

Genetic Variability, Heritability and Genetic Advance for Yield and Yield Component Characters among Maintainer Lines of Pearl millet [*Pennisetum glaucum* (L.) R. Br.]

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ABSTRACT

An investigation was carried out to study genetic variability, heritability and genetic advance among 161 maintainer (B-)lines of pearl millet for twelve characters *viz.*, days to 50% flowering, plant height, ear length, ear diameter, productive tillers per plant, head yield per plant, grain yield per plant, panicle harvest index, fresh stover yield per plant, dry matter yield per plant, 1000 grain weight and grain harvest index. The results revealed that the characters ear length, productive tillers per plant, head yield per plant, grain yield per plant, fresh stover yield per plant and dry matter yield per plant showed high PCV and GCV. High estimates of heritability along with genetic advance (% mean) were observed for plant height, ear length, ear diameter, productive tillers per plant, 1000 grain weight and dry matter yield per plant indicating that the selection for these traits would be more effective.

Key words: *Genetic Advance, Heritability, Maintainer (B-) lines, Pearl millet, Variability.*