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Performance of Intra-Hirsutum F1 Hybrids (*Gossypium hirsutum* L.)

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Abstract: Six intra specific F1 hybrids of *Gossypium hirsutum* L. cultivars were studied for the manifestation of heterosis in seed cotton yield, bolls per plant, boll weight, ginning out turn percentage and staple length. The data showed significant differences between mid parents and F1 hybrids for all the traits studied. The maximum positive heterotic response of F1 hybrids over mid and better parents, respectively were 139.0 and 120.0% for seed cotton yield, 119.2 and 81.1% for number of bolls, 3.4 over better parent and -6.3% over mid parent, and 6.3% for boll weight, 5.7 and 2.3% for ginning out turn percentage and 5.7 and 3.7% for staple length.

Key words: Heterosis, intra specific, F1 hybrids and *G. hirsutum* L.

Introduction

Cotton plant can be grown as pure varieties or hybrids, specially F1. In country like Pakistan, growing pure varieties is a traditional method whereas hybrids can be an alternative approach. F1 hybrids which manifest heterosis for yield and many other traits are developed by crossing selected male and female parents. Thus, it becomes imperative for hybrid cotton development that parents be identified which in cross combinations manifest high magnitude of heterosis. In inter specific crosses, Baloch *et al.* (1993) recorded maximum mid parent heterosis of 20.62 in yield, 19.3 in boll per plant, 15.22 in boll weight, 3.25 in lint %, and 7.63% in staple length. The feasibility of economic heterosis either in intra or inter specific hybrids of *Gossypium* is only possible at commercial level where man-power is cheaper for making hand pollination (Khan and Khan 1979; Salam 1991 and Baloch *et al.*, 1993).

In the exploitation of heterosis for quantity traits like seed cotton yield of crop can be significantly improved. Choudhry *et al.* (1978), Bhatade *et al.* (1980), Khajjidani *et al.* (1984), Khan *et al.* (1984), Khan and Aslam (1986) and Mahmood *et al.* (1987) observed significant heterosis for seed and lint indices and seed cotton yield. An average heterosis of 4.2% in yield over mid parent and several hybrids over better parents have also been reported by Baloch *et al.* (1993), Chang *et al.* (2001). The first step towards the development of commercial hybrid cotton is to exploit best parents among hundreds which in F1 combination may express high degree of heterosis in the desired economical and developmental characters. For commercial success of F1 hybrids, they ought to manifest 25 to 50% increase in yields, 1 to 20% increase in ginning out turn percentage, and 29.5 to 34.4% in staple length as compared to commercial varieties (Baloch *et al.*, 1994). Thus the present study was aimed to evaluate the amount of the heterosis manifested in intra specific hybrids of *Gossypium hirsutum* L.

Materials and Methods

The studies were carried out to determine the magnitude of heterosis in six intra hirsutum F1 hybrids. All the six crosses along with their respective parents were sown in a Randomized Complete Block Design with four replications at Central Cotton Research Institute, Sakrand. The row to row and plant to plant distances were 2.5 feet and one foot, respectively and the length of row was 25 feet. At maturity, ten central plants from each repeat of each genotype were taken as experimental units, where as one plant on either side of the rows was treated as discard. Thus total of 40 plants from each genotype were taken as index plants for recording the data on yield of seed cotton per plant in grams, a number of bolls per plant, boll weight in gm, ginning out turn percentage and staple length measured in millimeters. The data were subjected to analysis of variance by Steel and Torrie (1980). Heterosis was calculated as percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) of F1 hybrid over mid and better parent values.

Results and Discussion

The analysis of variance yielded highly significant differences among F1s and their parents for all the characters (Table 1).

Seed cotton yield per plant (gm): The data (Table 2) revealed that all the hybrids showed an appreciable amount of heterosis over mid and better parents. The magnitude of heterosis when compared with mid parents ranged from 17.4% (CRIS-52 X CRIS-121) to 139.0% (CIM-240 X CRIS-121), while comparing with better parents, these values varied from 9.2% (CRIS-52 X CRIS-121) to 120.0% (CIM-240 X CRIS-121). A remarkable degree of heterosis has been observed for this character is also supported with the findings of Ali and Khan (1983), Khan *et al.* (1984;1985), Khan and Aslam (1986) and Keerio *et al.* (1996)

Table 1: Mean squares from analysis of variance for different characters

Source of variation	d.f	Mean squares				
		Yield per plant	No. of bolls per plant	Boll weight	Ginning out turn (%)	Staple length
Replications	3	221.4	25.6	0.04	0.5	0.2
Hybrids and parents	13	3702.5**	538.9**	0.4**	6.3**	3.0**
Error	39	257.0	54.7	0.05	0.2	0.7*

* and ** Significant at 5 and 1% level of probability

Table 2: Heterosis performance of F1 hybrids against their mid and better parents

Name of character	Name of hybrid	Mother parent	Pollen parent	Mid parent	F1 hybrid	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) of F1 over	
						Mid parent	Better parent
Seed cotton yield (gm)	CRIS-52 x CRIS121	60.7	65.8	63.3	74.3	17.4	12.9
	CRIS-52 x CRIS-122	60.7	45.8	53.2	66.3	24.6	9.2
	CRIS-54 x CRIS-121	56.0	65.8	60.9	100.4	65.0	52.06
	PD-4548 x CRIS-121	69.0	65.8	67.7	130.4	93.0	87.6
	CRIS-7A x CIM-109	71.8	62.6	67.2	115.4	71.7	60.7
	CIM-240 x CRIS-121	55.5	65.8	60.6	144.8	139.0	120.0

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Table 2: Continued

No. of bolls per plant	CRIS-52 x CRIS121	18.4	21.0	19.7	30.3	53.8	44.3
	CRIS-52 x CRIS-122	18.4	21.1	19.7	25.0	26.3	18.4
	CRIS-54 x CRIS-121	17.5	21.0	19.3	36.0	86.5	71.4
	PD-4548 x CRIS-121	27.4	21.0	24.2	44.5	83.9	62.4
	CRIS-7A x CIM-109	20.9	21.5	21.2	37.8	78.3	75.8
	CIM-240 x CRIS-121	32.2	21.0	26.6	58.3	119.2	81.1
	CRIS-52 x CRIS121	3.5	3.2	3.4	2.5	26.5	-28.6
Boll weight (gm)	CRIS-52 x CRIS-122	3.5	3.1	3.3	2.7	18.2	-22.9
	CRIS-54 x CRIS-121	3.5	3.2	3.4	2.8	17.6	-20.0
	PD-4548 x CRIS-121	2.5	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.4	-6.3
	CRIS-7A x CIM-109	3.5	2.9	3.1	3.0	3.3	-14.0
	CIM-240 x CRIS-121	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.9	3.2	-9.4
	CRIS-52 x CRIS121	31.3	35.1	33.2	35.1	5.7	0.0
	CRIS-52 x CRIS-122	31.3	35.2	33.3	34.6	3.9	-1.7
Ginning out turn %age	CRIS-54 x CRIS-121	33.0	35.1	34.3	34.6	1.8	-1.4
	PD-4548 x CRIS-121	33.8	35.1	34.5	34.1	-1.2	-2.8
	CRIS-7A x CIM-109	33.2	35.4	34.3	36.2	5.5	2.3
	CIM-240 x CRIS-121	34.5	35.1	34.8	35.4	1.7	0.9
	CRIS-52 x CRIS121	25.6	26.1	25.9	26.9	3.9	3.1
	CRIS-52 x CRIS-122	25.6	27.1	26.4	28.9	5.7	3.0
	CRIS-54 x CRIS-121	25.6	26.1	25.9	26.5	2.3	1.5
Staple length (mm)	PD-4548 x CRIS-121	28.3	26.1	27.3	26.8	-1.5	-3.9
	CRIS-7A x CIM-109	26.2	27.4	26.8	27.0	0.7	-1.5
	CIM-240 x CRIS-121	26.7	26.1	26.4	27.4	3.8	3.7

Number of bolls per plant: For number of bolls per plant, heterosis was observed in all the hybrids when compared with mid and better parents. The data (Table 2) shows that the magnitude of heterosis over mid parents ranges from 26.3% (CRIS-52 X CRIS-122) to 119.2% (CIM-240 X CRIS-121), while against better parents, heterosis ranged from 18.5% (CRIS-52 X CRIS-122) to 81.1% (CIM-240 X CRIS-121). It is also noted that maximum heterosis in both number of bolls and seed cotton yield was manifested by CIM-240 X CRIS-121 hybrid. It complied that the plants showing more heterosis for number of bolls, also yield more. This confirms it with the findings of Khan *et al.*, 1979;1980.

Boll weight (gm): There is significant difference in boll weight amongst hybrids and their parents (Table 2). Only one hybrid (PD-4548 x CIM-121) gave positive heterosis over mid parents. This confirms it with the findings of Nasir *et al.* (1978), Khan *et al.* (1980) and Mukhtiar *et al.* (2000).

Ginning out turn percentage: The differences in ginning our turn percentage between hybrids and parental values were highly significant (Table 2). Results further show that except PD-4548 X CRIS-121 which manifested negative heterosis (-1.2%) all the other hybrids gave positive heterosis over their mid parent values. However, hybrids, (CRIS-7A x CIM-109) and (CIM-240 x CRIS-121) gave positive heterosis of 2.3% and 0.9% over their better parents respectively. Where as other hybrids gave negative heterosis. These findings are in conformity with those of Khan *et al.* (1978), Nasir *et al.* (1978), Khan *et al.* (1980) and Soomro (1999).

Staple length (mm): Regarding staple length, it is clear from Table 2 that all the hybrids except PD-4548 x CRIS-121, gave positive heterosis over mid parent and the values range from 0.7% (CRIS-7a X CIM-109) to 5.7% (CRIS-52 X CRIS-122) but for better parents, this value varied from 1.5 (CRIS-54 X RIS-121) to 3.7% (CIM-240 X CRIS-121) Hybrid has also been observed in this character by Khan *et al.* (1978), Nasir *et al.* (1978), Khan (1979).

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