

DIALLEL ANALYSIS OF SOME AGRONOMIC TRAITS OF MAIZE

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ABSTRACT

This investigation aimed to study combining ability and heterosis through a half diallel cross mating design in Gemiza maize population using six S_5 parental lines to produce fifteen crosses. The data were recorded on ten quantitative characters i.e. grain yield/ plant, ear length, ear diameter, number of rows/ear, number of kernels/row, 100- kernel - weight, plant height, ear height, tasseling date, and silking date. Combining ability were estimated according to Griffing's procedure (1956). Method-4 - model-I.

The results showed that, Generally, the best crosses ($G_2 \times G_6$), ($G_3 \times G_4$) and ($G_3 \times G_5$) for grain yield/ plant and its components, and towards earliness; and crosses ($G_2 \times G_4$) and ($G_4 \times G_5$) for plant height (towards shortness and ear height (towards low ear placement) Genotypes mean squares showed highly significant differences for all studied traits. Significant estimates of specific combining ability (S.C.A.) along with insignificant (G.C.A.) variances were detected for grain yield/plant, ear length, ear diameter, number of kernel/row, 100-kernel-weight and plant heights, revealing that non-additive type of gene action was the more important part of the total genetic variability for these traits. For other traits i.e. silking and tasseling dates exhibited high G.C.A./ S.C.A. ratios which exceeded the unity indicating the predominance of additive gene action in the inheritance of such traits. Desirable significant (G.C.A.) effects (gi) were obtained by G_3 and G_5 for number of rows/ ear; G_4 for plant height, G_5 for ear height (towards shortness); and G_3 and G_4 for tasseling and silking dates (towards earliness). Estimates of specific combining ability (S.C.A) effects (S_{ij}). Generally, the best crosses were ($G_3 \times G_4$), ($G_2 \times G_5$), and ($G_1 \times G_6$) these crosses may be of prime importance in breeding programmes for hybrid maize production providing that the additive genetic system present in the good combiner as the complementary and epistatic effects that act in the same direction to reduce undesirable plant characteristics and maximize the character in view. The crosses showed non-significant heterotic effects either positive or negative values for the check variety (Sc. 129) where the heterotic values ranged from (6.18% to 18.77%) positive values and (-2.56% to 37.49%) negative values.

INTRODUCTION

The diallel mating design has been used and abused more extensively than any other in maize and other plant species. The design can be useful if properly analyzed and interpreted. Although extensive theoretical research and discussion have been represented, the main problem seems to arise from interpretations and inferences that can be made about estimates obtained from analysis of the diallel crosses (Hallaur and Miranda 1981).

Mukherjee and Dhawan, (1970), Murthy *et al.*, (1981). Nawar *et al.* (1979, 1981 and 1994), El-Absawy (1990) Sedhom (1992, 1994), Sfakianakis *et al.*, (1996), Rabie *et al.*, (1997), Abdel-sattar *et al.*, (1999) El-shamarka,

(1999), Bader, (1999), El-Absawy (2000a,b,c) reported the importance of S.C.A (non additive genetic variance in the inheritance of grain yield and its components. On the other hand, Luchsiger *et al.*, (1971), Dhillon and Singh, (1976), Mason and Zuber, (1976), Mynbaev (1976), Younes and Andrew (1978), Hassaballa *et al.* (1980a,b), Nawar and El-Hosary (1985 c). El-Hosary *et al.*, (1990a, 1990b), Beck *et al.*, (1991) Altinbes (1995), Tulu and Ramachandrapa (1998), El-Hosary *et al.*, (1999), Sadek, (2000), and Nigussie and Zelleke (2001), reported that general combining ability variance (additive genetic variance) played the major role in the inheritance of grain yield and some of its components.

The main objectives of this study were: 1) to estimate the type of gene action in Gemiza maize population through a group of S₅ lines and their crosses per se, 2) to estimate the general and specific combining ability variances, 3) to study general and specific combining ability effects of parental S₅ lines and their crosses in Gemize maize population, and 4) to estimate the heterotic values for grain yield/plant through mid and high parent values, and the check variety (Sc 129).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This part of the investigation was conducted at Agricultural Research Station of the Faculty of Agricultural Minufiya University at Shebin El-Kom during the normal maize growing season, 2000, 2001 and 2002. Gemiza maize population which was used in this study was developed by Agricultural Research Center (ARC). In 2000 season, 50 ears of S₄ from Gemiza maize population were planted and selfed to produce S₅ lines.

In 2001 season all possible combinations, without reciprocals were made among six S₅ lines. In 2002, season, 15 hybrids were planted and evaluated in randomized complete block design with three replications. Each entry was represented by three rows, 6m. long and 70 cm. apart with three kernels per hill on one side of the ridge. The seedlings were thinned to one plant per hill. Normal agricultural practices of maize were followed during the growing season. Data were measured on grain yield/plant, ear length, ear diameter, number of rows/ ear, number of kernels/row, 100-kernel-weight, plant height, ear height, tasseling date and silking date. Random samples of 10 guarded plants in each plot were taken to measure the previous traits. Grain yield/plant was adjusted based on 15.5% moisture and shelling percentage, general and specific combining ability estimates were estimated by using Griffing's (1956) procedure, Method-4, Model-1 (fixed model).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

I- Mean performances:

Mean performances of fifteen single crosses resulted from six S₅ lines of Gemiza maize population are presented in Table (I).

Table (1): Mean performance of 15 genotypes resulted from six S₆ lines of Gemiza maize population:

Characters	Grain yield/plant (gm)	Ear length (cm.)	Ear diameter (cm.)	No. of rows/ear	No. of kernels /row	100-kernel-weight (gm.)	Plant height (cm.)	Ear height (cm.)	Tasseling date (days)	Silking date (days)
G1×G2	145.75	17.27	5.00	11.43	30.20	31.61	177.98	69.35	67.67	69.67
G1×G3	117.21	17.07	4.87	12.13	31.57	28.13	179.15	74.32	66.33	66.33
G1×G4	163.68	18.40	5.00	11.40	33.50	30.20	182.65	70.80	64.00	66.00
G1×G5	174.02	18.27	4.67	12.27	31.27	35.28	184.32	72.38	66.00	68.00
G1×G6	200.88	20.53	4.97	10.97	35.13	36.79	203.19	84.94	65.00	67.00
G2×G3	182.70	18.27	4.80	12.40	36.00	29.87	194.47	82.87	64.67	66.67
G2×G4	146.89	17.67	5.47	12.33	33.27	25.06	157.52	64.17	65.00	67.00
G2×G5	199.08	20.00	5.20	12.40	36.13	35.33	182.44	76.15	64.00	66.00
G2×G6	201.50	20.93	5.00	11.60	38.80	33.45	219.55	89.44	66.00	68.00
G3×G4	222.69	21.00	5.33	12.40	35.27	38.94	192.79	82.63	60.00	62.00
G3×G5	155.81	18.27	5.07	13.73	37.27	30.75	180.10	72.96	63.67	65.67
G3×G6	133.10	17.73	4.73	13.07	28.73	32.54	173.93	66.22	63.67	65.67
G4×G5	137.83	16.40	5.00	12.43	28.40	30.64	171.05	65.94	64.67	66.67
G4×G6	170.75	17.45	4.70	13.13	26.73	28.72	175.70	85.66	67.67	69.67
G5×G6	165.65	20.07	5.50	12.80	30.60	30.41	177.54	73.78	68.67	70.67
L.S.D.0.05	54.53	2.18	0.48	1.65	6.37	6.72	30.01	15.04	2.82	2.82
L.S.D.0.01	73.56	2.94	0.65	2.23	8.60	9.06	40.49	20.29	3.80	3.80

For grain yield/plant, ear length, number of kernels/row, 100 –kernel-weight, and earliness, the best crosses were (G2 x G6), (G3 x G4) where they showed the highest mean values. The best crosses were (G5 x 6) and (G2 x G4); for ear diameter, (G3 x G5) and (G4 x G6) number of rows/ear. For plant and ear heights the best crosses exhibited dwarfism were (G2 x G4) and (G4 x G5).

Generally, the best crosses (G2 x G6), (G3 x G4) and (G3 x G5) for grain yield/ plant and its components, and towards earliness; and crosses (G2 x G4) and (G4 x G5) for plant height (towards shortness and ear height (towards low ear placement)

II- Analysis of variance:

The analysis of variance for the resulted crosses are presented in Table (2).

Genotypes mean squares showed highly significant differences for all studied traits. These results indicated that the behavior of the tested genotypes varied from each other. The same results were agreement with those obtained by El-Hosary *et al.* (1988); Nawar *et al.* (1990); Abdel-sattar *et al.* (1999), El-Hosary *et al.* (1999) and EL-Absawy (2000a, b,c). Significant specific combining ability (S.C.A) along with insignificant (G.C.A.) variances were detected for grain yield/plant, ear length, ear diameter, number of kernel/row, 100-kernel-weight and plant heights, revealing that non-additive type of gene action was the more important part of the total genetic variability for these traits. For other traits i.e, silking and tasseling dates exhibited high G.C.A./ S.C.A. ratios which exceeded the unity indicating the predominance of additive gene action in the inheritance of such traits.

These results are in harmony with that reported by Nawar *et al.* (1979, 1980, 1981 and 1994); and Sedhom (1992). Rabie *et al.* (1997); Abdel-Sattar *et al.* (1999); (El-Absawy 2000c); and EL-Shamarka (1999) for grain yield; Kalsy and Sharma (1970), Nawar *et al.* (1981); Sedhom (1992), Rabie *et al.* (1997); and Abdel-Sattar *et al.* (1999) for ear diameter, number of Kernels/ row, 100-kernel-weight; and El-Absawy (2000c) for grain yield/ plant, ear length, number of kernels/row number of rows/ ear, 100-kernel-weight; and ear height, they found dominance gene effects were more important than additive ones.

III. General and specific combining ability effects:

General combining ability effects (g_i) for all traits of the parents resulted from Gemiza maize population are tabulated in Table (3). Desirable significant (G.C.A.) effects (g_i) were obtained by G3 and G5 for number of rows/ ear; G4 for plant height, G5 for ear height (towards shortness); and G3 and G4 for tasseling and silking dates (towards earliness).

Estimates of specific combining ability (S.C.A) effects (S_{ij}) for the studied characters are presented in Table (4). Most of the studied traits showed desirable and significant (S.C.A.) values were detected in crosses (G1 x G6), (G2 x G5), (G3 x G4), (G1 x G2), (G1 x G4), (G2 x G4), (G2 x G6), (G3 x G5), (G4 x G5), (G4 x G6) and (G5 x G6) for grain yield/plant and some of its components; for plant growth habits (towards shortness) the crosses

Table (2): Observed mean squares for ordinary analysis and combining ability for all studied traits in diallel cross.

S.O.V	D.F	Mean squares										
		Grain yield/Plant	Ear length	Ear diameter	No. of rows/ear	No. of kernels/row	100 kernel -weight	plant height	Ear height	Tasseling date	Silking date	
Blocks	2	3343.62*	8.25*	0.10	1.85	30.42	13.89	1183.96*	40.86	0.87	0.87	
Genotypes	14	2623.14**	6.71**	0.20**	1.61*	38.07**	39.19**	637.51*	181.12**	13.28**	13.28**	
G.C.A.	5	688.36	3.29	0.14	3.34*	29.89	11.03	491.72	150.08	17.50**	17.5**	
S.C.A	9	3692.47**	8.61**	0.24**	0.85	42.62**	54.84**	718.50**	198.37**	10.93**	10.93**	
Error	28	1063.27	1.70	0.08	0.98	14.52	16.14	322.01	80.87	2.84	2.84	
K ² G.C.A/K ² S.C.A.		0.19	0.38	0.56	5.18	0.70	0.20	0.68	0.76	1.60	1.60	

*, **, ***: Significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively.

Table (3): Estimates of general combining ability (G.C.A) effects of parental S₅ lines for studied characters resulted from Gemiza population.

Parental S ₅ lines	Traits										
	Grain yield/plant	Ear length	Ear diameter	No. of rows/ear	No. of kernels/row	100-kernel-weight	Plant height	Ear height	Tasseling date	Silking date	
G1	-9.41	-0.39	-0.15	-0.83	-0.66	0.69	2.46	-1.52	0.83	0.83	
G2	9.19	0.26	0.09	-0.33	2.53*	-0.98	3.62	1.03	0.42	0.42	
G3	-6.92	-0.19	-0.08	0.56*	1.14	0.25	0.75	0.78	-1.83**	-1.83**	
G4	0.67	-0.55	0.10	0.05	-1.78	-1.42	-9.44*	-2.17	-1.08*	-1.08*	
G5	-1.70	-0.03	0.08	0.53*	-0.16	0.79	-5.50	-4.16*	0.33	0.33	
G6	8.18	0.90*	-0.05	0.02	-1.07	0.67	8.11	6.04	1.33	1.33	
L.S.D. 0.05 (g)	N.S	N.S	N.S	0.53	2.06	N.S	9.68	4.84	0.91	-0.91	
L.S.D. 0.01 (g)	N.S	N.S	N.S	0.53	2.77	N.S	13.07	6.55	1.23	1.23	
L.S.D.(gI-gj) 0.05	N.S	N.S	N.S	0.83	3.19	N.S	15.00	7.52	1.41	1.41	
L.S.D.(gI-gj) 0.01	N.S	N.S	N.S	N.S	N.S	N.S	N.S	N.S	1.90*	1.90	

*, **, ***: Significant at 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively.

Table (4): Estimates of (S.C.A) pefic combining ability effects for all characters Studied of Gemiza maize population.

Genotypes	Traits												
	Grain yield/plant	Ear length	Ear diameter	Nr. of rows/ear	Nr. of kernels/row	100-kernelweight	plant height	Ear height	Tasseling date	Silking date			
G1xG2	-21.86*	-1.22*	0.04	0.29	4.53**	0.05	-11.59*	-5.73*	1.28*	1.28*			
G1xG3	-34.30*	-0.97*	0.07	0.10	-1.77	-4.66**	-7.55	-0.52	2.20**	2.20**			
G1xG4	4.59	0.72	0.03	-0.13	3.08*	-0.92	6.14	-1.08	-0.88	-0.88			
G1xG5	17.29	0.07	-0.29*	0.26	-0.78	1.95	3.88	2.49	-0.30	-0.30			
G1xG6	34.28*	1.40*	0.15	-0.53	4.00*	3.58*	9.13	4.84	-2.30*	-2.30**			
G2xG3	12.60	-0.42	-0.24*	-0.13	-0.52	-1.25	6.61	5.49*	0.95	0.95			
G2xG4	-30.80*	-0.66	0.26*	0.32	-0.34	-4.39*	-20.16*	-10.27*	0.53	0.53			
G2xG5	23.76*	1.15**	0.01	-0.10	0.90	3.67*	0.83	3.71	-1.88*	-1.88*			
G2xG6	16.30	1.15**	-0.06	-0.38	4.49**	1.92	24.32**	6.79*	-0.88	-0.88			
G3xG4	61.11**	3.12**	0.29*	-0.51	3.05*	8.27**	17.99*	8.44*	-2.22**	-2.22**			
G3xG5	-3.41	-0.14	0.04	0.34	3.43*	-2.14	1.37	0.77	0.03	0.03			
G3xG6	-35.99*	-1.60**	-0.16	0.19	-4.19*	-0.22	-18.42*	-14.18**	-0.97*	-0.97*			
G4xG5	-28.97*	1.65**	-0.20*	-0.45	-2.52*	-0.59	2.50	-3.30	0.28	0.28			
G4xG6	-5.92	1.53**	-0.37**	0.77	-3.27*	-2.38*	-6.47	6.21*	2.28**	2.28**			
G5xG6	-8.66	0.57	0.45**	-0.05	-1.03	-2.90*	-8.56	-3.67	1.87*	1.87*			
L.S.D.0.05(Sij)	29.87	1.19	0.27	N.S	3.49	3.68	16.44	8.24	1.54	1.54			
L.S.D.0.01(Sij)	40.29	1.61	0.36	N.S	4.71	4.96	22.17	11.11	2.08	2.08			
L.S.D.0.05(Sij-Sik)	47.22	1.89	0.42	N.S	5.52	5.82	25.99	13.02	2.44	2.44			
L.S.D.0.01(Sij-Sik)	63.71	2.55	0.57	N.S	7.44	7.85	35.06	17.57	3.29	3.29			
L.S.D.0.05(Sij-Ski)	38.56	1.54	0.34	N.S	4.51	4.75	21.22	10.63	1.99	1.99			
L.S.D.0.01(Sij-Ski)	52.03	2.08	0.46	N.S	6.08	6.41	28.63	14.35	2.69	2.69			

(G1 x G2), (G2 x G4) and (G3 x G6); for the tasseling and silking dates the crosses (G1 x G6), (G2 x G5), (G3 x G4) and (G3 x G6), (towards earliness).

Generally, the best crosses were (G3 x G4), (G2 x G5), and (G1 x G6) these crosses may be of prime importance in breeding programmes for hybrid maize production providing that the additive genetic system present in the good combiner as the complementary and epistatic effects that act in the same direction to reduce undesirable plant characteristics and maximize the character in view. These results were partially agreement with those obtained by (El-Absawy 2000a).

IV- Heterosis:

Data for heterotic effects for grain yield/plant relative to high parent, mid parent and check variety (Sc. 129) are calculated in Table (5). The crosses showed non-significant heterotic effects either positive or negative values for the check variety (Sc. 129) where the heterotic values ranged from (6. 18% to 18.77%) positive values and (-2. 56% to 37.49%) negative values.

Table (5): percentage of useful heterosis over to check variety (Sc. 129) for the grain yield per plant at Gemiza maize population:

Characters	Grain yield / plant
	Check variety (Sc. 129)
Genotypes	
G1×G2	-22.27
G1×G3	-37.49
G1×G4	-12.70
G1×G5	-7.19
G1×G6	7.14
G2×G3	-2.56
G2×G4	-21.66
G2×G5	6.18
G2×G6	7.47
G3×G4	18.77
G3×G5	-16.90
G3×G6	-29.01
G4×G5	-26.49
G4×G6	-8.93
G5×G6	-11.65

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تحليل الهجن التبادلية لبعض الصفات المحصولية للذرة الشامية
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تم إجراء هذا البحث بهدف دراسة نظام الهجن التبادلية في اتجاه واحد لعدد ستة سلالات ملقحه ذاتياً لمدة خمسة أجيال في عشيرة من الذرة الشامية - (جميزة) وقد نتج من التهجين خمسة عشر هجيناً ثم تحليل الصفات المحصولية بطريقة جريفنج ١٩٥٦ الطريقة الرابعة - الموديل الثابت لدراسة قوة الهجين والقدرة على التآلف العامة والخاصة وكانت الصفات تحت الدراسة هي محصول النبات الفردي من الحبوب، طول الكوز، قطر الكوز، عدد الحبوب في الصف، عدد السطور بالكوز، وزن ١٠٠ حبة، طول النبات، ارتفاع الكوز على النبات، ميعاد التزهير للنورة المذكرة وميعاد التزهير للنورة المؤنثة. حيث زرعت الهجن الناتجة بنظام القطاعات الكاملة العشوائية في ثلاث مكررات وكانت النتائج كالتالي:

(١) أظهرت قيم المتوسطات أن الهجين (جميزة ٢ × جميزة ٦) و (جميزة ٣ × جميزة ٤) و (جميزة ٣ × جميزة ٥) حازت على أعلى قيم للمتوسطات بالنسبة لصفات محصول الحبوب للنبات الفردي ولصفات مكونات المحصول وبالنسبة لصفات التذكير والهجن (جميزة ٢- × جميزة ٤-)، (جميزة ٤- × جميزة ٥) لارتفاع النبات القصير وارتفاع الكوز المنخفض.

(٢) كانت تباينات متوسطات التراكيب الوراثية عالية المعنوية لكل الصفات المدروسة.

(٣) كانت تباينات القدرة العامة على الانتلاف معنوية لصفة عدد الصفوف في الكوز وغير معنوية لصفات محصول الحبوب للنبات الفردي وطول الكوز وقطر الكوز وعدد الحبوب في السطر ووزن المائة حبة وارتفاع النبات دلالات على أن فعل الجين السبدي هو المتحكم في وراثته هذه الصفات بينما كانت بقية الصفات مثل ميعاد التزهير للنورة المذكرة والنورة المؤنثة قد أظهرت أن النسبة بين القدرة العامة إلى القدرة الخاصة على الانتلاف أكبر من الوحدة مما يدل على أن فعل الجين الإضافي هو المتحكم في هذه الصفات تجاه التذكير.

(٤) كانت نباتات القدرة الخاصة على الانتلاف معنوية لكل الصفات المدروسة عدا صفة عدد الصفوف بالنسبة للكوز.

(٥) كانت تأثيرات القدرة العامة على الانتلاف معنوية ومرغوبة بالنسبة للسلالات الأبوية جميعاً - ٣ وجميزة ٥ بالنسبة لصفة عدد الصفوف في الكوز وجميزة ٢ وجميزة ٣ وجميزة ٤ لمعيادي التزهير تجاه التذكير.

(٦) أظهرت النتائج بالنسبة لتأثيرات القدرة الخاصة على الانتلاف أن أحسن هجين لتحسين صفة المحصول وطول الكوز وقطر الكوز وعدد الحبوب في الصف ووزن ١٠٠ حبة وميعادي التزهير تحقق في الهجين (جميزة ٣- × جميزة ٤-) (جميزة ٢- × جميزة ٥-) (جميزة ١- × جميزة ٦). وبالنسبة للارتفاع النبات وميعادي التزهير كان الهجين (جميزة ٣ × جميزة ٦) وبالنسبة للهجين (جميزة ١ × جميزة ٢) و (جميزة ٢ × جميزة ٤) للارتفاع النبات وارتفاع الكوز على النبات.

(٧) أظهرت النتائج أن قوة الهجين على أساس الأب الثابت (هجين فردي - ١٢٩). قد تراوحت بين ٦,١٨% إلى ١٨,٧٧%.