

Heterosis Studies for Fibre Quality Traits in Upland Cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum* L.)

A B M Sirisha, M Lal Ahamed, P V Rama Kumar, S Ratna Kumari and V Srinivasa Rao
Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Agricultural College, Bapatla, A.P.

ABSTRACT

Heterosis is commercially exploited in cotton in the form of hybrids and are very popular among the farming community over the varieties. Development of hybrids is one of the main objectives in cotton breeding programmes. In the present investigation, 45 crosses developed by making crosses among the 10 selected genotypes having very good combining ability for quality traits in half diallel fashion. These crosses were evaluated for quality traits over the commercial checks (Bunny BT and KCH 707) for their standard heterosis before they are being considered for commercial cultivation. The cross combination, BBGH-77 x BBGH-1, expressed the highest heterotic effects for all the quality characters over the check Bunny Bt and may be considered for commercial release after confirming its superiority over locations.

Key words: *Cotton, diallel, hybrids, standard heterosis.*