.770**	-0.742**	-0.839**	-0.883**	-0.771**	-0.786**	-0.863**
B/P	-0.617**	-0.099	-0.466**	1.000	0.828**	0.845**	0.830**	0.943**	0.919**	0.778**	0.606**	0.905**
C/P	-0.419**	0.003	-0.352**	0.556**	1.000	0.518**	0.877**	0.899**	0.972**	0.603**	0.463**	0.977**
P/C	-0.102	-0.068	-0.181**	0.227**	-0.153*	1.000	0.623**	0.760**	0.697**	0.790**	0.504**	0.644**
PL	-0.514**	-0.115	-0.371**	0.672**	0.656**	0.153*	1.000	0.847**	0.906**	0.839**	0.162**	0.880**
S/P	-0.512**	-0.076	-0.524**	0.729**	0.622**	0.283**	0.723**	1.000	0.966**	0.636**	0.539**	0.956**
P/P	-0.468**	-0.006	-0.480**	0.714**	0.846**	0.249**	0.750**	0.801**	1.000	0.708**	0.492**	0.998**
TW	-0.344**	-0.122	-0.280**	0.523**	0.385**	0.227**	0.547**	0.414**	0.487**	1.000	0.263**	0.649**
LA	-0.113	0.042	-0.146*	0.296**	0.315**	0.170**	0.168**	0.242**	0.432**	0.174**	1.000	0.515**
Y/P	-0.505**	-0.030	-0.490**	0.719**	0.853**	0.235**	0.758**	0.823**	0.977**	0.486**	0.411**	1.000

* Significant at 5.0 percent, ** Significant at 1.0 percent; DF= Days to flowering (50%), DM= Days to maturity, PH= Plant height (cm), B/P= Number of primary branches/plant, C/P= number of clusters per plant, P/C= number of pods per cluster, PL= Pod length (cm), S/P= Number of seeds/pod, P/P= Number of pods/plant, TW= 100-seed weight (g), LA= leaf area and Y/P= Seed yield/plant (g).

Table.8 Genotypic path coefficient analysis of component characters towards seed yield per plant under environment

Character	DF	DM	PH	B/P	C/P	P/C	PL	S/P	P/P	TW	LA
DF	-0.114	-0.046	-0.087	0.100	0.078	0.090	0.080	0.085	0.087	0.063	0.057
DM	-0.023	-0.056	-0.022	0.037	0.013	0.018	0.027	0.026	0.027	0.045	0.011
PH	0.085	0.044	0.111	-0.107	-0.092	-0.085	-0.082	-0.093	-0.098	-0.086	-0.087
B/P	0.106	0.080	0.116	-0.120	-0.100	-0.102	-0.100	-0.113	-0.111	-0.094	-0.073
C/P	-0.277	-0.097	-0.335	0.335	0.405	0.210	0.355	0.364	0.394	0.244	0.188
P/C	-0.008	-0.003	-0.007	0.008	0.005	0.010	0.006	0.007	0.007	0.008	0.005
PL	0.071	0.049	0.075	-0.083	-0.088	-0.063	-0.101	-0.085	-0.091	-0.084	-0.016
S/P	-0.058	-0.036	-0.065	0.073	0.069	0.059	0.065	0.077	0.074	0.049	0.042
P/P	-0.514	-0.322	-0.592	0.617	0.652	0.467	0.608	0.648	0.671	0.475	0.330
TW	-0.008	-0.012	-0.012	0.012	0.009	0.012	0.013	0.010	0.011	0.015	0.004
LA	-0.028	-0.011	-0.044	0.034	0.026	0.028	0.009	0.030	0.028	0.015	0.056
Y/P	-0.767	-0.410	-0.863	0.905	0.977	0.644	0.880	0.956	0.998	0.649	0.515

Residual effect = 0.420; DF= Days to flowering (50%), DM= Days to maturity, PH= Plant height (cm), B/P= Number of primary branches/plant, C/P= number of clusters per plant, P/C= number of pods per cluster, PL= Pod length (cm), S/P= Number of seeds/pod, P/P= Number of pods/plant, TW= 100-seed weight (g), LA= leaf area and Y/P= Seed yield/plant (g).

Table.9 A pooled analysis of variance (mean squares) for stability for 12 characters in green gram

Source of variation	Df	DF	DM	PH	B/P	C/P	P/C	PL	S/P	P/P	TW	LA	Y/P
Genotype	19	3.38**	18.86**	19.73**	1.47**	3.57	0.58	0.69	1.67**	40.57	0.58**	73376.50	13.68
Environment	3	68.79**	8.43	246.72**	57.95**	81.28**	1.15	36.94**	60.53**	1882.04**	2.21**	304797.77**	564.11**
G×E	57	0.86**	7.42	4.98	0.28*	2.74	0.45	0.39	0.62	33.66	0.06	56253.33	9.16
Environment (Linear)	1	206.37**	25.30**	740.16**	173.86**	243.84**	3.45**	110.82**	181.59**	5646.12**	6.65**	914393.33**	1692.35**
G×E (Linear)	19	1.47**	6.96	7.47**	0.50**	2.31	0.46	0.36	0.75	18.30	0.08	49254.58	4.54
Pooled deviation	40	0.52	7.26	3.56**	0.16	2.80**	0.43**	0.39**	0.52**	39.28**	0.05**	56765.07**	10.90**
Pooled error	152	0.54	5.68	1.85	0.20	0.41	0.20	0.09	0.12	2.81	0.02	32442.48	0.46

**.- Significance at 1.0 per cent level of probability, *.- Significance at 5.0 percent level of probability

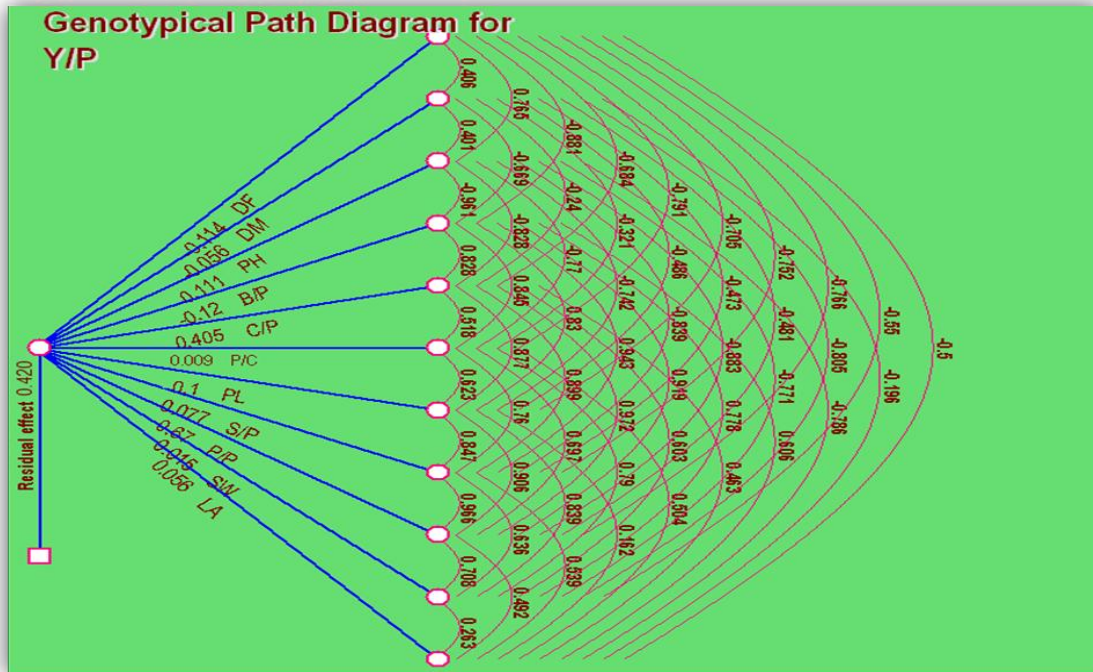


Fig.1 Genotypic path diagram for seed yield per plant

Where, DF= Days to flowering, DM= Days to maturity, PH= Plant height (cm), B\|P = Number of primary branches per plant, C/P = Number of clusters per plant, P/C = Number of pods per cluster, PL= Pod length (cm), S/P = Number of seeds per pod, P/P = Number of pods per plant , SW (TW) = 100-seed weight (g), LA = Leaf area per plant per plant (cm²)

Similar results were found by Singh *et al.*, (2014) and Gomashe *et al.*, (2008) for days to maturity, plant height, number of seeds per pod and number of pods per plant was reported. The mean sum of squares due to genotype \times environment was significant for days to flowering (0.86**) and number of primary branches per plant (0.28*) indicating that the genotypes interacted strongly with the environments.

A similar result was also reported by Singh *et al.*, (2014) for days to flowering and number of primary branches per plant. Environment (linear) was highly significant for all the character indicating that environments differ considerably from one environment to another for these significant characters. Similar results were also reported by Singh *et al.*, (2009) and Singh *et al.*, (2014) for days to maturity, number of seed per pod and number of pods

per plant; Patel *et al.*, (2009) and Singh *et al.*, (2014)for plant height, number of primary branches per plant, pod length, test weight and seed yield per plant.

Considering all environments under study, the GCV and PCV estimates were found high for seed yield per plant, number of pods per plant and number of clusters per plant except in E1; high PCV for leaf area per plant for all the environments, number of clusters per plant and number of pods per cluster in E1which indicate ample selection opportunity for these characters. High heritability for the traits like seed yield per plant for all the environments, number of seeds per pod in E1, E2 and E4, number of clusters per plant and number of pods per plant in E2, E3 and E4, plant height in E2 and E4, pod length in E3, number of primary branches per plant in E4, test weight in E1 and E4indicate that the improvement for

these traits could be made by simple phenotypic selection. Higher genetic advance as percent of mean was found for number of clusters per plant and seed yield per plant for all the environments indicating a predominance of additive gene action and can be improved by simple selection. Path coefficient analysis involving four different environments revealed that number of clusters per plant and number of pods per plant had a high positive direct effect on seed yield per plant which again fortifies the importance of above characters in crop improvement. Two genotypes, GM-4 followed by GM-3 were found highest yielder as well as stable genotype among all the genotypes tested. Since they are having high mean yield, regression near unity and least deviation from regression under four different environmental conditions.

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