

Heritability, Character Association and Path Analysis for Grain Yield and Yield Contributing Characters in Maize

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ABSTRACT

An experiment with parents, F1's and Check BH 1576 was conducted in diallel fashion excluding reciprocals during *kharif*, 2007 to study the correlation and path analysis for yield and yield contributing characters in maize. The diallel experiment was conducted to estimate combining ability effects. Along with combining ability effects, heritability, correlation and path analysis were estimated. Results showed that plant height has the highest correlation ($r = 0.66$) followed by number of kernels per row ($r = 0.65$) with kernel yield. Results obtained from path analysis revealed that number of kernels per row exhibited the largest direct effect on kernel yield and more important for selecting maize cultivars with high yield among different traits. 100 kernel weight and number of kernels per row had direct effect on kernel yield. Thus, these two traits may be given importance in selecting genotypes for high kernel yield in maize breeding programmes.

Key words : Association, Heritability, Path Analysis, Yield Attributes.