Genetic variability and correlation studies in Okra (Abelmoschus escutentus (L) Moench.)

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ABSTRACT
Genetic Variability and Correlation Studies in Okra (Abelmoschus escutentus (L) Moench.) indicated that presence of considerable amount of genetic variability in the materials as well as of genotypic and phenotypic correlation among the various characters studied. The estimate of high heritability (hs) accompanied with high-expected genetic advance for fruit yield plant\(^{-1}\) and plant height indicating the presence of additive gene action in the expression of these traits. The estimates of heritability (hs) were of high magnitude for green fruit yield plant\(^{-1}\), plant height at harvest, days to maturity and number of internode plant\(^{-1}\) indicating the major role of genotype and ultimately less environmental influence. The magnitudinal difference between PCV and GCV estimate was maximum for fruit length, number of fruits plant\(^{-1}\) and fruit girth, and suggesting influence of environment on these traits. Days to 50 percent flowering and days to maturity are most important traits for exploiting earliness, which are significantly associated. Thus for increasing green fruit yield in okra due emphasis should be given to number of fruits, number of internodes, plant height and fruit length. All these characters had high heritability and highly significant positive association with fruit yield, which can be increased through selection in okra.