

Revised Research Article

GENETIC VARIABILITY AND CHARACTER ASSOCIATION STUDIES IN FOXTAIL MILLET (*Setaria italica* L.) FOR GRAIN YIELD CHARACTERS

ABSTRACT

In this experiment, 20 different genotypes of foxtail millet were examined using correlation and path analysis in the rainy season of 2021, at the crop research farm (CRF, SHUATS) in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh and the entire experiment was set up using a completely randomized block design (RBD) with three replications. All the genotypes have shown considerable variation in their mean performance with respect to all the studied traits. The ANOVA table has demonstrated significant differences for all 12 examined variables. The observed variation is probably due to both favourable environmental factors and genotypes because PCV is just a little greater than GCV. A significant positive correlation between the examined attributes (days to 50% flowering, days to maturity, plant height, flag leaf length, flag leaf width, flag leaf area, peduncle length, panicle length, number of tillers, number of productive tillers) and the grain yield was found. A positive direct effect at the phenotypic level, research using path analysis demonstrated that the traits of panicle length, number of tillers per plant, test weight, and flag leaf length had a real relationship with grain yield per plant. It can be concluded that panicle length, number of tillers per plant, test weight, and flag leaf length serve as important traits for further breeding programs in developing high-yielding foxtail millet genotypes based on the nature and magnitude of character associations and their direct and indirect effects.

Keywords: Foxtail millet, Genetic variability, Correlation, and Path analysis.

INTRODUCTION

One of the earliest crops used for food grain, hay, and pasture is foxtail millet (*Setaria italica* (L.) Beauv). It has been farmed in China from around the sixth millennium BC, giving it the longest history of cultivation among the millets. Small millets are one of the ancient cereals that farmers still plant today, mostly in regions of the world that are prone to drought. Even in the harshest climates, they may

thrive in dry and semi-arid regions with weak soils, where no other crop can grow and provide great yields (Howarth *et al.*, 2002).

However, because of the effects of the green revolution, their cultivation is neglected and further relegated to "Orphan cereals" (Pavankumar *et al.*, 2019) (Brunda *et al.*, 2015), which caused a gap in the research. Very less research has taken place on the foxtail millet crop. Foxtail millet cannot tolerate water logging and is also susceptible to lodging at maturity. To mitigate the gap in this research has to be done in foxtail millet.

The Foxtail millet ranks second in terms of global production (Pallavi *et al.*, 2020) after finger millet among tiny millets, although this has changed recently due to high demand from health-conscious customers and its adaptability to climate-resilient cultivation. In India, foxtail millet is cultivated on 98,489 ha of land, yielding an estimated 56,327 tons of grain per hectare on average (Anonymous, 2017). It has good nutritional value; 100 grams of foxtail millet grains have 9.9 grams of protein, 72 grams of carbohydrates, 2.5 grams of fat, 3.5 grams of ash, 10 grams of crude fibre, 0.27 milligrams of potassium, 0.01 milligrams of thiamine, 0.099 milligrams of riboflavin, 0.82 milligrams of pantothenic acid, 3.70 milligrams of niacin, and 0.02 milligrams.

It has been revealed that millets, which are considered "smart foods," can enhance growth in children and adolescents by 26 to 39 percent where they replace rice in typical meals. Malnutrition is one of the key issues that is most common in underdeveloped countries worldwide. The findings imply that millets can greatly contribute to conquering hunger and that there is definitely a need for the genetic development of the rice crop because rice is one of the main food sources in all developing and impoverished countries. Being a complex character, a crop's grain yield is affected by many of its dependent traits and is regulated by polygenes as well as environmental factors. Planning a successful selection method for evolving high-yielding genotypes requires knowledge of the heredity of yield and its related qualities, heritability, estimated genetic advance, and associations between important economic factors. The presence of variability is necessary for these qualities to improve. The fundamental requirement for any crop development is variability for traits of economic significance. Breeding high-yielding varieties, either through heterosis breeding or pure line selection, is crucial for increasing grain yields. The probability of selecting a desired genotype will increase with the presence of a wider spectrum of diversity. In addition to genetic variability, understanding heritability and genetic advance evaluate the proportion of a character that is passed down to offspring, assisting the breeder in using an appropriate breeding strategy to attain the goal.

This study was started in order to get exact data on the level of natural variability in relation to several yield parameters of foxtail germplasm, and estimate the relationship between the yield and yield contributing characters using correlation coefficient analysis and path coefficient analysis.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was conducted on the Crop research fields at the field experiment centre of the Department of Genetics and Plant breeding, Naini Agricultural Institute, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, technology and sciences, Prayagraj, U.P. at 25.57° North Latitude, 81.56° North, and 98 metres above sea level. The region receives roughly 1013.4 mm of rain on average per year, with the majority falling from July to September. The 20 foxtail millet genotypes which include a check variety (Table 7) were laid out in a Randomized Block Design replicated thrice. Each genotype was sown in three rows of three meters length with a spacing of 30cm between the rows and 10cm between the plants. Data was recorded on various morphological characters such as Days to 50% flowering, Days to maturity, plant height, flag leaf length, flag leaf width, flag leaf area, panicle length, peduncle length, number of tillers, number of productive tillers, test weight, grain yield per plant. These observations were recorded on randomly selected five competitive plants per plot in each replication except for days to 50 percent flowering and days to maturity where observations were recorded on whole plot basis. In the present investigation, the foxtail millet genotypes were examined to characterize the germplasm for yield and yield contributing characters, to estimate the genetic variability among the yield and its contributing characters, and also examined the correlation and path analysis for grain yield and its contributing characters. The estimation of mean, variance and standard error were worked out by adopting the standard methods Panse and Sukhatme, (1964). Phenotypic variance and genotypic variance estimated according to the procedure given by (Burton 1952). Heritability (h^2) in the broad sense was calculated according to Burton and Devane, (1953). Genetic advance was expressed as percentage of mean by using the formula suggested by Johnson et al. (1955). The genotypic correlation between yield and its component traits and among themselves was worked out as per the methods suggested by Al-Jibouri et al., (1958). The correlation coefficient was partitioned into direct and indirect causes according to Dewey and Lu (1959).

Results and Discussion

Studies on variability among the germplasm

Genetic variability studies provide information about the genetic properties of the population. Based on the result of the genetic variability the breeding methods are formulated for further crop breeding. This study helps to know about the nature and extent of variability in the population, the effect of the environment on the characters, heritability, and the genetic advance.

In the present investigation 12 quantitative characters were observed for variability and character association among themselves. The results of quantitative characters are summarized in Table 1. The estimates of genotypic coefficient of variation, phenotypic coefficient of variation, heritability, and genetic advance as percent of mean are given in Table 2. Days to 50 percent flowering ranged from 41 to 63 days with CV of 8.51 percent. Days to maturity ranged 64 to 86 with CV of 8.18. Plant height varied from 75.85 to 152.37 with CV of 7.81. Flag leaf length varied from 23.53 to 67.79 with CV of 8.83. Flag leaf width varied from 1.31 to 2.61 with CV of 6.95. Flag leaf area ranged from 55.90 to 124.07 with a CV of 6.66. Number of tillers varied from 0.70 to 2.35 with CV of 7.11. Number of productive tillers varied from 0.75 to 2.21 with CV of 7.95. Peduncle length ranged from 5.56 to 14.37 with CV of 6.59. Panicle length ranged from 11.48 to 22.88 with CV of 7.67. Test weight ranged from 0.54 to 2.39 with CV of 7.90. Grain yield per plant varied from 2.41 to 6.07 with CV 6.92 evaluated.

In the present study, all the traits showed a narrow difference between the phenotypic coefficient of variance (PCV) and genotypic coefficient of variance (GCV) except days to 50 percent, indicating the effect of environment on the expression of the traits. The highest GCV and PCV values were recorded in test weight (37.52 percent and 38.35 percent), followed by flag leaf length (29.83 percent and 31.11 percent), and no. of productive tillers (27.65 percent and 28.78 percent), respectively. The lowest GCV and PCV values were seen in days to maturity (5.59 percent and 9.91 percent), followed by days to 50% flowering (9.62 percent and 12.84 percent). Heritability estimates for all the features ranged from 31.83 to 95.76 percent. The Test weight (95.75), No. of tillers (93.89) and Grain yield per plant (92.75) had the highest heritability, whereas the Days to 50% flowering (56.09) and days to maturity (31.83) had the lowest heritability. The highest GA was found in the Plant height (31.57) and Flag leaf area (28.23), while the lowest GA was discovered in the width of the flag leaf (0.59%).

and the number of productive tillers (0.85 percent). Highest estimates of heritability in broad sense in conjugation with high genetic advance as percent of mean were observed for test weight, flag leaf length, number of tillers, number of productive tillers, grain yield per plant, plant height, flag leaf width, flag leaf area, panicle length, and peduncle length, these are in agreement with the findings of (Brunda *et al.*, 2015).

Similar results were observed with the findings of (Nirmalakumari *et al.* 2010; Tyagi *et al.* 2011; Singamsetti *et al.* 2016; Arya *et al.* 2018; Ayesha *et al.* 2019; Venkatesh *et al.* 2020).

Studies on the Association of the characters

Several yield-contributing characteristics have an impact on grain yield, a complex trait. Therefore, adopting effective selection strategies involves knowing familiar with the extent of the genetic variability of yield-contributing traits and their connection with yield. The development of new varieties is made efficient and effective through the use of yield-attributing characters in indirect selection, which may yield better results than direct selection for yield alone. Correlation studies provide a measure of association between characters and assist in the identification of the key yield-attributing characters. In general, the correlation between yield and other characters as well as among the component characters will vary with the genotype handled by the breeder. In the present investigation, genotypic and phenotypic correlations between the traits have been studied to identify the traits that are closely related to the grain yield. In the phenotypic correlation, the characters such as plant height (0.319), flag leaf area (0.720), peduncle length (0.317), and panicle length (0.616) have shown a high significant positive correlation with the grain yield. Most of the characters had positive inter correlations with each other. In the genotypic correlation, characters such as days to 50% flowering (0.344), days to maturity (0.451), plant height (0.403), Flag leaf area (0.775), peduncle length (0.351), panicle length (0.672) have shown a high significant positive correlation with the grain yield. Similar results were reported with (Brunda *et al.* 2015; Ayesha *et al.* 2019; Kumawat *et al.* 2019; Pallavi *et al.* 2020).

The path analysis takes into account the cause-and-effect relationship between the variables by partitioning the association into direct and indirect effects through other independent variables. In the present investigation, both genotypic and phenotypic path coefficient analysis have been studied to identify the direct and indirect effects of all the traits on grain yield in both genotypic and phenotypic levels. The results of the genotypic path analysis revealed that the highest positive direct effect on the grain yield was shown by panicle length (0.9585), followed by test weight (0.818), number of tillers

(0.6654), and days to maturity (0.6258). The characters such as days to 50% flowering, flag leaf length, flag leaf width, and peduncle length have also shown a positive direct effect on grain yield per plant. Negative direct effects were shown by plant height (-0.7196), flag leaf area (-0.1541), and number of productive tillers (-0.6533). The phenotypic path analysis reveals that all the studied traits have shown positive direct effects on the grain yield per plant except for plant height (-0.2196) and number of productive tillers (-0.0999) which showed negative direct effects. The highest positive direct effect was shown by panicle length (0.444) and the lowest direct effect was shown by number of productive tillers (-0.0999). Similar results were reported with (Brunda *et al.* 2015; Brunda *et al.* 2015; Ayesha *et al.* 2019; Kumawat and Sharma 2019; Pallavi *et al.* 2020).

Conclusion

From the investigation, it is concluded that the analysis of variance showed significant variation in all the characters which give the scope for a further breeding program. Among 20 genotypes SiA 3156 (6.07), IIMR FxM-11 (5.64), TNSi 380 (4.64), and SiA 4213 (4.60) were found to be superior in grain yield when compared to the check DHFt 109-3 (3.77). High GCV, PCV, high heritability, and Genetic advance as percent mean in the present genotypes were recorded for the test weight. Grain yield per plant showed a high positive and significant correlation with flag leaf area and panicle length. The parameters like Panicle length, Test weight, Number of tillers, and Flag leaf length had positive direct effects on the grain yield per plant in the path coefficient analysis. It can therefore be concluded that traits such as flag leaf length, number of tillers, test weight and panicle length are the important yield contributing traits and has to be given due consideration in the selection program for improving grain yield characters.

References

- Amarnath, K., Prasad, A. D., and Reddy, C. C. (2018)** Character association and path analysis in foxtail millet genetic resources. *Current Advances in Agricultural Sciences, (An International Journal)*, **10**:89.
- Anuradha, N., and Patro, T. (2019)** Genetic variability, heritability and genetic advance in foxtail millet breeding lines, *International Journal of Chemical Studies*, **7**: 2967–2969.

- Arya, R., Kumar, V., and Singh, M. (2018)** Assessment of genetic variability and heritability of grain yield components in barnyard millet (*Echinochloa frumentacea*) germplasm, *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry*,**7**:46–49.
- Ayesha, M., Babu, D. R., Babu, J. D. P., and Rao, V. S. (2019)** Genetic Parameters for Grain Yield and Nutritional Quality Traits in Foxtail Millet [*Setaria italica* (L.) Beauv.], *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences*,**8**:4–9.
- Brunda, S. M., Kamatar, M. Y., Naveenkumar, K. L., and Ramaling, H. (2014)** Study of Genetic Variability, Heritability and Genetic Advance in Foxtail Millet in both Rainy and Post Rainy Season, *IOSR Journal of Agriculture and Veterinary Science*,**7**:34–37.
- Dhedhi, K. K., Ansodariya, V. V., Chaudhari, N. N., Sanghani, J. M., and Sorathiya, J. S., (2016)** Genetic Variability and Correlation Coefficient for Fodder Yield and its Components in Forage Pearl Millet Hybrids under Rainfed Conditions of Gujarat, *International Journal of Bio resource and Stress Management*,**7**(5): 970-977.
- Ganapathy, S., Nirmalakumari, A., and Muthiah, A. R. (2011)** Genetic Variability and Interrelationship Analyses for Economic Traits in Finger Millet Germplasm, *World Journal of Agricultural Sciences*,**7**(2): 185-188.
- Geethanjali, S., and Mokkaraj, J. (2016)** Genetic diversity and variability in Foxtail millet [*Setaria italica* (L.)] germplasm based on morphological traits, *Electronic Journal of Plant Breeding*,**7**:303.
- Govindaraj, M., Selvi, B., Rajarathinam, S., and Sumathi, P. (2011)** Genetic variability and heritability of grain yield components and grain mineral concentration in India's pearl millet (*Pennisetum glaucum* (L) R. Br.) accessions, *African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development*,**11**: 4758-4771.
- Jyothsna, S., Patro, T. S. S. K., Singamsetti, A., Sandhya, R. Y., and Neeraj, B. (2016)** Studies on Genetic Parameters, Character Association and Path Analysis of Yield and its Components in Finger Millet (*Eluesine Coracana* L. Gaertn), *International Journal of Theoretical and Applied Sciences*,**8**:25–30.

- Kumar, G. V., Vanaja, M., Lakshmi, N. J., and Maheswari, M. (2015)** Studies on variability, heritability and genetic advance for quantitative traits in black gram [*Vigna mungo* (L.) Hepper], *Agriculture Research Journal*, **52**: 28–31.
- Kumawat, K. R., Sharma, N. K., and Nemichand. (2019)** Genetic variability and character association analysis in pearl millet single cross hybrids under dry conditions of Rajasthan, *Electronic Journal of Plant Breeding*, **10**:1067–1070.
- Kumawat, R. L., Sharma, N. K., and Nemichand. (2019)** Genetic variability and character association analysis in pearl millet single cross hybrids under dry conditions of Rajasthan Kana, *Electronic Journal of Plant Breeding*, **10**:1067–1070.
- Suryanarayana, L., and Sekhar, D. (2018)** Studies on genetic variability, character association and path analysis in little millet (*Panicum sumatrense* L.) Genotypes, *Pharma Innovation Journal*, **7**:908–910.
- Sujatha, M., Kavya, P., Hymavathi, T. V., and Pandravada, R. (2017)** Variability Studies in Foxtail Millet [*Setaria italica* (L.) P. Beauv], *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences*, **6**:955–960.
- Ayesh, Md., Babu, D. R., Prasad Babu, J. D., and Rao, V. S. (2019)** Studies on Correlation and Path Analysis for Grain Yield and Quality Components in Foxtail Millet [*Setaria italica* (L.) Beauv.], *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences*, **8**:2173–2179.
- Nirmalakumari, A., Veerabadhiran, P., and Salini, K. (2010)** Morphological Characterization and Evaluation of Little millet (*Panicum sumatrense*) Germplasm, *Electronic Journal of Plant Breeding*, **1**:148–155.
- Nirmalakumari, A., and Vetriventhan, M., (2010)** Characterization of foxtail millet germplasm collections for yield contributing traits, *Electronic Journal of Plant Breeding*, **1**:140–147.
- Pallavi, N., Venkatesh, R., Ram, B., and Suresh, B. G. (2020)** Studies on correlation and path coefficient analysis in foxtail millet [*Setaria italica* (L.) BEAUV], *International Journal of Chemical Studies*, **8**:1941–1946.
- Prasanna, L. (2013)** Nature of gene action for yield and yield components in exotic genotypes of Italian millet [*Setaria italica* (L.) Beauv], *Journal of Plant Breeding and Crop Sciences*, **5**:80–84.

- Shingane, S., Gomashe, S., Ganapathy, K. N., and Patil, J. V. (2016)** Genetic variability and association analysis for grain yield and nutritional quality in foxtail millet, *International Journal of Bio-Resources and Stress Management*, **7**:1239–1243.
- Singamsetti, A., Jyothsna, S., Patro, T. S. S. K., and Divya, M. (2016)** STUDIES ON GENETIC PARAMETERS, CORRELATION AND PATH ANALYSIS FOR GRAIN YIELD AND ITS COMPONENTS IN FOXTAIL MILLET (*Setaria italica*), *Progressive Research - An International Journal*, **11**(3): 300-303.
- Singh, D., Marker S., Suresh, B. G., and Lawrence, K. (2021)** Under Rainfed Effect of Foxtail Millet [*Setaria italica* (L.) beauv] Germplasms Evaluation on Genotypic Variance, Correlation and Path Analysis, *Indian Journal of Agricultural Research*, **56**(2): 141-146.
- Brunda, S. M., Kamatar, M., Hundekar, R., and Naveenkumar. (2015)** Studies on correlation and path analysis in foxtail millet genotypes [*Setaria italica* (L.) P. B.], *Green Farming*, **5**: 966-969.
- Brunda, S. M., Kamatar, M., Kumar, K. L., Naveen., Ramaling, H., and Sowmya, H. (2015)** EVALUATION OF FOXTAIL MILLET (*Setaria italica*) GENOTYPES FOR GRAIN YIELD AND BIOPHYSICAL TRAITS, *Journal of Global Bioscience*, **4**(5): 2412-2149.
- Dhanalakshmi, Tn., Ramesh, S., Ravishankar, Cr., Gangappa, E., and Jayarame, G. Sk. (2013)** GENETIC VARIABILITY FOR MORPHO-AGRONOMIC TRAITS IN CORE GERMPLASM COLLECTIONS OF FINGER MILLET (*Eleusine coracana* (L.) GAERTN), *Global Journal of Biology, Agriculture and Health Sciences*, **2**: 83–85.
- Tyagi, V., Ramesh, B., Kumar, D., and Pal, S. (2011)** Genetic architecture of yield contributing traits in foxtail millet (*Setaria italica*), *Current Advances in Agricultural Sciences*, **3**:29–32.
- Venkatesh, R., Pallavi, N. L., Rasm, B. J., and Suresh, B. G. (2020)** Genetic Divergence Analysis in the Foxtail Millet (*Seteria italica*) Germplasm as Determined by Phenotypical Traits, *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences*, **9**:1119–1127.
- Vetriventhan, M., and Nirmalakumari, A. (2010)** Characterization of foxtail millet germplasm collections for yield contributing traits, *Electron Journal of Plant Breeding*, **1**:140–147.
- Yogeesh, L. N., Shankar, K. A., Prashant, S. M., and Lokesh, G. Y. (2015)** GENETIC VARIATION AND MORPHOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN FOXTAIL MILLET, *International Journal of Science, Environment and Technology*, **4**(6): 1496-1502.

UNDER PEER REVIEW

Table1:Mean performances of 20 foxtail millet genotypes for 12 quantitative traits

S.No.	Genotypes	DF 50%	DM	PH (cm)	FLL (cm)	FLW (cm)	FLA	NTT	NPT	PeL (cm)	PL (cm)	Tw (g)	GYP (g)
1	GPUF 16	53	80	124.46	67.79	1.63	80.75	1.49	1.36	10.84	17.79	1.14	4.09
2	IIMR FxM-9	48	72	152.37	32.82	1.42	78.81	1.23	1.09	10.81	15.72	2.38	2.41
3	SiA 4201	41	64	75.85	23.53	1.80	73.33	0.7	0.75	13.15	13.88	1.14	2.46
4	CRS FxM 3	52	81	91.14	30.52	1.30	74.29	2.27	1.97	6.90	16.38	0.77	3.03
5	BUFTM 82	63	81	128.77	29.59	1.59	75.38	2.17	2.16	11.43	16.25	1.60	3.97
6	CRS FXM 4	53	86	118.84	28.67	1.41	74.70	2.34	2.21	8.93	16.16	0.82	3.27
7	DHFt 20-3	53	67	141.98	34.80	1.74	87.89	1.95	1.80	11.83	19.24	1.35	3.45
8	IIMR FxM-8	54	71	101.28	25.69	2.27	55.90	2.12	2.11	5.56	11.48	1.17	2.48
9	IIMR FxM-11	50	83	133.99	30.15	2.11	98.77	1.46	1.01	12.57	18.76	1.60	5.64
10	BUFTM 98	49	76	129.01	37.37	1.56	86.97	1.76	1.27	12.77	16.38	2.15	4.48
11	TNSi 380	52	82	144.31	31.89	1.53	83.63	1.09	1.09	8.53	19.48	1.84	4.64

Df50 %- Days to 50% Flowering, DM- Days to Maturity, PH- Plant Height, FLL-Flag Leaf Length, FLW- Flag Leaf Width, FLA- Flag Leaf Area, PeL- Peduncle Length, PL-Panicle Length, NTT- Number of Total Tillers, NPT- No. of Productive Tillers, TW- Test Weight, GYP- GrainYieldPerPlant.

Table 1(continued)

S.No.	Genotypes	DF 50%	DM	PH(cm)	FLL (cm)	FLW (cm)	FLA	NTT	NPT	PeL (cm)	PL (cm)	Tw (g)	GYP (g)
12	DHFt-20-153	56	80	120.17	25.96	1.59	68.98	1.13	1.28	8.71	20.53	0.53	3.10
13	TNPSi 382	56	77	104.53	54.63	1.54	56.71	1.11	1.42	9.46	13.82	1.62	3.45
14	SiA 3156	63	75	123.83	38.95	1.88	124.07	2.01	1.80	10.43	22.87	1.01	6.07
15	TNSi 385	62	83	121.11	32.58	2.60	96.39	1.48	1.46	9.42	16.28	1.37	3.99
16	IIMR FxM-7	46	76	126.72	27.38	1.49	86.30	1.80	1.56	12.25	17.16	1.39	3.91
17	SiA 4213	49	75	121.51	36.10	1.62	79.75	1.96	1.80	14.37	19.27	1.24	4.60
18	IIMR FxM-6	52	78	113.35	30.07	1.52	71.62	2.23	2.15	9.54	15.47	2.08	3.89
19	IIMR FxM-10	52	76	128.48	28.59	1.71	83.00	1.49	1.37	8.71	14.65	2.38	4.11
20	DHFt 109-3(check)	63	83	140.18	35.04	1.66	90.18	1.42	1.22	11.31	15.51	0.79	3.77
	Mean	53	77	122.10	34.11	1.70	81.36	1.66	1.55	10.38	16.86	1.42	3.84
Range	Minimum	41	64	75.85	23.53	1.31	55.90	0.70	0.75	5.56	11.48	0.54	2.41
	Maximum	63	86	152.37	67.79	2.61	124.07	2.35	2.21	14.37	22.88	2.39	6.07
	CV	8.51	8.18	7.81	8.83	6.95	6.66	7.11	7.95	6.59	7.67	7.90	6.92
	Sem	2.63	3.66	5.50	1.74	0.07	3.13	0.07	0.07	0.39	0.75	0.06	0.15
	CD	7.54	10.48	15.75	4.98	0.20	8.96	0.20	0.20	1.13	2.14	0.19	0.44

Df50 %- Days to 50% Flowering, DM- Days to Maturity, PH- Plant Height, FLL-Flag Leaf Length, FLW- Flag Leaf Width, FLA- Flag Leaf Area, PeL- Peduncle Length, PL-Panicle Length, NTT- Number of Total Tillers, NPT- No. of Productive Tillers, TW- Test Weight, GYP- GrainYieldPerPlant.

Table 2: Genetic parameters for 12 quantitative characters in 20 Foxtail genotypes evaluated during kharif-2021

S.No.	Traits	GCV	PCV	h^2 (Broad Sense)	GA	GAM
1	Day to fifty percent flowering	9.62	12.84	56.09	7.96	14.84
2	Days to maturity	5.59	9.91	31.83	5.04	6.50
3	Plant height	14.30	16.29	77.05	31.57	25.86
4	Flag leaf length	29.83	31.11	91.94	20.09	58.91
5	Flag leaf width	17.91	19.21	86.92	0.59	34.39
6	Flag leaf Area	17.96	19.16	87.90	28.23	34.69
7	Number of tillers	27.90	28.79	93.89	0.93	55.69
8	Number of productive tillers	27.65	28.78	92.36	0.85	54.75
9	Peduncle length	20.74	21.77	90.83	4.23	40.73
10	Panicle length	14.95	16.80	79.18	4.62	27.40
11	Test weight	37.52	38.35	95.76	1.08	75.64
12	Grain yield per plant	24.74	25.69	92.75	1.89	49.08

GCV=Genotypic Coefficient of Variation, PCV=Phenotypic Coefficient of Variation,

h^2 =Heritability, GA=Genetic Advance, GAM=Genetic

Advance as Mean %

Table 3: Phenotypic correlation of 20 foxtail genotypes for 12 grain yield traits

Characters	DM	PH	FLL	FLW	FLA	NTT	NPT	PeL	PL	TW	GYP
Df50%	0.393*	0.264*	0.1449	0.2171	0.2103	0.2370	0.278*	-0.267*	0.1240	-0.2166	0.2252
DM	1.0000	0.2247	0.1030	-0.0509	0.1040	0.0944	0.0830	-0.2033	0.1576	-0.1310	0.2397
PH		1.0000	0.0888	-0.0819	0.379*	-0.0057	-0.1600	0.1780	0.351*	0.355*	0.319*
FLL			1.0000	-0.0950	0.0423	-0.1145	-0.0968	0.1029	0.1026	0.0015	0.2070
FLW				1.0000	0.2423	-0.1086	-0.0798	-0.0768	-0.0982	-0.0547	0.1514
FLA					1.0000	0.0476	-0.1804	0.334*	0.592**	-0.0142	0.720**
NTT						1.0000	0.878**	-0.1982	0.0443	-0.1380	0.1318
NPT							1.0000	-0.320*	-0.0678	-0.1922	-0.0424
PeL								1.0000	0.264*	0.1275	0.317*
PL									1.0000	-0.2330	0.616**
TW										1.0000	0.1106

*, ** indicate significance at 5% and 1% at the level of significance, respectively

Df50 %- Days To 50% Flowering, DM- Days to Maturity, PH- Plant Height, FLL-Flag Leaf Length, FLW- Flag Leaf Width, FLA- Flag Leaf Area, PeL- Peduncle length, PL- Panicle Length, NTT- Number of Total Tillers, NPT- No. of Productive Tillers, TW- Test Weight, GYP- Grain Yield Per Plant.

Table 4: Genotypical correlation coefficient of 20 foxtail millet genotypes for yield and its related traits

Characters	DM	PH	FLL	FLW	FLA	NTT	NPT	PeL	PL	TW	GYP
Df50%	0.634**	0.2296	0.2083	0.369*	0.332*	0.279*	0.421**	-0.328*	0.2518	-0.313*	0.344*
DM	1.0000	0.337*	0.1323	-0.0838	0.1644	0.302*	0.2394	-0.311*	0.2496	-0.260*	0.451**
PH		1.0000	0.1221	-0.0820	0.464**	-0.0302	-0.1468	0.264*	0.469**	0.400*	0.403*
FLL			1.0000	-0.1221	0.0298	-0.1287	-0.0929	0.1284	0.1297	0.0058	0.2341
FLW				1.0000	0.287*	-0.0983	-0.1010	-0.0939	-0.0975	-0.0767	0.1971
FLA					1.0000	0.0612	-0.1713	0.394*	0.717**	-0.0037	0.775**
NTT						1.0000	0.940**	-0.1980	0.0428	-0.1263	0.1409
NPT							1.0000	-0.380*	-0.0488	-0.2025	-0.0373
PeL								1.0000	0.319*	0.1416	0.351*
PL									1.0000	-0.2529	0.672**
TW										1.0000	0.1239

*, **indicates significance at 5% and 1% at the level of significance, respectively

Df50 %- Days To 50% Flowering, DM- Days to Maturity, PH- Plant Height, FLL-Flag Leaf Length, FLW- Flag Leaf Width, FLA- Flag Leaf Area, PeL- Peduncle Length, PL- Panicle Length, NTT- Number of Total Tillers, NPT- No. of Productive Tillers, TW- Test Weight, GYP- Grain Yield Per Plant.

Table 5: Genotypical path coefficient analysis of 20 foxtail millet genotypes for yield and its related traits

Characters	Df50%	DM	PH (cm)	FLL (cm)	FLW (cm)	FLA	NTT	NPT	PeL(cm)	PL (cm)	TW (g)	GYP
Df50%	0.239	0.1515	0.0549	0.0498	0.0882	0.0793	0.0668	0.1006	-0.0784	0.0602	-0.0748	0.344*
DM	0.3967	0.6258	0.2107	0.0828	-0.0524	0.1029	0.1887	0.1498	-0.1947	0.1562	-0.163	0.451**
PH (cm)	-0.1652	-0.2423	-0.7196	-0.0878	0.059	-0.3338	0.0217	0.1057	-0.1899	-0.3372	-0.2874	0.403*
FLL (cm)	0.0179	0.0114	0.0105	0.0861	-0.0105	0.0026	-0.0111	-0.008	0.0111	0.0112	0.0005	0.2341
FLW (cm)	0.1279	-0.029	-0.0284	-0.0423	0.3465	0.0995	-0.0341	-0.035	-0.0325	-0.0338	-0.0266	0.1971
FLA	-0.0512	-0.0253	-0.0715	-0.0046	-0.0443	-0.1541	-0.0094	0.0264	-0.0608	-0.1105	0.0006	0.775**
NTT	0.1858	0.2006	-0.0201	-0.0856	-0.0654	0.0407	0.6654	0.6251	-0.1317	0.0285	-0.084	0.1409
NPT	-0.2748	-0.1564	0.0959	0.0607	0.066	0.1119	-0.6138	-0.6533	0.2481	0.0319	0.1323	-0.0373
PeL(cm)	-0.1175	-0.1115	0.0946	0.046	-0.0337	0.1413	-0.071	-0.1362	0.3585	0.1143	0.0508	0.351*
PL (cm)	0.2414	0.2393	0.4492	0.1243	-0.0935	0.6872	0.041	-0.0468	0.3056	0.9585	-0.2424	0.672**
TW (g)	-0.256	-0.213	0.3268	0.0048	-0.0628	-0.003	-0.1033	-0.1657	0.1158	-0.2069	0.818	0.1239
GYP	0.344*	0.451**	0.403*	0.2341	0.1971	0.775**	0.1409	-0.0373	0.351*	0.672**	0.1239	1.0000

*, **indicate significance at 5% and 1% level of significance, respectively

Df50 %- Days To 50% Flowering, DM- Days to Maturity, PH- Plant Height, FLL-Flag Leaf Length, FLW- Flag Leaf Width, FLA- Flag Leaf Area, PeL- Peduncle Length, PL-Panicle Length, NTT- Number of Total Tillers, NPT- No. of Productive Tillers, TW- Test Weight, GYP- Grain Yield Per Plant.

Table 6: Phenotypical path coefficient analysis of 20 foxtail millet genotypes for yield and its related traits

Characters	Df50%	DM	PH	FLL	FLW	FLA	NT	NPT	PeL	PL	TW	GYPP
Df50%	0.11	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	-0.03	0.01	-0.02	0.23
DM	0.07	0.19	0.04	0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	-0.04	0.03	-0.02	0.24
PH	-0.06	-0.05	-0.22	-0.02	0.02	-0.08	0.00	0.04	-0.04	-0.08	-0.08	0.319*
FLL	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.15	-0.01	0.01	-0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.21
FLW	0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.13	0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.15
FLA	0.08	0.04	0.15	0.02	0.09	0.39	0.02	-0.07	0.13	0.23	-0.01	0.720**
NTT	0.06	0.02	0.00	-0.03	-0.03	0.01	0.24	0.21	-0.05	0.01	-0.03	0.13
NPT	-0.03	-0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.09	-0.10	0.03	0.01	0.02	-0.04
PeL	-0.04	-0.03	0.03	0.01	-0.01	0.05	-0.03	-0.05	0.14	0.04	0.02	0.317*
PL	0.06	0.07	0.16	0.05	-0.04	0.26	0.02	-0.03	0.12	0.44	-0.10	0.616**
TW	-0.08	-0.05	0.12	0.00	-0.02	0.00	-0.05	-0.07	0.04	-0.08	0.35	0.11

*, **indicate significance at 5% and 1% at the level of significance, respectively

Df50 %- Days To 50% Flowering, DM- Days to Maturity, PH- Plant Height, FLL-Flag Leaf Length, FLW- Flag Leaf Width, FLA- Flag Leaf Area, PeL- Peduncle Length, PL-Panicle Length, NTT- Number of Total Tillers, NPT- No. of Productive Tillers, TW- Test Weight, GYP- Grain Yield Per Plant.

Table 7: List of genotypes

S.No.	Genotype	S.No.	Genotype
1	TNSi 380	11	TNPSi-382
2	IIMR FxM-6	12	TNSi 385
3	IIMR FxM-7	13	DHFt 20-3
4	CRS FxM-3	14	DHFt 20-153
5	CRS FxM-4	15	SiA 4201
6	IIMR FxM-8	16	SiA 4213
7	IIMR FxM-9	17	BUFTM 82
8	IIMR FxM-10	18	BUFTM 98
9	IIMR FxM-11	19	SiA 3156
10	GPUF 16	20	DHFt 109-3(check)