

Study of Genetic Variability and Characterization of Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) Germplasm Accessions

V Prabhakaran, S Madhusudhan Reddy, T Dayakar Reddy

Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad 500 030, Andhra Pradesh

ABSTRACT

Germplasm accessions (64) of sunflower were evaluated for yield and yield components to study the extent of variation for different quantitative traits. The germplasm accessions were also characterized on the basis of qualitative traits. Highest phenotypic and genotypic coefficient variation were recorded for seed yield/ plant (47.78% and 47.27%) followed by number of filled seeds/head, total number of seeds/head, unfilled seeds/head, 100-seed weight, head diameter,. Low phenotypic coefficient variation and genotypic coefficient variation were recorded in days to maturity, days to 50 % flowering, and plant height. Qualitative traits also showed wide variability among the accessions.

Key words : Germplasm, Sunflower.