

Research Article Evaluation and identification of wheat hybrids for wider adaptability

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Abstract

The experimental material comprising F_1 , F_2 , BC_1 and BC_2 generations derived from crosses involving five parents were evaluated to find out stability in bread wheat under four environments. The differences among the crosses were significant for most of the characters studied except ear length, number of spikelets per spike, spike weight per plant, biological yield, harvest index and grain yield per plant. Among environment + varieties x environment interaction significant differences were found for characters such as days to 50% flowering, plant height, number of tillers per plant, number of spikelets per spike and harvest index. The differences for environments were significant for most of the characters except number of tillers per plant, number of grains per spike, spike weight per plant, biological yield, harvest index and grain yield per plant. Further stability analysis revealed that most of the genotypes showed varying stability for different crosses, generations and characters. Cross HI 1500 x HD 2868 was found stable over environments for yield per plant while cross M3020 x NI 5439 and HD 2868x HI 1500 was found stable for harvest index.

Key words

Wheat, stability, G x E interaction, grain yield

Introduction

Wheat is the most important staple food for humans. Approximately one-sixth of the total arable land in the world is cultivated with wheat. Wheat is grown under wide range of climatic conditions but adapted to cool and dry environment. The global area under wheat comes to 226.95 m. ha and contributes to the extent of about 27% of the total food grain production. It is staple food for nearly 40 per cent of world population covering at least, 43 countries and provides 20 per cent of food calories to the mankind. In Madhya Pradesh, wheat shares major area of rabi crops about 62-65 percent, mainly grown in partial irrigated condition (1-2 irrigation). The area production and productivity (2014-15) of wheat in M.P. are 5.56 million hectares, 14.18 million tons and 2551 kg/ha, respectively. The productivity of wheat in M.P. is estimated to be 2.5 tonnes/ha, which is quite low in comparison to productivity at national level (2.9 tons/ha.). The objective in many plant breeding programmes is the selection of genotypes which give consistent performance over a wide range of environments. The selection is often ineffective due to lack of information on genotype x environment. In the present study an effort was made to identify suitable crosses having stability and wider adaptability for different environments.

Materials and Methods

The experimental material consisted of F_1 , F_2 , BC_1 and BC_2 generations derived from the crosses made between 5 diverse parents *viz*. MP 3020, NI 5439, HD 2868, HI 1500 and HD 2889. Experiment was conducted in four environments *viz*. irrigated condition 2012-13, rainfed 2012-13, irrigated condition 2013-14, rainfed 2013-14. The experiment was laid out in randomized complete block design with 4 replications; one row of P_1 , P_2 F_1 , BC₁, BC₂ and twenty rows of F_2 generation in each of the four crosses (MP 3020× NI 5439, HD $2868 \times$ HI 1500, HI 1500 \times HD 2868 and HI 1500 \times HD 2889) in each replication were grown, under rainfed and irrigated condition. The observations were recorded in 10 randomly selected plants in each replication of all the generations raised for 12 characters viz. days to 50 % flowering, days to maturity, plant height (cm), number of tillers/ plant, ear length (cm), number of spikelets per spike, number of grains per spike, spike weight per plant (g), grain yield per plant (g), 1000-grain weight (g), biological yield (g) and harvest Index (%). The data were statistically analysed to find out adaptability of hybrids using Eberhart and Russell model.

Results and Discussion

The variation due to variety x environment (linear) interaction had showed significant differences for plant height, number of tillers per plant and harvest index (Table 1). Similarly pooled deviation was found significant for all characters except number of tillers per plant and harvest index. The above results are in agreement with the finding of Bangarwa and Luthra(1966).

The stability parameters such as mean (m), regression coefficient (bi), deviation from regression (S^2 di) for all twelve characters of each generation were estimated and are presented in table 2 to 4.

The regression coefficient of less than unity, high mean values with lesser deviation from regression have been revealed for most of the crosses,



generations and characters. In cross HD2868 x HI1500 parent P1, cross HI1500 x HD2868 parent P_2 , generation F_1 and backcrosses BC_1 and BC_2 for days to 50 % flowering, for days to maturity (Table 2) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 P_1 F_1 F_2 , cross HI1500 x HD2868 parents P1 P2, cross HI1500 x HD2889 parents P1 P2 F1 F2 BC1 and BC₂, for plant height in cross MP3020 x NI5439 P₁ P_2 F_2 , cross HI1500 x HD2889 P_1 and F_2 , for number of tillers per plant (Table 2) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 F₂, for number of grains per spike (Table 3) P₁ F₁ in cross MP3020 x NI5439, for ear length cross (Table 3) HI1500 x HD2868 P₁ P₂ F₁, cross HI1500 x HD2889 parents P₁ P₂ F₁ and BC_1 , for number of spikelets per spike (Table 3) in cross HI1500 x HD2868 P1 P2 F1 F2 BC1 and BC2 and in cross HI1500 x HD2889 P1 P2 F1 F2 BC1 and BC₂, for spike weight per plant (Table 3) in cross HI1500 x HD2868 generation F2, cross HI1500 x HD2889 P₁ and F₂, for character 1000 grain weight (Table 4) cross MP3020 x NI5439 F₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 BC₂, in cross HI1500 x HD2889 P₂ and F₂, for harvest index (Table 4) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 F₁, cross HI1500 x HD2868 F₁ and for grain yield per plant (Table 4) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 generation F₂, cross HI1500 x HD2868 parent P₂, generation F₁ F₂and BC₁ and in cross HI1500 x HD2889 parents P1 P2, generations F1 and F2. These have been possessed high stability and reflecting they have wider adaptation could be grown under all type of environments. The finding of Mishra et al., (2000) suggested that WH 147 was responsive to rich environment which contradictory with present investigation.

The crosses, generations and characters have regression coefficient less than unity with low mean values viz. for character days to 50 % flowering (Table 2) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 in generations F₁, cross HI1500 x HD2889 parent P₁ and generation F₁ and backcross BC₂, for days to maturity in cross (Table 2) HI1500 x HD2868 in parents P_1 P_2 , for plant height (Table 2) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 P_1 P_2 F_1 F_2 BC₁ and BC₂, for number of grains per spike (Table 3) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 P₂ F₁ BC₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 generation F₂, for number of spikelets per spike (Table 3) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 P₁ P₂ F₁ F₂ BC₁ and BC₂, for harvest index (Table 4) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 $P_1 P_2 F_1$ and F₂, cross HD2868 x HI1500 parents P₁ P₂ generation F₂ and backcrosses BC₁ BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2868 parents P₁ P₂ generation F₂ backcross BC1 and BC2, and for grain yield per plant (Table 4) in cross HI1500 x HD2868 in P₁ and BC₂ recorded above average stability and they are suitable for specific environment. Same findings were exhibited by Borghi (1990) having regression coefficient (b) more than unity and mean values less than their population mean exhibited below average stability performance,

these, crosses, generations and characters such as plant height (Table 2) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 in generation F₁ and BC₂, cross HD2868 x HI1500 parent $P_1 P_2$ generations $F_1 F_2$ and backcrosses BC_1 BC_2 , for ear length (Table 3) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 parent P₁ and generation F₁, cross HI1500 x HD2868 parent P₁ P₂ generations F₁ F₂, for number of spikelets per spike (Table 3) in cross HI1500 x HD2868 parent P2, for spike weight per plant (Table 3) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 P₂ F₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 P₁ F₁ and BC₂, for 1000 grain weight in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parent P1 and P2, cross HD2868 x HI1500 parent P₁ and P₂, cross HI1500 x HD2868 generation F₁, cross HI1500 x HD2889 P1 and P2, for biological yield (Table 4) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 P2 and BC₂, cross HD2868 x HI1500 P₁ F₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 P2 and BC2, for harvest index (Table 4) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parent P₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 generation F1 and for grain yield per plant (Table 4) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parent P₂ F₁ and BC₁, cross HD2868 x HI1500 backcrosses BC_1 and BC_2 . Hence these are not highly stable and they are poorly adapted to all environments. Same findings were reported by Shazia et al. (2015), and Misganaw et al. (2016).

Similarly, for character days to 50 % flowering (Table 2) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parent P1 P2 generation F_2 backcrosses BC_1 and BC_2 , cross HD2868 x HI1500 P_2 F_1 and F_2 , cross HI1500 x HD2889 parent P₂ F₂ and BC₁, for days to maturity (Table 2) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parents P₁ P₂ generations F₁ F₂ and backcrosses BC₁ BC₂, cross HD2868 x HI1500 backcross BC1, cross HI1500 x HD2868 F1 F2 BC1 and BC2, for plant height (Table 2) in cross HI1500 x HD2868 generation F_1 backcross BC_1 and BC_2 , cross HI1500 x HD2889 P2 and F1, for number of tillers per plant (Table 2) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parent P₁ P₂ generation F_1 and backcrosses BC_1 BC_2 , cross HD2868 x HI1500 P₁ P₂ F₁ F₂ BC₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2868 generation $P_1 P_2 F_2 BC_1$ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 $P_1 P_2 F_1$ and F_2 , for number of grains per spike (Table 3) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 parents P₁ P₂ F₂ BC₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2868 P1 P2 F1 BC1 and BC2, cross HI1500 x HD2889 parent P1, for character ear length (Table 3) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 for all generations P1 P2 F1 F2 BC1 and BC2, cross HD2868 x HI1500 P_2 F_2 BC₁ and BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 generation F₂, for number of spikelets per spike (Table 3) in cross MP3020 x NI5439 parent P_1 P_2 generations F_1 F_2 and backcrosses BC1 BC2, for spike weight per plant (Table 3) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 parent P₂ and generation F₂, for 1000 grain weight (Table 4) in cross HD2868 x HI1500 generation F1 F2 backcross BC1 and BC2, for biological yield (Table 4) in cross HI1500 x HD2868 parent P2 generation F_2 and backcross BC₂, cross HI1500 x HD2889 parent P₁ generation F₁ F₂ and BC₁showed specific



adaptation since they had regression coefficient greater than one and mean values more than their population mean for majority of the characters and, therefore, these crosses and generations may be exploited under optimal favorable environmental condition. Same findings revealed by Luthra OP (1994), Shazia *et al.* (2015) Kurt *et al.* (2016).

It is concluded from the above study that cross HI 1500 x HD 2868 was found stable over environments for yield per plant while cross M3020 x NI 5439 and HD 2868 x HI 1500 was found stable for harvest index.

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Table 1. Pooled analysis of variance for seed yield per plant and its components in wheat

| Source of variation | d.f. | Days to 50% flowering | Days to maturity | Plant height (cm) | Number of tillers/ plant | Ear length (cm) | Number of spikelets/ spike (g) | Number of grains per spike (g) | Spike weight/ plant (g) | 1000- grain weight (g) | Biological Yield (g) | Harvest Index (%) | Grain Yield/ plant (g) |
|------------------------|------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Varieties | 23 | 20.96** | 20.51* | 612.28*** | 48.99** | 7.29 | 0.85 | 153.30*** | 139.93 | 132.36*** | 346.16 | 640.87 | 56.39 |
| Env.+(var.*Env.) | 72 | 16.24* | 13.81 | 259.10* | 20.38*** | 7.85 | 7.38*** | 56.87 | 103.66 | 21.95 | 221.25 | 558.08** | 30.47 |
| Environments | 3 | 200.26*** | 76.18*** | 924.21* | 16.11 | 55.06*** | 158.86*** | 35.25 | 80.90 | 110.26*** | 69.96 | 1399.33 | 37.98 |
| Var.*Env. | 69 | 8.24 | 11.10 | 230.18 | 20.57*** | 5.80 | 0.79 | 57.81 | 104.65 | 18.11 | 227.82 | 521.51** | 30.15 |
| Environments (Lin.) | 1 | 600.79*** | 228.52*** | 2772.63*** | 48.32** | 165.17*** | 476.58*** | 105.75 | 242.70 | 330.77*** | 209.87 | 4197.99*** | 113.93 |
| Var.*Env. (Lin.) | 23 | 6.38 | 13.34 | 371.31** | 47.70*** | 2.82 | 0.97 | 57.53 | 88.73 | 22.58 | 279.53 | 1040.27*** | 12.04 |
| Pooled Deviation | 48 | 8.80*** | 9.56*** | 152.96*** | 6.71 | 6.99** | 0.68*** | 55.54*** | 107.92*** | 15.21*** | 193.56*** | 251.20 | 37.57*** |
| Pooled Error | 288 | 3.52 | 1.92 | 23.55 | 12.13 | 3.97 | 0.33 | 16.09 | 34.80 | 4.33 | 44.25 | 636.60 | 12.23 |
| Total | 95 | 17.39 | 15.43 | 344.60 | 27.31 | 7.72 | 5.80 | 80.22 | 112.44 | 48.68 | 251.49 | 578.13 | 36.75 |

* at 5 % probability, ** at 1 % probability and *** at 0.1 % Probability



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Table 2. Estimates of stability parameters for days to 50 % flowering, days to maturity, plant height and number of tillers per plant

| ~ | | Days to 50% flowering | | | Days to maturity | | | | Plant heigh | nt | Number of tillers/ plant | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------------|------------------|--------|-------------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------|--|
| Crosses | Generations | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | |
| | P ₁ | 79.84 | 1.046 | -2.87 | 132.3 | 1.061 | 5.3* | 138.3 | 0.367 | 14.5 | 13.75 | 2.510 | -5.45 | |
| | P_2 | 81.12 | 1.318 | -3.45 | 133.0 | 1.186 | 11.5** | 132.3 | 0.518 | 151.0*** | 11.81 | 3.299 | -9.60 | |
| MP3020 | F_1 | 74.99 | 0.982 | -2.89 | 136.9 | 2.042 | 4.9* | 124.0 | 2.583 | 181.9*** | 11.19 | 1.249 | -11.99 | |
| л NI5439 | F_2 | 81.01 | 1.147 | -2.59 | 135.9 | 1.499 | -0.5 | 136.0 | 0.516 | 68.5* | 18.30 | 0.398 | 100.32*** | |
| | BC_1 | 79.94 | 1.849 | 5.43 | 134.0 | 1.760 | 13.0*** | 109.0 | -0.288 | 212.6*** | 11.07 | 1.365 | -10.34 | |
| | BC_2 | 78.80 | 1.183 | -2.75 | 135.0 | 2.634 | 33.8*** | 114.5 | -2.549 | 360.7*** | 11.87 | 1.869 | -11.19 | |
| | P_1 | 77.42 | 0.533 | 5.14 | 129.6 | 0.369 | 0.0 | 114.3 | 3.627 | 122.3** | 11.26 | 3.130 | -12.04 | |
| | P_2 | 82.54 | 1.178 | 0.96 | 133.3 | 1.594 | 15.3*** | 125.1 | 1.954 | 12.4 | 11.83 | 2.760 | -8.87 | |
| HD2868 | F_1 | 78.59 | 1.479 | 28.29*** | 132.8 | 0.428 | 3.5 | 111.1 | 5.259 | 144.1*** | 10.90 | 1.894 | -7.32 | |
| л HI1500 | F_2 | 81.25 | 1.071 | -1.79 | 133.1 | 0.796 | 1.9 | 122.6 | 2.359 | 8.0 | 12.97 | 3.138 | -10.35 | |
| | BC_1 | 82.41 | 0.978 | 24.12*** | 133.6 | 1.390 | 26.4*** | 106.4 | 1.649 | 179.1*** | 9.87 | 2.285 | -9.48 | |
| | BC_2 | 81.56 | 0.026 | 41.18*** | 134.9 | 0.731 | 65.6*** | 106.1 | 3.857 | 199.2*** | 10.24 | 3.188 | -8.28 | |
| | P_1 | 78.62 | 1.068 | -1.34 | 129.6 | 0.369 | 0.0 | 135.0 | 0.768 | 39.5 | 11.54 | 2.043 | -11.45 | |
| | P_2 | 81.74 | 0.821 | -0.55 | 130.8 | 0.614 | -1.3 | 135.4 | 0.732 | 34.6 | 12.99 | 3.023 | -10.63 | |
| HI1500 | F_1 | 75.81 | 0.236 | 1.72 | 133.7 | 1.231 | -0.6 | 139.3 | 1.200 | 133.1 | 12.57 | 0.033 | -12.13 | |
| л HD2868 | F_2 | 81.32 | 1.105 | -1.90 | 133.7 | 1.398 | -1.0 | 134.3 | 0.932 | 70.8* | 12.42 | 1.667 | -11.67 | |
| | BC_1 | 81.20 | 0.438 | 19.54** | 135.5 | 1.096 | 6.3* | 121.8 | -1.022 | 90. 0** | 11.55 | 1.699 | -11.66 | |
| | BC_2 | 82.16 | 0.293 | 39.72*** | 138.5 | 4.009 | 5.8* | 127.4 | 1.097 | 107.4** | 10.25 | 4.118 | -9.36 | |
| | P_1 | 79.29 | 0.801 | -3.44 | 130.7 | -0.328 | -1.1 | 138.7 | 0.352 | -10.1 | 12.27 | 1.078 | -11.94 | |
| | P_2 | 80.82 | 1.185 | -3.36 | 130.9 | -0.676 | -1.0 | 129.6 | 1.376 | 182.2*** | 12.89 | 3.154 | -10.50 | |
| HI1500 | F_1 | 74.49 | 0.759 | -3.34 | 135.1 | 0.392 | -1.2 | 138.7 | 1.263 | 149.9*** | 11.71 | 1.160 | -11.91 | |
| X HD2889 | F_2 | 81.11 | 1.192 | -2.76 | 134.9 | 0.669 | -1.1 | 134.3 | 0.929 | 70.3* | 27.19 | -21.125* | 0.005 | |
| | BC_1 | 81.15 | 2.389 | -2.97 | 131.6 | -0.359 | -1.2 | 110.7 | -1.586 | 250.1*** | 11.11 | -0.801* | -12.02 | |
| | BC_2 | 78.20 | 0.916 | -3.40 | 131.3 | -0.645 | -0.9 | 100.7 | -1.885 | 362.9*** | 12.35 | -0.065* | -12.13 | |
| | Mean | 79.81 | 1.00 | | 133.4 | 1.0 | | 124.4 | 1.0 | | 12.66 | 1.00 | | |
| | S.E.(m) | 1.71 | 0.59 | | 1.8 | 1.0 | | 7.1 | 1.2 | | 1.49 | 1.82 | | |



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| Crosses | Concretions | Number of grains/spike | | | Ear length (cm) | | | Numbe | er of spike | lets / spike | Spike weight per plant (g) | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|-------------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------|-------------------|--|
| Closses | Generations | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | |
| MP3020 | P_1 | 63.69 | -0.352 | 39.13* | 11.49 | 1.077 | -2.34 | 20.37 | 1.045 | 0.18 | 63.69 | 1.424 | 39.13* | |
| | P_2 | 55.07 | 4.530 | 6.35 | 11.67 | 1.025 | -1.70 | 20.11 | 1.014 | -0.15 | 55.07 | 1.622 | 6.35 | |
| | F_1 | 51.63 | -0.291 | -0.73 | 11.02 | 1.139 | -3.54 | 20.71 | 1.211 | 0.10 | 51.63 | 2.183 | -0.73 | |
| X NI5439 | F_2 | 59.84 | 1.975 | -14.95 | 12.01 | 1.830 | -3.79 | 20.74 | 1.094 | -0.08 | 59.84 | 0.207 | -14.95 | |
| | BC_1 | 52.82 | 1.648 | 0.63 | 12.97 | 0.724 | -0.09 | 19.95 | 1.055 | 0.91* | 52.82 | -0.504 | -0.63 | |
| | BC_2 | 52.42 | 8.467 | 303.76*** | 12.87 | 1.185 | -2.99 | 20.01 | 1.026 | 0.91* | 52.42 | 3.295 | 303.76*** | |
| | P ₁ | 55.50 | 1.765 | 1.65 | 11.80 | 1.555 | -0.23 | 19.91 | 0.836 | -0.27 | 55.50 | 1.925 | 1.65 | |
| | P_2 | 64.99 | 1.973 | 105.19*** | 12.17 | 1.539 | -2.16 | 19.66 | 0.922 | -0.10 | 64.99 | 2.802 | 105.19*** | |
| HD2868 | F_1 | 56.29 | -0.357 | 5.75 | 11.99 | 1.392 | -2.19 | 19.86 | 0.905 | 0.99* | 56.29 | 4.716 | 5.75 | |
| А HI1500 | F_2 | 66.32 | 4.776 | 55.09* | 12.27 | 1.580 | -3.58 | 21.29 | 0.228 | 7.71*** | 66.32 | 1.503 | 55.09* | |
| | BC_1 | 55.37 | -2.242 | 5.21 | 12.36 | 1.403 | -3.37 | 19.84 | 1.102 | 0.89* | 55.37 | 2.325 | 5.21 | |
| | BC_2 | 54.59 | -2.373 | 530.59*** | 12.44 | 1.587 | -3.20 | 19.80 | 1.125 | 0.86* | 54.59 | 6.350 | 530.59*** | |
| | P_1 | 55.32 | 4.110 | -6.75 | 10.36 | 0.387 | -3.90 | 20.00 | 0.896 | -0.30 | 55.32 | 0.079 | -6.75 | |
| | P_2 | 57.56 | 3.695 | -8.54 | 11.31 | 0.639 | -3.80 | 19.55 | 1.098 | -0.29 | 57.56 | 1.543 | -8.54 | |
| HI1500 | F_1 | 58.72 | -2.662 | -12.17 | 11.09 | 0.513 | -3.86 | 20.60 | 0.986 | -0.30 | 58.72 | -2.441 | -12.17 | |
| л HD2868 | F_2 | 60.54 | -0.969 | -15.57 | 11.95 | 1.332 | -3.22 | 20.45 | 1.008 | -0.30 | 60.54 | -0.128 | -15.57 | |
| | BC_1 | 51.29 | 2.098 | -13.66 | 12.30 | 1.260 | -3.31 | 20.45 | 1.322* | -0.28 | 51.29 | -1.716 | -13.66 | |
| | BC_2 | 72.69 | 3.418 | -9.63 | 12.06 | 1.899 | -2.47 | 20.22 | 1.423* | -0.27 | 72.69 | 8.388 | -9.63 | |
| | P ₁ | 66.34 | -5.271 | -0.72 | 10.44 | 0.333 | -3.92 | 19.92 | 0.930 | -0.30 | 66.34 | -2.490 | -0.72 | |
| | P_2 | 55.31 | 5.612 | 1.32 | 11.71 | 0.351 | -3.92 | 19.92 | 0.930 | -0.30 | 55.31 | 0.907 | 1.32 | |
| HI1500 | F_1 | 52.05 | 3.024 | -11.04 | 10.74 | 0.765 | -3.72 | 20.20 | 1.165 | -0.29 | 52.05 | -1.982 | -11.04 | |
| л HD2889 | F_2 | 59.10 | 0.256 | -16.06 | 17.12 | -1.018 | 141.14*** | 20.45 | 1.020 | -0.30 | 59.10 | 0.952 | -16.06 | |
| 110200) | BC_1 | 55.14 | -1.054 | -15.48 | 13.84 | 0.477 | -3.87 | 19.30 | 0.852* | -0.30 | 55.14 | -5.165 | -15.48 | |
| | BC_2 | 43.62 | -7.773 | 17.33 | 12.97 | 1.026 | -3.53 | 19.40 | 0.807* | -0.30 | 43.62 | -1.795 | 17.33 | |
| | Mean | 57.34 | 1.00 | | 12.12 | 1.000 | | 20.11 | 1.00 | | 57.34 | 1.00 | | |
| | S.E.(m) | 4.30 | 3.55 | | 1.52 | 1.007 | | 0.47 | 0.18 | | 4.30 | 3.55 | | |

Table 3. Estimates of stability parameters for number of grains/spike, ear length, number of spikelets per spike and spike weight per plant



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| Crosses | Generations | 1000-grain weight (g) | | | Biological Yield (g) | | | На | rvest Index | (%) | Grain yield per plant(g) | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-------------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| | Generations | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di | Mean | bi | S ² di |
| | \mathbf{P}_1 | 45.09 | 1.624 | 182.23*** | 74.60 | 4.366 | 221.83** | 32.19 | 0.795 | -590.26 | 22.92 | 2.970 | -9.79 |
| | P_2 | 45.66 | 2.215 | 6.63 | 57.99 | 1.934 | 389.54*** | 51.29 | 5.790 | -265.06 | 19.15 | 3.330 | -1.20 |
| MP3020 | \mathbf{F}_1 | 47.58 | 0.464 | 26.19** | 62.08 | -0.820 | 422.24*** | 32.50 | -0.545 | -478.33 | 19.34 | 3.404 | -7.84 |
| X NI5430 | F_2 | 48.62 | 1.462 | -3.55 | 73.13 | 2.043 | -24.32 | 36.09 | -0.416* | -634.03 | 26.52 | -0.437 | 15.53 |
| N13439 | BC_1 | 47.74 | 1.670 | -4.14 | 57.66 | -0.214 | 149.26* | 53.70 | 6.051 | -140.37 | 19.25 | 4.268 | 60.91** |
| | BC_2 | 50.29 | 0.728 | 15.68* | 59.17 | 2.012 | 783.76*** | 41.80 | 2.517 | -518.29 | 18.67 | 0.717 | 49.08** |
| | \mathbf{P}_1 | 30.46 | 1.591 | 2.79 | 58.88 | 2.559 | -40.11 | 32.11 | -0.584* | -619.61 | 19.20 | 0.507 | 20.19 |
| | P_2 | 43.90 | 1.149 | -3.95 | 81.99 | 8.278 | 49.61 | 30.68 | 0.092* | -629.98 | 25.17 | 0.514 | 43.26* |
| HD2868 X | \mathbf{F}_1 | 45.47 | 2.244 | -3.78 | 47.41 | -3.467 | 240.12** | 42.97 | -0.564 | -604.65 | 19.96 | 3.468 | 2.07 |
| HI1500 | F_2 | 46.48 | 1.419 | -0.42 | 71.76 | 3.737 | -22.28 | 37.94 | -0.072* | -630.63 | 27.29 | 1.133 | 10.39 |
| | BC_1 | 47.45 | 1.068 | 11.97* | 60.67 | 2.181 | 117.96* | 27.34 | 0.303 | -424.37 | 15.81 | 2.984 | 5.75 |
| | BC_2 | 49.49 | 2.084 | 9.75* | 52.66 | -0.857 | 826.71*** | 27.64 | -0.548 | -578.65 | 14.42 | 2.167 | 70.48** |
| | \mathbf{P}_1 | 27.45 | 0.770 | -2.96 | 58.71 | 1.843 | -38.77 | 31.17 | -0.480* | -623.97 | 18.52 | 0.436 | 8.78 |
| 111.500 | P_2 | 42.69 | 0.426 | -3.91 | 76.15 | 3.844 | -20.43 | 29.86 | 0.247* | -633.24 | 22.45 | 0.073 | -11.63 |
| H11500 | \mathbf{F}_1 | 44.04 | 1.335 | -0.22 | 56.41 | -7.003 | 34.74 | 43.83 | -0.611* | -616.09 | 24.22 | -0.336 | 0.26 |
| А HD2868 | F_2 | 46.05 | 1.563 | 1.29 | 71.79 | 3.707 | -22.10 | 38.69 | -0.082* | -636.22 | 27.81 | 0.397 | 5.25 |
| 1122000 | BC_1 | 48.66 | 1.673 | 2.12 | 60.60 | -7.949 | 57.54 | 37.67 | -0.530* | -621.20 | 21.86 | -0.507 | 16.23 |
| | BC_2 | 48.69 | 0.565 | -3.59 | 68.42 | 9.756 | 109.09* | 26.69 | -0.436* | -626.18 | 18.90 | 0.931 | 83.72*** |
| | \mathbf{P}_1 | 37.45 | -3.895 | 30.57*** | 63.97 | -1.200 | -41.93 | 38.84 | 0.430 | -626.46 | 24.49 | -0.357 | 1.92 |
| | P_2 | 41.70 | 0.886 | -2.51 | 62.69 | 11.628 | 173.56** | 74.68 | 5.560 | 1058.42 | 23.37 | -0.050* | -11.94 |
| HI1500 | \mathbf{F}_1 | 49.29 | -1.114 | -1.47 | 65.26 | -12.12 | 192.33** | 38.57 | -1.234 | -553.05 | 23.02 | -0.776 | -8.79 |
| HD2889 | F_2 | 47.85 | 0.723 | -3.12 | 72.87 | 3.078 | -28.98 | 35.69 | -0.438* | -626.07 | 26.15 | 0.618 | 30.11* |
| | BC_1 | 46.52 | 1.108 | -1.50 | 65.25 | 4.769 | -7.59 | 70.61 | 6.598 | 1750.35 | 21.33 | -1.375 | 197.02*** |
| | BC_2 | 50.00 | 2.139 | 7.21 | 42.42 | -8.108 | 61.65 | 54.81 | 2.157 | -381.45 | 15.49 | -0.677 | 38.45* |
| | Mean | 44.94 | 1.00 | | 63.44 | 1.00 | | 40.31 | 1.00 | | 21.47 | 1.00 | |
| | S.E.(m) | 2.25 | 1.05 | | 8.03 | 4.70 | | 9.15 | 1.20 | | 3.54 | 2.81 | |

Table 4. Estimates of stability parameters for 1000 grain weight, biological yield, harvest index and grain yield per plant