Variability Studies on Yield and Yield Contributing Characters in Maize (*Zea mays* L.)

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ABSTRACT

The experiment was conducted with an objective to know the variability, heritability and genetic advance of 67 maize genotypes (fifty hybrids, fifteen parents and two checks) for the characters *viz.,* days to 50 % tasseling, days to 50 % silking, plant height (cm), ear height (cm), kernel rows per ear, number of kernels per row, ear length (cm), 100-seed weight (g) and grain yield per plant (g). Analysis of variance revealed significant amount of variability for all the characters studied. High PCV and moderate GCV were recorded for grain yield per plant and high heritability combined with high genetic advance as per cent of mean was shown by the characters *viz.,* ear height, 100-seed weight and grain yield per plant indicating the predominance of additive gene action in the inheritance of these traits.

Key words: *Genetic advance, Heritability, Maize, Variability.*