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### Performance, Manifestation of Heterosis and Combining Ability for Growth, Productivity and Fruit Quality of Indeterminate Tomato



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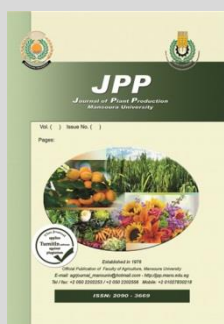
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#### ABSTRACT

Six parental lines of indeterminate tomato were used in half diallel model to study performance, degree of heterosis and combining ability. This study was conducted at the Experimental Farm, Faculty of Environmental Agricultural Sciences, Arish University during two successive seasons of 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. Results revealed that the parental lines IRS-43-2, VR-6 and VL-5-4 exhibited the best values for most studied characters, however the cross combinations IRS-43-2 x VR-6, IR-44-2 x VR-6 and VR-6 x VL-5-4 were the best among the crosses. Hybrid vigour was observed in many traits, the significant positive heterosis over the check hybrid was detected in all characters and the highest values were reflected by the crosses VR-6 x VL-5-4 for growth traits and IRS-43-2 x VR-6 for early yield, total yield and Vit. C content. Variances of combining ability and genetic components revealed that additive gene action played the main role in the inheritance of fruit set percentage, total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, average fruit weight, fruit shape and Vit. C. Based on GCA effects, the good combiner was VL-5-4, for growth traits; IRS-43-2 and VR-6 for early yield, total yield, number of locules, and Vit. C. The highly significant positive values of SCA effects observed in crosses VR-6 x VL-5-4 for growth traits and Vit. C; IRS-43-2 x VL-5-4 for early yield; and IR-44-1 x VL-7-4 for total yield and average fruit weight. Three promising crosses (IRS-43-2 x VR-6; IR-44-2 x VR-6; VR-6 x VL-5-4) could be used commercially as local hybrids after testing in multi locations and seasons.

**Keywords:** indeterminate tomato, half diallel, heterosis, combining ability, gene action.



#### INTRODUCTION

Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.) occupies an important situation among solanaceous and fruit vegetable crops due to its economic and nutritional value. Its fruits are rich in substances like minerals, organic acid, sugar and vitamins; therefore, it is considered as protective food. Moreover, the demand of indeterminate tomato F<sub>1</sub> hybrids have increased due to the previous benefits in addition to the national projects of horizontal expansion and one hundred thousand greenhouse that adopted by government.

Successful cultivation of indeterminate tomato under greenhouses required choosing the suitable hybrids. Producing new hybrids and/or cultivars of tomato characterized by vigorous growth, high production, and quality traits that could be essentially in any breeding program to meet the increasing demand for tomato by farmers, consumers and processors (Radzevicius *et al.*, 2013).

In self fertilization crops, heterosis breeding is apparently the probably method for improving productivity. Heterosis pointed to the superiority of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids over mid-parents, better parent and best commercial hybrid for one or more traits. Expression of heterosis depends upon some factors, viz., heterozygosity, allelic and non-allelic interaction and over dominance. So, heterosis increases as a result of higher number of heterozygous alleles (East and Hayes, 1912). Furthermore, studies of heterosis are useful in giving an idea about types of gene action which in turn can be exploit further for

improvement of important characters (Jain and Sastry, 2012; Kansouh, 2014a)

Heterosis phenomenon was investigated on tomato by many researchers. Mid parent, better parent and check hybrid heterosis were observed for plant height and total yield (Marbhal *et al.*, 2016; Sahu *et al.*, 2016), for Vit. C content (Kumari and Manish, 2011). Heterosis over the better parent was also found for leaves number and total yield (Khalil and Mahmoud, 2019), for early and total yield (Mahmoud and El-Eslamboly, 2014; Mahmoud, 2015), for average fruit weight (Garg *et al.*, 2008; Farzane *et al.*, 2012; Islam *et al.*, 2012). However, many tomato breeders reported that no heterosis over the better parent for average fruit weight was detected (Solieman *et al.*, 2013; Kansouh, 2014b; Mahmoud and El-Eslamboly, 2014; Mahmoud, 2015; Khalil and Mahmoud, 2019), where they showed partial dominance toward the parents produced small fruits.

In past, many plant breeders studied varied crops and noticed that, performance of parents is not constantly a true guide of its potential in cross combination. Therefore, the study of combining ability is an appropriate tool to give information about the best parent that combine with another parent to produce new potential and productive populations. General GCA and specific SCA combining ability aid the breeder to select the parents for hybridization programs, as well as to isolate the superior genotypes in segregation populations and also give idea on type of gene action.

Information about nature and magnitude of gene action (fixable and non-fixable) that controlled the

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important traits is essential to formulate the suitable breeding strategy to achieve genetic improvement of tomato crop. Griffing (1956) studied the relationship between different components of variances of general and specific combining ability, where GCA pointed to additive variance and interallelic interaction (addi. x addi.), however, SCA pointed to dominance (non-additive) and epistatic variance. Several studies on combining ability of tomato revealed predominance of non-additive gene action such as reported by Saleem *et al.*, (2009), Rajkumar *et al.*, (2018) and Vekariya *et al.*, (2019), for plant height; Kansouh and Zakher (2011), Aminu and Mala (2015) and Khalil and Mahmoud (2019), for number of leaves; Vekariya *et al.*, (2019), for fruit shape index. However, another studies revealed that additive gene effects played the main role in the inheritance as reported by Garg *et al.* (2008), Kumar *et al.*, (2013), Shanker *et al.* (2013) and Al-Daej (2018), for average fruit weight; Droka *et al.* (2012), for total yield and Vit. C content; and Shende *et al.* (2012) for total yield; Mahmoud and El-Eslamboly (2014) and Khalil and Mahmoud (2019), for early yield, total yield and average fruit weight.

So far, no such researches were done with regard to producing indeterminate tomato F<sub>1</sub> hybrids under greenhouse in Egypt. Hence, the present research aimed to study performance, heterosis and combining ability for some important traits. Also, determine the promising F<sub>1</sub> hybrids suitable for greenhouse cultivation in Egypt.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present investigation was carried out in a plastic greenhouse at The Experimental Farm, Faculty of Environmental Agriculture Science, Arish University during successive seasons of 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. The genetic materials consisted of six lines of indeterminate tomato (IRS-43-2 (P<sub>1</sub>), IR-44-1(P<sub>2</sub>), IR-44-2 (P<sub>3</sub>), VR-6(P<sub>4</sub>), VL-5-4 (P<sub>5</sub>) and VL-7-4(P<sub>6</sub>)) which were chosen from breeding program started from 2012/2013 to 2017/2018 to develop some new indeterminate tomato lines (Mahmoud and Khalil, 2019). Parental lines were crossed in 6x6 half-diallel mating system to develop 15 F<sub>1</sub> hybrids during 2018/2019. The parents and their F<sub>1</sub> hybrids as well as "Myla F<sub>1</sub>" (Syngenta Co.) as check hybrid was evaluated during 2019/2020 in a randomized complete blocks design in three replications. Drip irrigation system was used, each plot had one bed (1.5 m width x 8 m length) which had two dripper lines at 40 cm apart, while the distance between plants in the same row was 50 cm. Transplants were transplanted at 1<sup>st</sup> November in 2019/2020. The soil of experiment was sandy loam with pH of 8.0 and EC of 1.10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, however irrigation water has EC of 5.88 dSm<sup>-1</sup> and PH of 7.17. All agriculture practices were done according to that recommended for tomato production under plastic greenhouse.

Data were recorded on ten randomly chosen plants for plant height and number of leaves/plant (keeping in mind all genotypes are indeterminate growth habit and need to remove all axillary shoots constantly). Fruit set percentage as average of the first four clusters. Early yield plant<sup>-1</sup> from the first three pickings and total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>

for all pickings. However, average fruit weight was calculated by dividing total yield on total fruit number. Five fruits were taken randomly to measure fruit shape index (L/D), number of locules fruit<sup>-1</sup> and Vit. C content as described in A.O.A.C. (1990).

The obtained data were analyzed for variance using MSTATC V.2.10 and means were compared according to Duncan (1958). Estimation of average degree of heterosis (ADH) based on mid-parents (MPH), better parent (BPH) and check hybrid heterosis (CHH). Heterosis over the better parent estimated only for the hybrids exhibited significant positive MPH values. Type of dominance was described according to dominance line of Kansouh (2014a). Combining ability analysis and components of genetic variances were analyzed according to Griffing (1956) method II model I. Degree of dominance was determined using the following equation:  $(\sigma^2 D / \sigma^2 A)^{0.5}$ .

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Mean performance of parents and their F<sub>1</sub> hybrids

High significant differences were appeared among evaluated genotypes for all studied traits (Table 1). Presented data indicate that none of parental lines and F<sub>1</sub> hybrids was superior for all characters. For plant height, the tallest plants of parents were observed with P<sub>5</sub> (244.1 cm) followed by P<sub>6</sub> (223.0 cm), however, the shortest one was P<sub>2</sub> (176.2 cm). Crosses recorded values varied from 212.3 to 266.3 cm, the taller hybrid was P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> (266.3 cm), followed by P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> (256.0 cm). These hybrids involved at least one or two of the best parents for this trait. The grand mean of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids exceeded that of parents and check hybrid "Myla F<sub>1</sub>" by 29.7 and 17.1%, respectively, indicating that most of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids gave taller plants compared with their parents and check.

Concerning number of leaves, the parental line P<sub>6</sub> produced the highest value (40.0), while the lowest one reflected by both lines P<sub>2</sub> (27.3) and P<sub>4</sub> (28.0) with no differences between them (Table 1). The crosses recorded wide values ranged from 28.7 to 49.5, the cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> showed the highest value (49.5) with no differences than P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> (47.8) and P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> (47.6). Most F<sub>1</sub> hybrids surpassed their parents and check hybrid, where, mean of hybrids surpassed that of parents by 22.4% and check by 15.7%.

As for fruit set percentage presented data in Table 1 show that the line P<sub>4</sub> recorded the highest percentage (94.4%) followed by P<sub>1</sub> (92.6%), these lines have moderately growth (plant height and number of leaves). On the other hand, the line P<sub>5</sub> gave the lowest percentage (86.4%) which has high vigorous growth; this may be due to negative correlation between high growth and fruit setting. The crosses percentage ranged from 87.1% to 93.7%, the crosses contained either two high parental lines (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>) or one of them (P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>) both exhibited the highest fruit setting (93.7% and 93.4%, respectively). The average of all parents, hybrids and check hybrid was approximately equal with values of 90.6, 91.1 and 91.3, respectively.

Results in Table 1 clear that early yield of parental lines showed values ranged from 1.5 to 2.3 kg plant<sup>-1</sup>, both lines P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> recorded the highest early yield (2.2 and 2.3 kg plant<sup>-1</sup>, respectively) with no differences between them. However, the crosses exhibited means varied from 1.5 kg

for the cross P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> and 2.8 for the cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>. The mean of the check hybrid exceeded that of parents and F<sub>1</sub> hybrids, in spite of this increase, there are six hybrids (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>) significantly surpassed “Myla F<sub>1</sub>” by 33.5, 19.0, 9.5, 9.5, 4.8 and 4.8%, respectively. Most of these crosses included at least one or two of high parents, so those could be considered as promising hybrids for early yield of indeterminate tomato.

Regarding total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, evaluated lines exhibited wide variation ranged from 5.0 kg. Plant<sup>-1</sup> for P<sub>5</sub> to 6.9 kg plant<sup>-1</sup> for P<sub>4</sub> with an average 5.9 kg plant<sup>-1</sup> (Table 1). The line P<sub>4</sub> possessed the highest productivity followed by both of P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>2</sub>. The average mean of “Myla F<sub>1</sub>” surpassed the overall mean of hybrids by 3.2%, nevertheless, four crosses (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>) had equally significant values with the commercial hybrid, also three ones (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>) were out yielded commercial hybrid by 12.9, 8.1 and 8.1%, respectively. These superior hybrids need to evaluate for important traits in multi locations and different climatic

conditions for utilizing in tomato production under greenhouse.

In general, the previous results indicated that the best lines for vigorous growth were P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>6</sub>, however, for high early and total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, both of parental lines P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>4</sub>. For the crosses, the best promising hybrids for high performance were P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, for growth; and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> for early and total yield.

Great variations were observed among evaluated entries for average fruit weight (Table 1). The lines values ranged from 59.4 to 104.0 with a grand mean of 86.6. The heaviest fruits (104.0) were obtained by line P<sub>1</sub>, followed by both of P<sub>3</sub> (99.1) and P<sub>4</sub> (96.6) with no apparent differences between them. For crosses, the mean values ranged from 58.8 for cross P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> to 93.8 for cross P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> with general mean 75.4. The grand mean of lines exceeded that of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids grand mean and check (Myla F<sub>1</sub>) hybrid, also the average F<sub>1</sub> hybrids was less compared to Myla F<sub>1</sub> hybrid. On the other hand, there are four crosses (P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>) significantly surpassed that of “Myla F<sub>1</sub>” by 4.2, 8.1, 13.4 and 22.5 %, respectively.

**Table 1. Mean performances of the evaluated indeterminate tomato F<sub>1</sub> hybrids and their parents for some plant traits.**

Characters Genotypes	Plant height (cm)	No. leaves /plant	Fruit set (%)	Early yield (kg/plant)	Total yield (kg/plant)	Average fruit weight (g)	Fruit shape index	No. locules/ fruit	Vit. C content (mg/100g fresh weight)
IRS-43-2 (P1)	200.5m	32.3k	92.6bcd	2.2cde	6.4c	104.0a	0.79j	3.7a	31.1bc
IR-44-1 (P2)	176.2n	27.3l	89.4jk	1.9fgh	6.1cde	81.0e	0.90ij	3.1d	27.1ef
IR-44-2 (P3)	217.1kl	33.8jk	90.7hi	1.8ijk	5.8fg	99.1b	0.93hi	3.1d	23.6ij
VR-6 (P4)	202.3m	28.0l	94.4a	2.3cd	6.9a	96.6bc	1.03fgh	3.5abc	32.0b
VL-5-4 (P5)	244.1d	37.0i	86.4l	1.5m	5.0j	59.4j	1.53d	3.1cd	21.1l
VL-7-4 (P6)	223.0ij	40.0h	90.0ij	1.9ghi	5.4i	79.4ef	2.07b	2.1g	22.8jkl
Mean	210.5	33.1	90.6	1.9	5.9	86.6	1.21	3.1	26.3
Crosses									
P1 xP2	225.0hi	35.0ij	92.2def	2.3bc	6.3cd	75.3gh	0.93hi	3.7a	31.3bc
P1 x P3	237.7ef	36.7i	91.2e-h	2.1def	5.9def	82.8e	0.95ghi	3.1d	28.3d
P1 x P4	233.3fg	37.2i	93.7ab	2.8a	7.0a	86.9d	1.07fg	3.2bcd	33.2a
P1 x P5	245.7cd	46.7bcd	92.4cde	2.5b	6.1cde	67.1i	1.45de	2.3efg	25.9fg
P1 xP6	233.3fg	42.3fg	89.9ijk	1.8hij	5.7gh	76.3fg	2.10b	2.4ef	24.6hi
P2 x P3	217.0kl	32.0k	90.6hi	1.5lm	5.9ef	73.8gh	0.97ghi	3.2bcd	30.0c
P2 x P4	225.3hi	28.7l	92.7bcd	2.2cd	6.2cde	74.1gh	1.07fg	3.1d	31.8b
P2 x P5	240.3de	44.0ef	87.1l	1.6klm	5.5hi	62.2j	1.70c	2.3efg	24.1hi
P2 x P6	212.3l	28.8l	91.0f-i	2.3bc	6.3cde	77.2fg	2.10b	1.4h	25.9fg
P3 xP4	245.0cd	44.3def	91.9d-g	1.8ijk	6.7b	93.8c	1.13f	3.3bcd	31.8b
P3 xP5	249.7lc	47.8ab	88.8k	1.6lm	5.8fg	71.8h	1.80c	2.2fg	25.1gh
P3 x P6	240.7de	46.7bcd	90.8ghi	2.0efg	5.6ghi	79.8ef	2.07b	2.4efg	23.3ijk
P4 x P5	266.3a	49.5a	93.4abc	2.2cde	6.7b	74.8gh	1.52d	2.2fg	32.0b
P4 x P6	229.3gh	40.3gh	91.0f-i	1.9fgh	5.8fg	76.6fg	2.17b	2.3efg	30.5c
P5 x P6	256.0b	47.6abc	89.9ijk	1.7jkl	5.1j	58.8j	2.34a	2.4efg	22.2k
Mean	237.1	40.5	91.1	2.0	6.0	75.4	1.56	2.63	28.0
Myla F1	233.3fg	35.0ij	91.3e-h	2.1def	6.2cde	76.6fg	1.39e	2.6e	28.0de

Fruit shape index expressed as length / diameter (L/D) showed widely variations among the evaluated genotypes (Table 1). The shape varied from oblate fruits (L/D = 0.79) in line P<sub>1</sub> to long date fruits (L/D = 2.07) in line P<sub>6</sub>. The remaining lines give different shapes like circular and cylindrical fruits. Out of 15 F<sub>1</sub> hybrids, six crosses (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>) exhibited circular fruits, four ones (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>) showed cylindrical shape and five ones (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> and P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>) produced long date fruits compared with the check hybrid which have obovate fruits (L/D = 1.39).

As for number of locules fruit<sup>-1</sup>, presented data in Table 1 revealed that locules number varied from 2.1 to 3.7 with an average of 3.1 for parents. The highest number was detected in both lines P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> (3.7 and 3.5, respectively) with no significant differences between them, followed by both of P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> with the same value (3.1). For crosses, the values ranged from 1.4 to 3.7 with a grand mean of 2.6 which statistically equal that of the check hybrid (2.6). The cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub> recorded the highest number of locules (3.7), followed by P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> (3.2), P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> (3.2) and P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> (3.3) with no differences between them. This result clears the relation between fruit shape and number of locules, since

oblate and circulate fruit shape have higher number of locules compared to cylindrical and long fruits.

Regarding Vit. C content, the evaluated entries showed wide variations (Table 1), the highest fruit content (31.1 and 32.0) was observed in both lines P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>4</sub>, respectively, with over mean of 26.3, which was less than F<sub>1</sub> hybrids (28.0) and check hybrid (28.0). However, the resulted F<sub>1</sub> hybrids ranged from 22.0 to 33.2, the cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> gave the highest content (33.2) followed by the crosses P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, with no differences among them. The average of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids are statistically equal that of check, indicating that heterosis over check was found in most crosses. Similar results were previously reported by many researchers (Kumari and Manish, 2011; Kansouh, 2013 and 2014b; Mahmoud and El-Eslamboly, 2014; Sahu *et al.*, 2016; Al-Daej, 2018; Khalil and Mahmoud; 2019) who found significant differences among studied genotypes for growth, yield and fruit characters of tomato.

**Average degree of heterosis (ADH)**

Concerning plant height, presented data in Table 2 clear that all studied crosses (15 ones) showed dominance toward the taller plants, since they had significant positive values based on mid parent heterosis (MPH). Calculated better parent heterosis (BPH) for 15 F<sub>1</sub> hybrids exhibited over dominance for the taller parent in 11 ones, since they showed significant positive BPH values, indicating hybrid vigour in this trait, three ones showed complete dominance because they have insignificant values of BPH, the rest one cross reflected partial dominance to high parent. The highest values of MPH and BPH recorded by the crosses P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub> (19.46%) and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> (15.32%), respectively.

Heterosis over the check hybrid (CH) was detected in seven crosses with significant positive values ranged from 3.00% for the cross P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> to 14.14% for the cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>. Previous results showed that most crosses revealed over dominance (11 ones) that expressed non - additive gene effect, indicating that inheritance of this trait was under control of non - additive genes. Earlier results of Marbhal *et al.* (2016), Sahu *et al.* (2016), Khalil and Mahmoud (2019), Rehana *et al.* (2019) and Sonagara *et al.* (2020) found heterosis over mid parents, better parent and check hybrid for plant height.

For number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup>, the desired significant values of MPH were observed in 12 crosses with values ranged from 11.04 for the cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> to 52.31% for the cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, indicating dominance toward the high number of leaves (Table 2). While, two crosses (P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>) showed insignificant MPH values, indicating no dominance, the remaining cross P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> exhibited dominance toward the low parent, that showed significant negative value of MPH. Out of 12 crosses, 11 and 1 cross reflected over dominance and complete dominance toward the high parent, since they presented significant positive and insignificant values of BPH, respectively, suggesting that inheritance of this trait was under control of non - additive gene effects. The extent of BPH % varied from 5.75 for the cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> to 33.78% for the cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>. Ten crosses revealed heterosis over the check hybrid with significant values ranged from 6.29 to 41.43%. The crosses P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> recorded the highest values (41.43%), followed by the cross P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> (34.86%). These results are confirmed by studies of Kansouh (2013 and 2014b), Khalil and Mahmoud (2019).

**Table 2. Percentage of heterosis over mid-parents (M.P.), better parent (B.P.), check hybrid heterosis (C.H.) and dominance type for plant height, number of leaves /plant and fruit set percentage traits of indeterminate tomato.**

Crosses	Plant height				Number of leaves \ plant				Fruit set (%)			
	M.P.H	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type	M.P.H	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type	M.P.H	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type
P <sub>1</sub> xP <sub>2</sub>	19.46**	12.22**	-3.56**	Over dominance	17.45**	8.36*	0.00	Over dominance	1.32*	-0.43	0.99	Co. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>3</sub>	13.84**	9.49**	1.89	Over dominance	11.04**	8.58**	4.86	Over dominance	-0.49	-0.11		No dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	15.84**	15.32**	0.00	Over dominance	23.38**	15.17**	6.29*	Over dominance	0.21		2.63**	No dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	10.53**	0.66	5.32**	Co. dominance	34.78**	26.22**	33.43**	Over dominance	3.24**	-0.22	1.20*	Co. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	10.18**	4.62**	0.00	Over dominance	17.01**	5.75*	20.86**	Over dominance	-1.53**		-1.53*	Par. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>3</sub>	10.35**	-0.05	-6.99**	Co. dominance	4.75		-8.57**	No dominance	0.61		-0.77	No dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	19.05**	11.37**	-3.43**	Over dominance	3.80		-18.00**	No dominance	0.87		1.53*	No dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	14.35**	-1.56	3.00**	Co. dominance	36.86**	18.92**	25.71**	Over dominance	-0.91		-4.60**	No dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	6.36**	-4.80**	-9.00**	Par. dominance	-14.41**		-17.71**	Par. dominance	1.45**	1.11	-0.33	Co. dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	16.83**	12.85**	5.02**	Over dominance	43.37**	31.07**	26.57**	Over dominance	-0.70		0.66	No dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	8.28**	2.29*	7.03**	Over dominance	33.33**	27.57**	34.86**	Over dominance	0.28		-2.74**	No dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	9.38**	7.94**	3.17**	Over dominance	26.56**	16.75**	33.43**	Over dominance	0.50		-0.55	No dominance
P <sub>4</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	19.31**	9.09**	14.14**	Over dominance	52.31**	33.78**	41.43**	Over dominance	3.32**	-1.06	2.30**	Co. dominance
P <sub>4</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	7.83**	2.83*	-1.71	Over dominance	18.53**	0.75	15.14**	Co. dominance	-1.30*		-0.33	Par. dominance
P <sub>5</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	9.61**	4.88**	9.73**	Over dominance	23.64**	28.65**	36.00**	Over dominance	1.93**	-0.11	-1.53*	Co. dominance
L.S.D.0.05	4.32	4.99			1.88	2.17			0.93		1.07	
	0.01	5.78	6.67		2.51	2.90			1.25		1.44	

\*,\*\* Significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively. Lines: IRS-43-2 (P<sub>1</sub>), IR-44-1(P<sub>2</sub>), IR-44-2 (P<sub>3</sub>), VR-6(P<sub>4</sub>), VL-5-4 (P<sub>5</sub>) and VL-7-4(P<sub>6</sub>)

Data in Table 2 show that, for fruit set percentage, most crosses (8 ones) exhibited insignificant values of MPH, indicating no dominance. The rest 7 ones showed significant negative values in two crosses, indicating dominance to low parent and 5 ones showed significant positive MPH values which ranged from 1.32% for cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub> to 3.32% for cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, indicating dominance to

high percent for fruit setting. Calculated BPH% for these crosses (5 ones) revealed that, none of hybrids showed significant values in desirable direction, where they gave insignificant values, indicating complete dominance. It's clear that additive gene effects controlled the inheritance of this trait, whereas most crosses (8 ones) exhibited no dominance. Relative to check hybrid, only four crosses (P<sub>1</sub>

x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>) reflected heterosis with significant values (2.63, 2.30, 1.53 and 1.20%, respectively). Similar findings were reported by Shalaby (2012), who supported the above results, whereas showed heterosis over mid and better parent.

Early yield plant<sup>1</sup> presented in Table 3, revealed that six F<sub>1</sub> hybrids showed significant positive MPH values ranged from 8.11% for cross P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> to 35.14% for cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, suggesting dominance to high early yield. The remaining nine crosses exhibited no dominance (five ones) and partial dominance to low early yield (four ones). Estimated of BPH was observed in only three crosses (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>) which gave significant positive BPH values, indicating over dominance (hybrid vigour) in these crosses toward high parent. Complete dominance to high early yield was found in the rest three crosses (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>). Heterosis over “Myla F<sub>1</sub>” was found only in four crosses (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>), which presented significant positive values (33.33, 19.05, 9.52 and 9.52%, respectively). It is appeared from the previous results that all types of dominance were found in the resulted F<sub>1</sub>, where no over complete and partial

dominance were reflected by 5, 3, 3 and 4 crosses, respectively, indicating non - additive gene was more important compared to additive one.

Regarding total yield plant<sup>1</sup>, six crosses showed dominance to high total yield, since they recorded significant positive MPH values varied from 5.26% for cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> to 12.61% for cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> (Table 3). No dominance and dominance to low total yield were observed in 7 and 2 crosses, respectively. None of the studied crosses (six ones) revealed significant positive BPH values (no hybrid vigour), whereas they showed complete (five ones) and partial (one cross) dominance, indicating that additive gene effect was more important than non-additive one for this trait. Three crosses (P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>) exhibited significant positive values of heterosis over check “Myla F<sub>1</sub>” (12.90, 8.06 and 8.06%, respectively). Earlier studies showed heterosis over mid parent, heterobeltiosis and stander hybrid for early yield and total yield (Garg *et al.*, 2008; Shalaby, 2012; Mahmoud and El-Eslamboly, 2014; Mahmoud, 2015; Khalil and Mahmoud, 2019; Rehana *et al.*, 2019; Sonagara *et al.*, 2020).

**Table 3. Percentage of heterosis over mid-parents (M.P.), better parent (B.P.), check hybrid heterosis (C.H.) and dominance type for early yield/plant, total yield/plant and average fruit weight traits of indeterminate tomato.**

Crosses	Early yield/plant				Total yield/plant				Average fruit weight			
	MPH	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type	MPH	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type	MPH	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>2</sub>	12.20**	4.55	9.52*	Co. dominance	0.80		1.61	No dominance	-18.59**		-1.70	Par. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>3</sub>	5.00		0.00	No dominance	-3.28		-4.84*	No dominance	-18.46**		8.09**	Par. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	24.44**	21.74**	33.33**	Over dominance	5.26**	1.45	12.90**	Co. dominance	-13.36**		13.45**	Par. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	35.14**	13.64**	19.05**	Over dominance	7.02**	-4.69*	-1.61	Par. dominance	-17.87**		-12.40**	Par. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	-12.20**		-14.29**	Par. dominance	-3.39		-8.06**	No dominance	-16.79**		-0.39**	Par. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>3</sub>	-18.92**		-28.57**	Par. dominance	-0.84		-4.84*	No dominance	-18.09**		-3.66	Par. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	4.76		4.76	No dominance	-4.62**		0.00	Par. dominance	-16.60**		-3.26	Par. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	-5.88		-23.81**	No dominance	-0.90		-11.29**	No dominance	-11.46**		-18.80**	Par. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	21.05**	21.05**	9.52*	Over dominance	9.57**	3.28	1.61	Co. dominance	-3.80*		0.78	Par. dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	-12.20**		-14.29**	Par. dominance	5.51**	-2.90	8.06**	Co. dominance	-4.14**		22.45**	Par. dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	-3.03		-23.81**	No dominance	7.41**	0.00	-6.45*	Co. dominance	-9.40**		-6.27**	Par. dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	8.11*	5.26	-4.76	Co. dominance	0.00		-9.68**	No dominance	-10.59**		4.18	Par. dominance
P <sub>4</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	15.79**	-4.35	4.76	Co. dominance	12.61**	-2.90	8.06**	Co. dominance	-4.10*		-2.35	Par. dominance
P <sub>4</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	-9.52**		-9.52*	Par. dominance	-5.69**		-6.45**	Par. dominance	-12.95**		0.00	Par. dominance
P <sub>5</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	0.00		-19.05**	No dominance	-1.92		-17.74**	No dominance	-15.27**		-23.24**	Par. dominance
L.S.D.0.05	0.06		0.09		0.21		0.24		2.87		3.32	
	0.01		0.12		0.28		0.33		3.84		4.44	

\*,\*\* Significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively. Lines: IRS-43-2 (P<sub>1</sub>), IR-44-1(P<sub>2</sub>), IR-44-2 (P<sub>3</sub>), VR-6(P<sub>4</sub>), VL-5-4 (P<sub>5</sub>) and VL-7-4(P<sub>6</sub>)

With regard to average fruit weight, data in Table 3 illustrate that none of the evaluated crosses showed ADH based on mid parent, whereas all crosses exhibited significant negative values, indicating dominance to small fruit weight. Estimated of BPH revealed that all obtained F<sub>1</sub> crosses gave significant negative values, suggesting partial dominance toward the low parent. Consequently, all crosses produced fruits significantly low in weight compared to the high parents (no hybrid vigor), indicating that additive gene effects were more important in the inheritance of this trait. On the other hand, the crosses P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> exhibited significant positive heterosis over the slandered hybrid by values of 22.45, 13.45 and 8.09%, respectively. These results are in conformity with the findings of Shalaby (2012), Kansouh (2013 and 2014b), Solieman *et al.* (2013), Mahmoud (2015) and Khalil and Mahmoud (2019), who found partial

dominance toward the low parent, indicating no heterosis over mid and better parent. However, significant positive heterosis over the check hybrid (CH) was observed by Kumar *et al.* (2012), Kansouh (2013 and 2014b) and Khalil and Mahmoud (2019).

For fruit shape index, presented data in Table 4 clear that most resulted F<sub>1</sub> hybrids (12 ones) reflected significant positive MPH values varied from 10.88 to 46.85%, suggesting dominance for this trait. The rest crosses (3 ones) showed no dominance, since they exhibited insignificant MPH values. Hybrid vigour (over dominance) was detected only in three crosses (P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>), which presented significant positive BPH values. However, nine crosses reflected complete dominance for this trait, indicating that non - additive gene effect was more important compared with additive one. Out of 15 crosses, eight ones revealed significant positive

heterosis over check hybrid by values ranged from 9.35 for cross P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> to 68.35% for cross P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>.

Obtained data in Table 4 illustrate that for number of locules/fruit nine crosses showed significant negative values of MPH, indicating dominance to low number of locules. However, dominance to high number of locules was reflected by only the cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub> with a significant positive value (8.82%) of MPH. the remaining five hybrids showed no dominance. None of studied hybrids showed BPH, indicating no hybrid vigour for this trait, where partial dominance toward the low parent was observed in most crosses (9 ones). Previous result suggested that this trait was under control of additive gene. Relative to heterosis over standard hybrid, six crosses exceeded significantly the standard hybrid “Myla F<sub>1</sub>” with values ranged from 19.23 % for both crosses P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> to 42.31% for the cross P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>. Ghobary and Ibrahim (2010), found in a study on tomato, that three and ten crosses showed significant positive heterobeltiosis for fruit shape index and number of locules. Also, Sonagara *et al.* (2020) observed BPH for number of locules/fruit.

For Vit. C content, data in Table 4 clear that six crosses exhibited insignificant values of MPH, indicating no dominance in these crosses. However, eight crosses significantly exceeded the mid – parents with values ranged from 5.23%, for P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> to 20.53%, for P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, suggesting dominance in these crosses for this trait. From eight crosses, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> showed heterobeltiosis (over dominance) with values of 10.70, 6.36 and 3.75%, respectively, the rest crosses presented complete dominance (4 ones) and partial dominance (one cross), since, they exhibited insignificant and significant negative BPH% values, respectively. It is obvious that most studied crosses (7 ones) showed complete and over dominance, indicating the importance of non – additive gene for this trait. Heterosis over the check hybrid was found in seven crosses with significant positive values ranged from 7.14 % for P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> to 18.57% for P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub>. Analogous findings were reported for this trait by Kumari and Manish (2011) and Mahmoud and El-Eslamboly (2014)

**Table 4. Percentage of heterosis over mid-parents (M.P.), better parent (B.P.), check hybrid heterosis (C.H.) and dominance type for fruit shape index, no. locules/fruit and Vit. C content traits of indeterminate tomato.**

Crosses	Fruit shape index				No. locules/fruit				Vit. C content			
	M.P.H	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type	M.P.H	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type	M.P.H	B.P.H	C.H.H	Dominance type
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>2</sub>	10.06		-33.09**	No dominance	8.82*	0.00	42.31**	Co. dominance	6.87**	0.00	11.07**	Co. dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>3</sub>	10.47		-31.65**	No dominance	-8.82*		19.23**	Par. dominance	3.47		1.07	No dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	17.58**	3.88	-23.02**	Co. dominance	-11.11**		23.08**	Par. dominance	5.23**	3.75*	18.57**	Over dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	25.00**	-5.23	4.32	Co. dominance	-32.35**		-11.54	Par. dominance	-0.77		-7.50**	No dominance
P <sub>1</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	46.85**	1.45	51.08**	Co. dominance	-17.24**		-7.69	Par. dominance	-8.72**		-12.14**	Par. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>3</sub>	6.01		-30.22**	No dominance	3.23		23.08**	No dominance	18.34**	10.70**	7.14**	Over dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	10.88*	3.88	-23.02**	Co. dominance	-6.06		19.23**	No dominance	7.61**	-0.62	13.57**	Co. dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	39.92**	11.11**	22.30**	Over dominance	-25.81**		-11.54	Par. dominance	0.00		-13.93**	No dominance
P <sub>2</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	41.41**	1.45	51.08**	Co. dominance	-46.15**		-46.15**	Par. dominance	3.81		-7.50**	No dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>4</sub>	15.31**	9.71	-18.71**	Co. dominance	0.00		26.92**	No dominance	14.39**	-0.62	13.57**	Co. dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	46.34**	17.65**	29.50**	Over dominance	-29.03**		-15.38*	Par. dominance	12.30**	6.36*	-10.36**	Over dominance
P <sub>3</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	38.00**	0.00	48.92**	Co. dominance	-7.69		-7.69	No dominance	0.43		-16.79**	No dominance
P <sub>4</sub> x P <sub>5</sub>	18.75**	-0.65	9.35*	Co. dominance	-33.33**		-15.38*	Par. dominance	20.53**	0.00	14.29**	Co. dominance
P <sub>4</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	40.00**	4.83	56.12**	Co. dominance	-17.86**		-11.54	Par. dominance	11.31**	-4.69*	8.93**	Par. dominance
P <sub>5</sub> x P <sub>6</sub>	30.00**	13.04**	68.35**	Over dominance	-7.69		-7.69	Np dominance	1.14		-20.71**	No dominance
L.S.D.0.05	0.10		0.12		0.27		0.31		0.98		1.13	
	0.01	0.14	0.16		0.36		0.41		1.31		1.51	

\*, \*\* Significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively. Lines: IRS-43-2 (P<sub>1</sub>), IR-44-1(P<sub>2</sub>), IR-44-2 (P<sub>3</sub>), VR-6(P<sub>4</sub>), VL-5-4 (P<sub>5</sub>) and VL-7-4(P<sub>6</sub>)

**Combining ability and genetic components**

Analysis of variance for combining ability revealed highly significant mean squares for general GCA and specific SCA combining ability for all characters under study (Table 5), indicating that both additive ( $\sigma^2A$ ) and non - additive ( $\sigma^2D$ ) gene action played significant role in heredity of all characters. The variance due to specific combining ability ( $\sigma^2SCA$ ) was higher than those of general combining ability ( $\sigma^2GCA$ ) for plant height, number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup>, early yield and number of locules, indicating the predominance of non-additive gene in the inheritance of these traits. This result was confirmed by the ratio of  $\sigma^2GCA/ \sigma^2SCA$  which was less than 0.50 for the previous traits. The above results were further supported by the ratio of  $\sigma^2A / \sigma^2D$  which also was less than one, also the ratio of non - additive variance to total genetic variance ( $\sigma^2D/ \sigma^2G$ ) was larger compared to ratio of additive variance to total genetic variance ( $\sigma^2A / \sigma^2G$ ). Estimates average degree of dominance for these traits was more than unity, indicating over dominance (non- additive

gene action). Finally, these results pointed to utilize heterosis breeding method for improving these traits, where non - additive gene actions play the essential role. Similar trend of findings was reported by Saleem *et al.* (2009), Ghobary and Ibrahim (2010), Kansouh and Zakher (2011), Kansouh (2014b), Aminu and Mala (2015), Khalil and Mahmoud (2019) and Vekariya *et al.* (2019) who reported that non -additive gene action was predominance for heredity of previous traits.

Data in the same Table revealed prevalence of additive gene action in the inheritance of fruit set percentage, total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, average fruit weight, fruit shape and Vit. C content. This result is supported by the large variance of GCA compared to SCA (1.46 vs. 1.38; 0.11 vs.0.09; 54.76 vs.52.36; 0.11 vs. 0.06; and 6.37 vs. 3.38, respectively). Also, the ratio of  $\sigma^2GCA/ \sigma^2SCA$  which was more than one (1.06, 1.22, 1.05, 1.83 and 1.88, respectively). Moreover,  $\sigma^2A / \sigma^2D$  ratios were more than one (2.12, 2.44, 2.09, 3.67 and 3.77, respectively), the large portion of additive variance from genetic variance

( $\sigma^2A/\sigma^2G$ ) compared with dominance one ( $\sigma^2D/\sigma^2G$ ) supported the above results. Finally, estimates degree of dominance supported the previous results, which was less than 0.690 for these traits. Generally, since additive gene action was predominance and plays the main role, so these characters could be improved through selecting superior lines among segregating generations of the best

combinations to increase the frequency of desirable alleles. These results were confirmed by studies of Garg et al. (2008), Droka et al. (2012), Shende et al. (2012), Kumar et al. (2013), Mahmoud and El Eslamboly (2014), Khalil and Mahmoud (2019), who reported that selection in early generation for previous traits is more effective for developing new lines of tomato.

**Table 5. Mean squares and variance components for growth, yield and fruit characteristics of indeterminate tomato.**

Characters	Mean squares				Variance components						
	GCA	SCA	$\sigma^2_{gca}$	$\sigma^2_{sca}$	$\sigma^2_{gca}/\sigma^2_{sca}$	$\sigma^2A$	$\sigma^2D$	$\sigma^2A/\sigma^2D$	$\sigma^2A/\sigma^2g$	$\sigma^2D/\sigma^2g$	Degree of Dominance
plant height	972.58**	250.90**	121.17	247.72	0.49	242.34	247.72	0.98	49.50	50.50	1.011
No. leaves	107.05**	34.74**	13.31	34.15	0.39	26.62	34.15	0.78	43.80	56.20	1.133
Fruit set Percentage	11.80**	1.52**	1.46	1.38	1.06	2.92	1.38	2.12	67.93	32.07	0.687
Early yield (kg/plant)	0.25**	0.07**	0.03	0.07	0.43	0.06	0.07	0.86	47.36	52.64	1.080
Total yield (kg/plant)	0.91**	0.10**	0.11	0.09	1.22	0.22	0.09	2.44	70.93	29.07	0.640
Average fruit weight (g)	439.41**	53.72**	54.76	52.36	1.05	109.52	52.36	2.09	67.65	32.35	0.691
Fruit shape	0.89**	0.07**	0.11	0.06	1.83	0.22	0.06	3.67	77.46	22.54	0.522
No. locules/fruit	0.83**	0.22**	0.10	0.22	0.45	0.20	0.22	0.91	48.39	51.61	1.033
Vit. C content	51.10**	3.52**	6.37	3.38	1.88	12.74	3.38	3.77	79.06	20.95	0.515

**General combining ability effects (GCA)**

The estimates of general combining ability effects of parents presented in Table 6 show that, none of the studied parents was the good combiner for all traits. The good parents exhibited significant positive GCA effects in desired direction for each trait was as follow: P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> for plant height, P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>6</sub> for number of leaves and fruit shape index, P<sub>4</sub> for fruit set percentage, P<sub>1</sub> for early yield, P<sub>4</sub> and

P<sub>1</sub> for total yield, number of locules and Vit. C content and P<sub>3</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> for average fruit weight. The parents showed high GCA effects for any trait could be useful, whereas GCA effects due to additive (fixable) gene action, therefore these parents can be recommended for utilization in hybridization programs for developing new crosses of indeterminate tomato.

**Table 6. General and Specific combining ability effects for growth, yield and fruit characteristics of indeterminate tomato.**

Characters Genotypes	Plant height	No. leaves/plant	Fruit set (%)	Early yield (kg/plant)	Total yield (kg/plant)	Average fruit weight (g)	Fruit shape index	No. locules/fruit	Vit. c content
<i>gca effects</i>									
IRS-43-2(P1 (P1)	-3.8**	-0.77**	0.99**	0.24**	0.22**	5.77**	-0.27**	0.34**	1.62**
IR-44-1 (P2)	-16.8**	-5.70**	-0.54**	-0.03	0.04*	-3.21**	-0.20**	0.07**	0.59**
IR-44-2 (P3)	2.2**	0.80**	-0.25*	-0.17**	-0.07**	6.24**	-0.18**	0.13**	-0.86**
VR-6 (P4)	-0.4	-1.58**	1.85**	0.19**	0.52**	6.14**	-0.15**	0.22**	3.84**
VL-5-4 (P5)	17.4**	5.12**	-1.54**	-0.17**	-0.36**	-12.10**	0.21**	-0.22**	-2.63**
VL-7-4 (P6)	1.4*	2.13**	-0.51**	-0.06**	-0.35**	-2.85**	0.59**	-0.53**	-2.56**
<i>sca effects</i>									
P1 x P2	16.11**	3.09**	0.79**	0.10*	0.03	-5.87**	-0.06*	0.53**	1.58**
P1 x P3	9.81**	-1.71**	-0.49	0.03	-0.26**	-7.82**	-0.06*	-0.14**	0.03
P1 x P4	7.97**	1.17*	-0.09	0.37**	0.26**	-3.62**	0.03	-0.13**	0.23
P1 x P5	2.57*	3.97**	1.99**	0.43**	0.23**	-5.18**	0.05	-0.59**	-0.59*
P1 x P6	6.25**	2.56**	-1.53**	-0.38**	-0.18**	-5.23**	0.32**	-0.18**	-1.97**
P2 x P3	2.07	-1.49*	0.43	-0.29**	-0.08	-7.84**	-0.11**	0.24**	2.76**
P2 x P4	12.93**	-2.40**	0.43	0.05	-0.37**	-7.44**	-0.04	0.05	-0.14
P2 x P5	10.13**	6.20**	-1.78**	-0.19**	-0.19**	-1.11	0.24**	-0.31**	-1.37**
P2 x P6	-1.79	-6.01**	1.09**	0.40**	0.59**	4.64**	0.26**	-0.90**	0.36
P3 x P4	13.63**	6.70**	-0.66*	-0.22**	0.24**	2.81**	0.00	0.19**	1.31**
P3 x P5	0.53	3.50**	-0.37	-0.05	0.22**	-0.96	0.31**	-0.48**	1.08**
P3 x P6	7.61**	5.39**	0.61*	0.23**	0.01	-2.21*	0.20**	0.04	-0.79**
P4 x P5	19.70**	7.59**	2.13**	0.18**	0.53**	2.14*	0.00	-0.56**	3.28**
P4 x P6	-1.23	1.37*	-1.29**	-0.23**	-0.38**	-5.31**	0.27**	-0.15**	1.71**
P5 x P6	7.67**	1.97**	0.99**	-0.07	-0.21**	-4.87**	0.08**	0.39**	-0.12
S.E (gi)	0.58	0.25	0.12	0.02	0.02	0.38	0.01	0.02	0.12
S.E (sij)	1.30	0.56	0.27	0.04	0.04	0.85	0.03	0.05	0.28

\*,\*\* Significant and highly significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively.

**Specific combining ability effects (SCA)**

Specific combining ability effects indicate the superior cross combination which can be used for developing new hybrids with high hybrid vigour for characters. It included non - additive gene effects, additive x dominance and dominance x dominance interaction (non - fixable) which are important in breeding of hybrids.

Estimated SCA effects presented in Table 6 show that, similarly none of the crosses was constantly good for all characters. The combinations exhibited highly significant SCA effects were P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> for plant height, P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> for number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup>, P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> for fruit set percentage, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> for early yield

plant<sup>-1</sup>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> for total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> for average fruit weight, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> for fruit shape index, P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>5</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> for number of locules and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> x P<sub>3</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>6</sub> for Vit. C content. The best cross combinations which showed significant positive values of SCA effects for traits under study exhibited most types of GCA effects, viz., high x high, medium x high, high x poor, poor x poor, poor x high and medium x poor, indicating using different breeding method for improving these characters. Generally, in most cross combinations showed high SCA effects involved one or both of good GCA effects for studied traits referring to non - additive gene action in genetic control of these characters and could be exploit in heterosis breeding programs.

## CONCLUSION

From the present study, it could be concluded that the parental lines P<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>5</sub> displayed the highest values for most studied traits based on mean performance and GCA effects. However, the cross combinations P<sub>1</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> and P<sub>4</sub> x P<sub>5</sub> were the best for growth, early and total yield and for some fruit traits, followed by the cross P<sub>3</sub> x P<sub>4</sub> for most fruit traits. This superiority was observed in high performance and SCA effects. Therefore, the three crosses can be considered promising for genetic improvement for important traits of indeterminate tomato. The same crosses reflected significant positive heterosis over the check "Myla F<sub>1</sub>". So, it is recommended for commercial cultivation of tomato under greenhouse after evaluation in multi locations and seasons. Non - additive gene action was predominance for the inheritance of plant height, number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup>, early yield and number of locules, indicating heterosis breeding for the improvement these traits. However, selection among segregating generations was effectively for improvement of fruit set percentage, total yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, average fruit weight, fruit shape and Vit. C content.

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## سلوك الأداء وقوه الهجين والقدرة على التالف لصفات النمو والمحصول وجودة الثمار في الطماطم غير المحدودة محمود إبراهيم محمود و أحمد بلال المنسي قسم الإنتاج النباتي- كلية العلوم الزراعية البيئية- جامعه العريش

استخدمت ستة سلالات من الطماطم غير المحدودة في نظام التهجين الدوري في اتجاه واحد لدراسة سلوك الأداء وقوه الهجين بالإضافة إلى القدرة على التالف لصفات النمو، والمحصول، وجوده الثمار. أجريت التجربة بالمزرعة البحثية بكلية العلوم الزراعية -جامعة العريش خلال موسمي 2019/2018 و2020/2019 م. تم تقييم الآباء والخمسة عشر هجين جبل أول والهجين التجاري "مايلا F<sub>1</sub>" تحت الصوبات البلاستيكية باستخدام تصميم القطاعات كاملة العشوائية في ثلاث مكررات. أظهرت النتائج وجود اختلافات عالية المعنوية بين جميع التراكيب الوراثية المستخدمة لجميع الصفات المدروسة، وكانت أفضل الآباء هي: أي رأس-43، 2، في أي رأس-6، في أي رأس-4، 5-4 في حين كانت أفضل الهجن أي رأس 2-43 x في أي رأس-6، أي رأس-44، 2 x في أي رأس-6، وفي أي رأس-5-4 لمعظم الصفات تحت الدراسة. ظهرت قوه الهجين في معظم الصفات المدروسة، كما وجدت قوه هجين معنوية على أساس الهجين التجاري في كل الصفات، وكانت أفضل الهجن في أي رأس-6 في أي رأس-4، 5 بالنسبة لصفات النمو، وأي رأس 2-43 x في أي رأس-6 للمحصول المبكر/النبات، وفيتامين سي، وأي رأس 2-43 x في أي رأس-6 للمحصول الكلي/النبات، وأي رأس 2-44 x في أي رأس-6 لمتوسط وزن الثمرة. أظهرت تباينات القدرة على التالف والمكونات الوراثية سيادة وأهميه الفعل الجيني المضيف في توريث صفات نسبة العقد، والمحصول الكلي/نبات، ومتوسط وزن الثمرة، وشكل الثمرة، ومحتوى الثمار من فيتامين سي. بينما كان الفعل الجيني الغير مضيف هو الأهم في توريث صفات ارتفاع النبات، وعدد الأوراق/نبات، والمحصول المبكر/نبات، وعدد المساكين. كانت أفضل الآباء للقدرة على التالف في أي رأس-4، 5-4 لصفات النمو، وأي رأس 2-43، وفي أي رأس-6 للمحصول المبكر/نبات، والمحصول الكلي/نبات، وعدد المساكين وفيتامين سي، في حين كانت أفضل الهجن التي أظهرت قيم موجبه معنوية هي في أي رأس-6 x في أي رأس-4، 5 لصفات النمو وفيتامين سي، وأي رأس 2-43 x في أي رأس-4، 5 للمحصول المبكر/نبات، وأي رأس 1-44 x في أي رأس-4، 7 للمحصول الكلي/نبات و متوسط وزن الثمرة. لذا تم اختيار أفضل ثلاث هجن (أي رأس 2-43 x في أي رأس-6؛ أي رأس 2-44 x في أي رأس-6؛ وفي أي رأس 6- x في أي رأس-4، 5) لاستخدامها كهجن محليه للطماطم الغير محدودة بعد تقييمها واختبارها في عدة مواقع ومواسم.