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Stability analysis in pearl millet (*Pennisetum glaucum* (L.) R. Br.)

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Abstract

Stability for grain yield performance and genotype x environment (G x E) interaction was studied in 45 genotypes (Nine restorer inbred and their 36 hybrids made by using half diallel mating design) of pearl millet by evaluating them in different environments [Early (3th July), timely (18th July) and late sowing (3th August)] following randomized block design with three replications during *kharif* 2017 at Sagadividi Farm, Department of Seed Science and Technology, College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. One parents J-2482 and Nine Crosses (J-2433 x J-2482, J-2433 x J-2496, J-2433 x J-2508, J-2479 x J-2496, J-2482 x J-2496, J-2482 x J-2507, J-2496 x J-2507, J-2496 x J-2508 and J-2507 x J-2508) expressed their stability across the environments due to their high grain yield per plant, non-significant regression coefficient (b_i) and deviation from linear regression (S^2_{di}). The crosses, J-2433 x J-2503, J-2433 x J-2507, J-2479 x J-2482, J-2482 x J-2503, J-2496 x J-2503 and J-2500 x J-2507 were having more grain yield per plant and had the least deviation from linear regression, but had significant regression coefficient ($b_i > 1$) and thus, found to be highly responsive to better environments. The stable parents J-2482 were also showed stability for important yield components like ear head girth, total biomass per plant, Fe and Zn content. This indicated that stability of various component traits might be responsible for the observed stability of various hybrids for grain yield per plant. Hence, chances of selection of stable hybrids for yield could be enhanced by selecting for stability for yield components.

Keywords: pearl millet, environment, genotype x environment interaction, stability

Introduction

Pearl millet is an annual, tillering habit, diploid ($2n=14$) and the most important member of the genus *Pennisetum* belonging to the tribe *Panicaceae*, family *Poaceae*. It is commonly known as pearl, cat tail, spiked or bulrush millet in English with taxonomic nomenclature of *Pennisetum glaucum* (L.) R. Br., which is believed to be originated in Africa, Pearl millet is mainly grown in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Maharashtra; which share about 91.87 per cent of total pearl millet production of India. It is grown on about 9.03 million hectare area with an annual production of 6.67 million tones and productivity 730 kg/ha. In Gujarat, the cultivated area of pearl millet including *kharif* and *summer* season is an about 4.54 lakh hectare with production of 10.14 lakh metric tonnes with an average productivity of 2292 kg/ha (Anon., 2017) [2].

Genotype and its interaction with prevailing environment is the basic factor determining the final yield. The genotype x environment interaction is particularly important in the expression of quantitative characters, which are controlled by polygenic systems and are greatly modified by the environmental influences. Thus, in order to have unbiased estimates of various genetic components, it is imperative that the experiment should be repeated over different environments. Crop yield in which the plant breeder is most interested is dependent on the genotype, the environment and the interaction between genotype and environment. The result of the genotype x environment interaction is expressed as adaptability and stability of the genotype. When interaction between genotype and environment exists, ranking of genotype will be different under different environments. The stability of productivity is, therefore, very important. Hence, it is always desirable to study the stability of hybrids in respect of economically important characters. The estimates of genotype x environment interactions give an idea of stability or buffering ability of populations under study. The present investigation was, therefore, planned to measure the genotype x environment interaction and to estimate stability parameters for grain yield and its components in pearl millet.

Materials and Methods

The experimental material comprised of 36 crosses developed from 9 restorer inbred using half diallel mating design. The materials was evaluated in a Randomized Block Design with three replications in three different environments [Early (3th July), timely (18th July) and late sowing (3th August)] following randomized block design with three replications during *kharif* 2017 at Sagadividi Farm, Department of Seed Science and Technology, College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. Each entry was sown in a single row plot of 5.0 m length keeping row-to-row and plant-to-plant distance of 60 cm and 15 cm, respectively. Five competitive plants per genotype in each replication in each environment were selected randomly for recording observations on different characters *viz.*, number of node on main stem, number of effective tillers per plant, plant height (cm), ear head length (cm), ear head girth (cm), green ear head weight (g), dry ear head weight (g), grain yield per plant (g), test weight (g), panicle index, total biomass per plant(g), Fe content(ppm), Zn content (ppm), harvest index (%), while observations on days to 50% flowering and days to maturity were recorded on plot basis. The data were analyzed for G x E interactions and stability parameters following the model of Eberhart and Russell (1966)^[8].

Results and Discussion

The pooled analysis of variance (Table: 1) revealed that the mean squares due to genotypes were found significant for all the characters studied, when tested against pooled deviation. The mean sum of squares due to environments were found significant for all the characters except days to flowering, days to maturity, number of node on main stem, plant height and dry ear head weight when tested against pooled deviation. G x E interaction was found significant for all the characters studied, except panicle index, Fe content and Zn content when tested against pooled deviation. The mean sum of squares due to environments (linear) were also noted significant difference for all the characters studied when tested against pooled deviation, suggesting that differences between environments were considerable for grain yield per plant and it was influenced greatly by environment indicating thereby that large differences between environments along with the greater part of genotypic response was a linear function of environment. This also indicated that environments created by sowing dates was justified and had linear effects. The coincidence of genotypic performance with environmental values was observed for all the traits studied except days to flowering, number of node on main stem, panicle index, Fe and Zn content, as evident by significant G x E (linear) mean squares when tested against pooled deviation, indicating that performance of genotypes over environments could be predicted reasonably for these significant traits. Mean sum of squares due to pooled deviation were significant for all the characters, except panicle index, Fe content, Zn content and harvest index, which suggested that prediction of performance of genotypes over environments based on regression analysis for these traits might not be very reliable.

The stability of performance is one of the most desired characters of a genotype for wider adaptation. The stability parameters *viz.*, mean performance (Xi), regression coefficient (bi) and deviation from linear regression (S²di) for parents as well as hybrids were estimated for fourteen characters to assess the relative phenotypic stability of performance over environments.

Recently, interest has been focused on regression analysis. The regression approach was first proposed by Yates and Cochran (1938)^[28] which was later modified by Finlay and Wilkinson (1963)^[9] to interpret the varietal adaption to varying environments. Regression technique was slightly improved by adding one more parameters i.e. deviation from regression by Eberhart and Russell (1966)^[8]. According to them, both linear (bi) and non-linear (S²di) function should be considered while judging the phenotypic stability of genotype. Eberhart and Russell (1966)^[8] defined a stable genotype as one which produces high mean yield, depicts regression coefficient.

It is always justified to breed for genotypes with only high yield potential because of the times the yield potential cannot be expressed. Therefore, a much higher priority should be given to improve yield stability (Ceccarelli, 1989)^[4] Stability is genetically controlled characters (Bradshaw, 1965 and Scott, 1967 therefore, one can breed also for stability. Stability for yield may be dependent upon stability of different yield components. Hence, information on the relative stability for different yield components is essential to understand diverse mechanism contributing to yield stability. Stability in performance is one of the most desirable properties of a genotype for its wide adaptability. The stability parameters *viz.*, mean performance (Xi) across the environments, regression coefficient (bi) and deviation from linear regression (S²di) for parents and hybrids were estimated as per Eberhart and Russell (1966)^[8] for 16 characters to assess the relative stability of genotypes over environments and are presented in (Table 2 to 7). The perusal of stability parameters for grain yield per plant and other 15 characters revealed that none of genotypes was stable for all the characters which indicated that any generalization pertaining to stability of genotypes for all the traits was not possible. For grain yield per plant, one parents J-2482 and nine Crosses (J-2433 x J-2482, J-2433 x J-2496, J-2433 x J-2508, J-2479 x J-2496, J-2482 x J-2496, J-2482 x J-2507, J-2496 x J-2507, J-2496 x J-2508 and J-2507 x J-2508) expressed their stability across the environments due to their high grain yield per plant, non-significant regression coefficient (b_i) and deviation from linear regression (S²d_i). The crosses, J-2433 x J-2503, J-2433 x J-2507, J-2479 x J-2482, J-2482 x J-2503, J-2496 x J-2503 and J-2500 x J-2507 were having more grain yield per plant and had the least deviation from linear regression, but had significant regression coefficient (b_i >1) and thus, found to be highly responsive to better environments. while J-2482 x J-2500 and J-2503 x J-2507 had more grain yield per plant with non-significant deviation from regression, but had significant regression coefficient (b_i <1) showed above average response and high stability under unfavourable environments. The performance of J-2433 x J-2479 and J-2433 x J-2510 could not be predicted due to significant deviation from linear regression (S²di) for grain yield per plant.

In general, parents found stable for grain yield per plant also depicted their stability of performance across the environments for one or more yield attributing traits. The highest yielding stable parent, J-2482 (30.65 g) was found to be stable for ear head girth, total biomass per plant, Fe and Zn content. J-2482 was one of the parents of the three stable hybrids (J-2433 x J-2482, J-2482 x J-2496, J-2482 x J-2507) for grain yield per plant. Its utilization in hybrid breeding would be useful in improvement of R-line breeding.

The nine stable hybrids for grain yield per plant are listed in (Table: 8) along with their grain yield per plant and various

component traits for which they showed stability. The perusal of the data revealed that the best three stable hybrids for grain yield per plant were J-2433 × J-2482 (36.40 g), J-2482 × J-2496 (35.23 g) and J-2482 × J-2507 (34.46 g). Among these, first ranked stable hybrid, J-2433 × J-2482 was found to be stable for number of nodes on main stem, plant height, ear head length, ear head girth, harvest index, Zn content. It also showed stability under favourable environment for number of effective tillers per plant, green ear head weight, dry ear head weight, total biomass per plant, Fe content. This hybrid ranked first with respect to grain yield per plant and had high and significant positive sca effect as well as significant heterosis over better parent in E₁ and E₂ environments, while significant standard check, GHB-558 in all three environments. The second ranked stable hybrid, J-2482 × J-2496 was found to be stable for number of nodes on main stem and green ear head weight. It was also highly responsive to favourable environments for number of effective tillers per plant, plant height, ear head length, ear head girth, dry ear head weight, total biomass per plant, harvest index and Fe and Zn content. This hybrid ranked second in *per se* performance and high and significant positive sca effect as well as had significant heterosis over better parent as well as standard check, GHB-558. The third ranked stable hybrid J-2482 × J-2507 was found to be stable for days to 50% flowering, days to maturity, ear head length and ear head girth. It was also highly responsive to favourable environments for green ear head weight, dry ear head weight, total biomass per plant and harvest index. This hybrid ranked third in *per se* performance and had high and significant positive sca as well as had significant heterosis over better parent as well as standard check. Several research workers have also reported stability parameters for grain yield and its components *viz.*, Singh and Gupta (1978) [22], Chaudhary *et al.* (1981) [5], Gupta *et al.* (1983) [11], Pethani and Kapoor (1985) [17], Gupta and Ndoye (1991) [12], Suryavanshi *et al.* (1991) [24], Chavan and Nerkar (1994) [6], Karale *et al.* (1997) [14], Yadav *et al.* (1997) [27], Prajapati *et al.* (1998) [18], Monyo *et al.* (2000) [16], Anarase *et al.* (2001) [1], Hanif *et al.* (2001) [13], Raiger and Prabhakaran (2001) [19], Shindhe *et al.* (2002), Chikurte *et al.* (2003) [7], Kumar and Sahib (2003) [15], Umaretiya (2006) [25], Wedajo (2014) [26] and Singh and Singh (2016) [23].

In general, most of the hybrids identified as stable for grain yield per plant also showed stability for one or more component traits like days to 50% flowering, days to maturity, number of nodes on main stem, number of effective tillers per plant, plant height, ear head length, ear head girth, green ear head weight, dry ear head weight, total biomass per plant, Zn content and harvest index. This indicated that stability of various component traits might be responsible for the observed stability of various hybrids for grain yield per plant. Hence, chances of selection of stable hybrids for yield could be enhanced by selecting for stability for yield components. Grafius (1959) [10] also observed that stability of grain yield might be due to the stability of various yield components.

Component traits might be responsible for the observed stability of various hybrids for grain yield per plant. Hence, chances of selection of stable hybrids for yield could be enhanced by selecting for stability for yield components.

Grafius (1959) [10] also observed that stability of grain yield might be due to the stability of various yield components.

The stability parameters for component traits revealed that none of the parents and hybrids (genotypes) was stable for all the traits. The stability parameters for component traits revealed that 11 and 12 genotypes turned out to be stable each for days to flowering and days to maturity, respectively with low mean values (negative values were considered desirable for these traits), non-significant regression coefficient and deviations from linear regression. As many as 14, 02, 09, 11, 05, 09, 10 genotypes were found to be stable for number of nodes on main stem, number of effective tillers per plant, plant height, ear head length, ear head girth, green ear head weight and dry ear head weight, respectively with high mean, non-significant regression coefficient and deviations from linear regression. Total of 03, 05, 10, 13, 04 and 11 genotypes turned out to be stable across the environments for 1000 grain weight, panicle index, total biomass per plant, harvest index, Fe content and Zn content, respectively by recording high mean values for these traits with non-significant regression coefficient and deviations from linear regression.

Traits wise result of genotypes showing specific adaptation to favourable (better management condition) and unfavourable (poor management condition) environments revealed that 5 and 1 genotypes for days to flowering, 6 and 2 genotypes for days to maturity, 3 and 0 genotypes for number of nodes on main stem, 7 and 2 genotypes for number of effective tillers per plant, 8 and 2 genotypes for plant height, 6 and 0 genotypes for ear head length, 5 and 3 genotypes for ear head girth, 6 and 1 genotypes for green ear head weight, 6 and 3 genotypes for dry ear head weight, 6 and 2 genotypes for grain yield per plant, 7 and 4 genotypes for 1000 grain weight, 3 and 1 genotypes for panicle index, and 12 and 3 genotypes for total biomass per plant, 9 and 2 genotypes for harvest index, 15 and 0 genotypes for Fe content and 10 and 1 genotypes for Zn content, were found to be highly responsive to favourable and unfavourable environments, respectively.

The potential yield of each genotype can be realized under a particular set of agronomical practices. Hence, it is suggested that in order to identify stable genotypes, actual testing under variable environments including favourable and unfavourable would be advantageous. During selection, the attention should be paid to the phenotypic stability of characters directly related to grain yield per plant *viz.*, number of effective tillers per plant, ear head length, ear head girth, green ear head weight, dry ear head weight, grain yield per plant and 1000 grain weight in pearl millet.

Conclusion

From the foregoing discussion, it is clear that, parent J-2482 was found to be stable for grain yield per plant and some of the important yield components should be given due importance while formulating breeding programme aiming to develop high yielding and stable hybrids in pearl millet. The best stable cross combinations for seed yield per plant and important yield components J-2433 × J-2482, J-2482 × J-2496 and J-2482 × J-2507 Thus, is due importance to be content to be given to this parent while formulating R- line breeding programme aiming to develop high yielding and stable hybrids in pearl millet.

Table 1: Analysis of variance (m.s.s.) for phenotypic stability for different characters in pearl millet

Sources of variation	d.f.	Characters							
		Days to 50% Flowering	Days to Maturity	Number of nodes on main stem	Number of effective tillers per plant	Plant height (cm)	Ear head length (cm)	Ear head girth (cm)	Green ear head weight (g)
Environments	2	7.05	6.76	0.46	0.29**	156.22	12.42*	1.03*	620.27**
Genotypes	45	12.49**	13.69**	1.97**	0.23**	511.80**	28.49**	3.27**	200.86**
Genotype x Environment	90	3.30**	3.43**	0.21**	0.06**	92.07**	2.76**	0.30**	38.66**
Environments (linear)	1	14.09**	13.53**	0.91**	0.59**	312.44**	24.85**	2.07**	1240.54**
Genotype x Environment (linear)	45	2.47	4.23**	0.15	0.06**	130.34**	2.22*	0.39**	44.11**
Pooled deviation	46	4.03**	2.58*	0.28**	0.05**	52.63**	3.23**	0.21**	32.50**
Pooled error	270	1.79	1.75	0.09	0.01	20.99	1.31	0.08	16.92

Table 1: Contd.....

Sources of variation	d.f.	Characters							
		Dry ear head weight (g)	Grain yield per plant (g)	1000 grain weight (g)	Panicle index (%)	Total biomass per plant (g)	Fe Content (ppm)	Zn Content (ppm)	Harvest index (%)
Environments	2	42.33	61.02**	1.61*	1020.97**	93.87*	187.46**	105.71**	37.86**
Genotypes	45	76.62**	34.72**	1.76**	71.93**	213.71**	397.45**	43.33**	21.41**
Genotype x Environment	90	14.27**	6.25**	0.41**	18.02	28.79**	11.54	5.23	3.50*
Environments (linear)	1	84.66**	122.04**	3.23**	2041.95**	187.74**	374.93**	211.41**	75.71**
Genotype x Environment (linear)	45	14.58**	6.01*	0.46**	19.29	35.06**	14.49	3.62	4.83*
Pooled deviation	46	13.66**	6.36**	0.35**	16.39	22.03*	8.42	6.68	2.12
Pooled error	270	6.18	3.07	0.14	16.24	15.45	18.01	9.19	2.59

* and ** significant at 5 and 1 per cent level probability, respectively.

Table 2: Stability parameters of different genotypes for days to 50 per cent flowering, days to maturity and number of nodes on main stem in pearl millet

Sr. No.	Genotypes	Days to 50 per cent flowering			Days to maturity			Number of nodes on main stem		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
Parents										
1.	J- 2433	48.69	1.59	-1.56	80.05	-0.40	-1.71	7.05	-1.93	-0.02
2.	J-2479	44.97	1.31	-0.91	76.78	0.77	0.59	6.85	1.83	-0.06
3.	J-2482	47.60	-1.75	-0.40	78.53	1.91	1.53	5.13	-1.24	0.33*
4.	J-2496	45.65	1.29	4.78	76.25	-2.47	-1.20	5.55	1.77	-0.04
5.	J-2500	46.92	5.54	1.09	77.52	6.23	1.96	5.93	-1.22	0.23
6.	J-2503	45.69	-0.79	5.67*	75.98	7.84*	1.31	6.32	-1.23	-0.03
7.	J-2507	43.02	-0.37	0.51	74.15	0.20	-1.74	4.94	-2.58	0.47*
8.	J-2508	41.42	1.7	7.92*	72.99	1.12	-1.62	4.94	-7.08*	0.12
9.	J-2510	42.85	3.27**	-1.73	72.97	0.95	-1.29	6.04	0.70	0.25
Crosses										
10.	J-2433 × J-2479	47.33	-2.71	0.97	78.26	-3.41	0.82	7.65	-0.41	-0.04
11.	J-2433 × J-2482	45.24	-0.10	1.22	78.53	-2.79+	-0.85	7.41	0.75	0.00
12.	J-2433 × J-2496	45.67	-0.11	4.77	76.60	-4.3**	-1.75	6.57	6.28*	0.09
13.	J-2433 × J-2500	45.56	3.17**	-1.75	76.49	1.45	-0.60	6.41	5.69	0.27*
14.	J-2433 × J-2503	46.34	3.64	16.40**	77.27	8.81**	-1.67	7.57	-0.10	-0.04
15.	J-2433 × J-2507	43.36	7.93**	-1.60	74.30	1.53	12.58**	6.66	1.79	0.03
16.	J-2433 × J-2508	44.13	-1.95	0.53	75.06	-2.97	-0.25	6.27	3.93	0.25
17.	J-2433 × J-2510	45.30	5.00**	-1.75	77.32	4.56	16.78**	5.55	0.96	0.60**
18.	J-2479 × J-2482	43.52	5.69	4.33	74.46	-2.67	7.86*	7.14	1.78	0.08
19.	J-2479 × J-2496	44.61	-0.39**	-1.79	75.54	0.27	-1.11	6.72	0.70	0.03
20.	J-2479 × J-2500	42.05	1.73	10.99**	72.98	-5.66*	-0.15	7.07	6.73	1.28**
21.	J-2479 × J-2503	42.69	3.74**	-1.76	73.62	1.54	0.16	5.83	-2.56	0.52*
22.	J-2479 × J-2507	44.79	0.99	-0.06	75.72	-1.83**	-1.66	5.84	1.72	0.34*

Table 2: Contd.....

Sr. No.	Genotypes	Days to 50 per cent flowering			Days to maturity			Number of nodes on main stem		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
23.	J-2479× J-2508	40.60	-3.09	10.27*	72.50	1.26	7.38*	6.32	4.11	0.20
24.	J-2479× J-2510	43.76	-2.95	1.30	74.69	-3.64	1.16	5.80	1.42	0.31*
25.	J-2482× J-2496	43.92	1.69	3.27	74.85	-3.31*	-0.93	7.70	3.61	0.12
26.	J-2482× J-2500	42.51	-2.96	11.96**	73.44	-7.12**	-0.28	4.84	1.89**	-0.08
27.	J-2482× J-2503	42.02	6.90	12.63**	72.95	8.82*	2.88	5.77	-0.68	-0.07
28.	J-2482× J-2507	41.98	-0.21	1.41	72.91	3.40	-0.44	4.54	1.71	0.37*
29.	J-2482× J-2508	43.86	0.87	1.20	74.79	3.57**	-1.45	5.12	-1.72	-0.05
30.	J-2482× J-2510	43.27	2.26	3.53	74.20	-3.27	-0.25	5.27	1.90*	-0.07
31.	J-2496× J-2500	40.85	-0.42	-1.50	71.45	2.61	-0.81	6.37	1.86	-0.04
32.	J-2496× J-2503	44.29	3.58	4.50	74.89	-1.78	2.05	5.40	1.79	0.02
33.	J-2496× J-2507	45.75	-6.61	1.67	75.84	2.28	10.55**	6.23	0.74*	-0.09
34.	J-2496× J-2508	40.35	-2.15**	-1.73	71.21	2.27	-0.11	5.04	2.01	0.27*
35.	J-2496× J-2510	41.13	1.78	3.31	71.73	-1.80	-0.89	5.53	0.73	-0.05
36.	J-2500× J-2503	42.12	-1.14	3.22	72.72	5.46	1.44	5.68	1.67	0.65**
37.	J-2500× J-2507	42.10	-0.64	-1.25	72.70	0.27	-1.17	6.34	1.97	0.09
38.	J-2500× J-2508	45.01	2.22	0.19	75.61	-0.17	-0.86	6.91	1.73	0.27*
39.	J-2500× J-2510	42.89	2.39	-1.08	73.49	3.89**	-1.54	6.03	2.04	0.40*
40.	J-2503× J-2507	44.07	2.16	7.29*	74.67	7.70**	-1.71	7.17	5.26**	-0.07
41.	J-2503× J-2508	40.88	-0.05	-0.39	71.48	3.86*	-0.88	5.92	2.81**	-0.09
42.	J-2503× J-2510	43.19	0.52	4.14	73.79	6.24**	-0.86	6.35	0.40	0.34*
43.	J-2507× J-2508	43.73	-2.28**	-1.76	74.33	1.48	1.74	5.96	1.81	-0.03
44.	J-2507× J-2510	41.13	2.27**	-1.74	71.73	2.77**	-1.44	5.18	-6.77	0.94**
45.	J-2508× J-2510	40.31	1.15**	-1.78	71.64	-1.0**	-1.75	5.24	-1.57	0.23
	Mean	43.68	-	-	74.63	-	-	6.08	-	-

*, ** Indicates significance at P = 0.05 and P = 0.01 levels, respectively

Table 3: Stability parameters of different genotypes for plant height (cm), number of effective tillers per plant and ear head length in pearl millet

Sr. No.	Genotypes	Number of effective tillers per plant			Plant height (cm)			Ear head length (cm)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
Parents										
1.	J- 2433	1.60	0.87*	-0.01	160.20	3.61	86.18*	19.80	-0.62	2.40
2.	J-2479	1.54	0.23	0.02	153.06	-0.08	66.68*	18.54	-2.57	1.19
3.	J-2482	1.43	1.57**	-0.01	141.26	2.05	-11.71	17.66	1.80**	-1.06
4.	J-2496	1.35	1.53**	-0.01	145.45	-4.29*	-1.64	15.34	1.75*	-0.95
5.	J-2500	1.58	1.99	0.00	143.27	-2.23**	-20.36	16.19	-1.83	1.48
6.	J-2503	1.60	0.74*	-0.01	142.77	-0.13	-17.93	15.76	1.93**	-1.26
7.	J-2507	1.43	-0.29	-0.01	132.13	-5.94	103.64*	14.94	2.38*	-0.72
8.	J-2508	1.40	-1.34	0.03*	126.72	2.53	6.80	14.71	-1.73*	-0.98
9.	J-2510	1.33	-0.63	-0.00	138.41	4.35	47.50	16.32	-4.02	2.72
Crosses										
10.	J-2433 × J-2479	2.18	5.06**	-0.00	172.55	1.84*	-15.99	22.71	5.66**	1.12
11.	J-2433 × J-2482	1.95	2.95**	-0.01	167.73	-1.40	6.77	24.85	0.05	-0.54
12.	J-2433× J-2496	2.06	2.87**	-0.01	164.33	2.27	41.58	25.70	4.34**	-1.22
13.	J-2433× J-2500	2.16	8.29**	-0.002	170.51	7.73**	-10.32	20.89	-0.19	6.14*
14.	J-2433× J-2503	2.40	-4.51	0.28**	176.28	-3.28**	-17.71	19.73	1.43	2.86
15.	J-2433× J-2507	1.86	1.26**	-0.01	161.98	4.97**	-3.46	17.18	1.33	4.20*
16.	J-2433× J-2508	1.48	1.93**	-0.01	162.51	0.78	-10.00	14.76	0.91**	-1.25
17.	J-2433× J-2510	1.39	1.44**	-0.01	145.06	2.55	53.82	15.90	2.43**	-1.20
18.	J-2479× J-2482	1.99	0.19	-0.01	167.35	0.31	10.45	22.00	1.48	0.11
19.	J-2479× J-2496	1.71	-0.08	0.03	172.44	1.12	6.63	22.23	-2.31	5.30*
20.	J-2479× J-2500	2.08	4.06**	-0.01	163.55	10.76**	-20.98	21.62	2.89**	-1.18
21.	J-2479× J-2503	1.57	-0.39	-0.01	140.54	-10.224***	30.90	23.23	2.37**	-1.30
22.	J-2479× J-2507	2.08	-0.60	0.43**	150.08	10.39**	-10.06	15.11	2.00**	-1.30
Parents										
Sr. No.	Genotypes	Number of effective tillers per plant			Plant height (cm)			Ear head length (cm)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
23.	J-2479× J-2508	1.48	0.56	0.00	154.41	3.19	299.41**	21.17	1.25	1.52
24.	J-2479× J-2510	1.83	-1.88	0.13**	141.47	1.68**	-20.91	16.11	1.49	5.32*
25.	J-2482× J-2496	1.70	2.99**	-0.01	172.36	5.88**	-20.96	21.09	2.00**	-1.30
26.	J-2482× J-2500	2.08	6.53	0.17**	153.20	-3.55	28.39	23.11	1.99**	-1.30
27.	J-2482× J-2503	2.10	0.38	0.13**	148.11	-3.88	195.48**	23.07	-2.22	-0.07
28.	J-2482× J-2507	1.30	0.24	-0.00	144.23	2.96	49.03	16.47	2.63	0.45
29.	J-2482× J-2508	1.71	2.84	0.03*	144.71	-0.43	-18.50	18.39	2.55**	-1.20
30.	J-2482× J-2510	1.59	1.02	0.03*	135.28	2.5	32.46	15.16	-2.86	4.94*
31.	J-2496× J-2500	1.84	3.23	0.11**	150.68	4.08*	5.82	20.66	-1.09	5.03*
32.	J-2496× J-2503	1.67	-0.48	0.08**	148.74	-2.6	23.06	20.59	2.53	-0.11

33.	J-2496× J-2507	1.39	1.40*	-0.01	156.45	1.37	-11.81	16.66	2.84	1.81
34.	J-2496× J-2508	1.34	-1.63	-0.00	131.22	0.38	50.19	19.25	1.17	2.17
35.	J-2496× J-2510	1.60	-1.53	0.00	142.56	-2.35	13.39	14.73	-0.99	1.54
36.	J-2500× J-2503	1.75	3.26	0.03*	154.48	0.92	17.16	20.24	-0.26	10.38**
37.	J-2500× J-2507	1.70	-1.12*	-0.01	139.38	2.2	112.77*	21.59	0.84	1.43
38.	J-2500× J-2508	2.01	-0.66**	-0.01	153.05	6.97**	-11.59	15.25	2.00**	-1.30
39.	J-2500× J-2510	1.56	0.62	0.01	128.54	4.06	38.91	14.33	-0.25	7.23*
40.	J-2503× J-2507	1.70	2.93	0.07**	161.46	4.42**	-20.05	18.07	1.13	2.52
41.	J-2503× J-2508	1.45	-0.51	0.10**	156.30	-8.84**	15.29	18.08	4.54	28.72**
42.	J-2503× J-2510	1.38	0.23	-0.01	139.84	-2.59	323.23**	14.83	0.74	6.54*
43.	J-2507× J-2508	1.49	0.50	0.06*	157.63	-0.16	54.88	19.73	1.56	-0.25
44.	J-2507× J-2510	1.41	-0.64	0.03*	135.69	-5.47*	16.04	17.47	1.99**	-1.30
45.	J-2508× J-2510	1.53	0.44	0.12**	133.50	6.03**	-16.94	19.29	2.86	1.99
Mean		1.68	-	-	150.47	-	-	18.66	-	-

*, ** Indicates significance at P = 0.05 and P = 0.01 levels, respectively

Table 4: Stability parameters of different genotypes for ear head girth, green ear head weight and dry ear head weight in Pearl millet

Sr. No.	Genotypes	Ear head girth (cm)			Green ear head weight (g)			Dry ear head weight (g)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
Parents										
1.	J- 2433	8.43	3.18	0.44*	76.37	0.36	-6.63	50.82	-2.92*	-2.53
2.	J-2479	8.40	-8.62**	0.08	72.34	0.07	81.43*	48.02	3.02	14.59
3.	J-2482	8.50	2.18	0.19	78.48	-1.31**	-12.98	50.31	-4.12**	-1.80
4.	J-2496	6.50	3.25	0.17	65.21	-0.80**	-5.18	42.26	-2.30	10.52
5.	J-2500	5.92	4.09*	0.09	57.65	1.49	7.15	39.32	1.24	-3.82
6.	J-2503	6.92	3.09**	-0.05	58.06	-1.04**	-16.76	37.79	-0.86	-1.12
7.	J-2507	6.52	0.24	-0.05	68.95	1.73*	-2.92	44.61	3.14**	-4.69
8.	J-2508	6.60	0.80	0.04	65.41	0.39+	-15.01	42.34	-0.61**	-6.08
9.	J-2510	5.53	-0.09	0.21	56.55	-0.19	37.98	37.23	-0.17	33.50*
Crosses										
10.	J-2433 × J-2479	9.39	5.66**	0.07	84.44	2.34**	-16.76	54.53	4.02**	-2.16
11.	J-2433 × J-2482	8.31	-0.65	-0.07	86.15	2.39**	-1.84	54.55	3.97**	-4.36
12.	J-2433× J-2496	8.55	2.28	0.40*	73.59	2.59**	3.42	47.44	5.07**	-5.27
13.	J-2433× J-2500	7.50	1.18**	-0.08	69.24	1.18	-4.12	44.67	0.66	-0.03
14.	J-2433× J-2503	9.21	5.90**	-0.03	80.36	1.25	20.25	51.87	2.45	4.13
15.	J-2433× J-2507	8.49	1.84	0.06	83.61	0.89**	-14.79	53.91	0.76	-5.25
16.	J-2433× J-2508	8.81	3.92	1.03**	74.63	2.57**	-0.26	48.13	4.88**	-5.95
17.	J-2433× J-2510	7.37	-3.75	0.57**	76.75	-0.49	-12.61	49.45	-2.06	3.35
18.	J-2479× J-2482	8.87	-5.93**	-0.07	79.51	0.59	83.37*	51.35	1.68	34.98*
19.	J-2479× J-2496	8.77	3.92	0.18	77.64	0.78	-9.38	50.40	0.28	-3.01
20.	J-2479× J-2500	8.50	-4.70**	0.07	70.06	2.94**	-15.18	45.15	4.85*	3.72
21.	J-2479× J-2503	6.78	0.34	0.10	67.17	1.98	16.81	43.42	4.25**	-2.19
22.	J-2479× J-2507	7.00	2.89	0.05	68.85	1.68*	-2.22	44.51	1.70	4.46

Sr. No.	Genotypes	Ear head girth (cm)			Green ear head weight (g)			Dry ear head weight (g)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
23.	J-2479× J-2508	7.99	1.26	0.26*	68.73	2.36	50.80*	44.39	2.54	38.08**
24.	J-2479× J-2510	7.05	2.42	0.12	68.81	2.16**	-14.38	44.41	3.82**	-5.80
25.	J-2482× J-2496	9.40	5.93**	-0.08	81.96	-0.61+	-2.82	52.82	-3.60**	-6.16
26.	J-2482× J-2500	8.86	2.44	1.17**	74.91	-0.04	218.50**	48.79	-4.69	64.45**
27.	J-2482× J-2503	7.25	-3.63*	0.01	77.69	1.12	29.65	50.09	2.29	9.50
28.	J-2482× J-2507	7.80	-0.91	-0.06	81.25	2.84**	-12.55	52.36	5.09**	-5.02
29.	J-2482× J-2508	8.52	0.35	0.62**	57.53	2.63**	-16.82	37.27	4.70**	-0.52
30.	J-2482× J-2510	7.07	1.66	0.32*	55.80	-1.20**	-12.24	37.55	-2.31**	-5.95
31.	J-2496× J-2500	6.99	3.87	0.35*	67.98	-0.24	0.22	43.98	-1.20	8.35
32.	J-2496× J-2503	6.75	2.34*	-0.04	86.30	1.29	66.97*	54.32	2.91	-0.48
33.	J-2496× J-2507	6.57	0.65	-0.07	72.41	0.86	39.69	46.79	-0.80	13.94
34.	J-2496× J-2508	6.80	-0.04	0.06	77.99	1.56	50.40*	50.21	0.52	23.70*
35.	J-2496× J-2510	6.60	-1.13	-0.01	58.21	2.41**	-16.88	37.76	4.22**	-1.74
36.	J-2500× J-2503	5.97	2.04**	-0.06	62.69	0.80	-4.89	40.66	1.18	-2.33
37.	J-2500× J-2507	6.00	-1.00**	-0.08	72.42	2.38**	3.45	46.76	4.74**	-5.30
38.	J-2500× J-2508	6.42	-0.48	-0.06	67.12	2.68	53.24*	43.34	3.19	45.58**
39.	J-2500× J-2510	5.89	-1.21	-0.06	63.14	-0.88	-8.34	40.47	-3.42	13.79
40.	J-2503× J-2507	7.07	2.69	0.15	71.38	0.74	26.84	46.27	-0.85	8.66
41.	J-2503× J-2508	7.54	1.88**	-0.06	68.84	2.49	69.17*	45.36	2.56	21.59*
42.	J-2503× J-2510	7.15	2.35**	-0.08	68.84	0.05	-2.09	44.54	-0.48	4.46
43.	J-2507× J-2508	6.51	-0.69	-0.06	72.91	1.06	10.07	47.01	0.02	4.52
44.	J-2507× J-2510	6.55	0.72**	-0.08	69.43	-1.41	32.01	44.97	-3.14	40.79**
45.	J-2508× J-2510	7.22	2.81**	-0.04	60.20	1.57	34.39	39.02	1.03	20.54*
Mean		7.43	-	-	70.99	-	-	45.92	-	-

*, ** Indicates significance at P = 0.05 and P = 0.01 levels, respectively

Table 5: Stability parameters of different genotypes for Grain yield per plant, 1000 grain weight and panicle index (%) in pearl millet

Sr. No.	Genotypes	Grain yield per plant (g)			1000 grain weight (g)			Panicle index (%)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
Parents										
1.	J- 2433	29.91	-0.53	9.21*	8.04	3.50**	-0.04	170.57	0.08	24.14
2.	J-2479	29.95	2.45*	-0.17	7.33	-1.59	0.08	161.66	1.27	120.46**
3.	J-2482	30.65	1.06	-0.00	7.53	-1.69	0.97**	164.83	0.76	234.86**
4.	J-2496	26.97	1.24	6.15	8.00	0.27	-0.07	157.23	0.63	-6.93
5.	J-2500	25.65	1.84**	-2.96	7.80	5.14**	-0.01	153.72	1.48**	-12.54
6.	J-2503	25.25	0.68	4.30	8.43	2.24	0.10	150.48	0.93	19.51
7.	J-2507	27.10	0.77	-1.99	8.60	-0.50**	-0.14	164.89	-0.44	26.08
8.	J-2508	25.40	-1.36**	-2.84	8.05	-0.57	-0.02	167.44	-1.38	45.16
9.	J-2510	24.74	1.55	2.23	7.47	0.11	0.04	150.96	-0.92*	-9.54
Crosses										
10.	J-2433 × J-2479	36.84	1.35	10.77*	9.48	1.89	3.15**	148.78	0.75*	-12.39
11.	J-2433 × J-2482	36.40	1.56	4.61	8.09	-0.81**	-0.14	150.14	1.01**	-15.44
12.	J-2433 × J-2496	31.51	2.56	2.52	8.05	5.07**	-0.05	151.05	1.12**	-11.98
13.	J-2433 × J-2500	29.41	0.30	-2.80	8.73	-1.50**	-0.13	152.30	1.41**	-15.98
14.	J-2433 × J-2503	34.20	2.97**	-2.57	9.77	2.00**	-0.14	152.05	1.38**	-15.81
15.	J-2433 × J-2507	35.54	1.69*	-1.84	8.70	4.21**	-0.14	151.88	1.35**	-16.05
16.	J-2433 × J-2508	31.73	2.62	3.48	9.67	-4.28**	-0.12	152.39	1.37**	-15.09
17.	J-2433 × J-2510	32.65	1.42	10.30*	7.43	-2.21	0.52*	152.17	1.38**	-16.22
18.	J-2479 × J-2482	34.12	3.83**	0.48	8.17	-1.21	0.01	151.35	1.26**	-11.70
19.	J-2479 × J-2496	34.06	0.19	-2.22	8.34	1.50*	-0.10	148.77	1.40*	1.38
20.	J-2479 × J-2500	29.38	1.29	7.76	8.50	4.91*	0.23	153.95	1.59**	-13.08
21.	J-2479 × J-2503	28.70	3.13**	-1.70	9.17	0.73	0.22	151.88	1.73**	-15.08
22.	J-2479 × J-2507	29.56	0.29	3.11	8.30	-0.67	0.32	150.91	0.97	1.12
Sr. No.	Genotypes	Grain yield per plant (g)			1000 grain weight (g)			Panicle index (%)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
23.	J-2479 × J-2508	29.20	-0.90	7.17	9.21	6.65	0.81*	151.68	1.10**	-14.39
24.	J-2479 × J-2510	28.81	1.38	3.52	6.87	2.65**	-0.13	154.33	0.72**	-15.67
25.	J-2482 × J-2496	35.23	-0.01	4.79	8.42	2.50	0.82*	150.08	0.97	-1.81
26.	J-2482 × J-2500	31.95	-3.39**	-0.91	7.82	0.34	0.11	152.22	1.25**	-16.22
27.	J-2482 × J-2503	33.24	3.33**	-1.94	8.25	-1.01	0.44*	151.45	1.63**	-15.70
28.	J-2482 × J-2507	34.46	2.24	5.81	7.50	0.90	0.05	152.05	1.34**	-15.26
29.	J-2482 × J-2508	24.32	1.34	10.37*	7.65	-0.27	0.85**	153.44	1.33**	-14.45
30.	J-2482 × J-2510	24.56	-0.10	1.84	7.40	-1.03**	-0.13	153.38	1.37**	-16.24
31.	J-2496 × J-2500	29.28	1.75	5.27	8.39	2.71**	-0.10	151.42	1.18**	-16.24
32.	J-2496 × J-2503	34.93	2.05**	-3.07	9.23	-0.75	0.22	156.03	0.70	-7.59
33.	J-2496 × J-2507	31.08	-0.89	-2.15	9.55	3.65	1.80**	150.58	0.93	0.60
34.	J-2496 × J-2508	32.22	-1.80	3.25	8.47	1.87*	-0.10	156.55	-0.35**	-16.22
35.	J-2496 × J-2510	24.62	1.32	6.39	7.87	4.44**	-0.14	153.40	1.34**	-14.75
36.	J-2500 × J-2503	27.54	1.81**	-3.05	8.33	4.55**	0.02	147.66	1.00*	-8.17
37.	J-2500 × J-2507	30.76	2.73*	1.33	9.60	3.57**	-0.08	152.44	1.36**	-15.18
38.	J-2500 × J-2508	28.34	-0.71	14.36*	8.30	1.16	-0.10	152.60	1.23**	-16.06
39.	J-2500 × J-2510	26.56	1.43	23.43**	7.20	-1.03**	-0.13	153.07	1.43**	-16.22
40.	J-2503 × J-2507	30.84	-0.86**	-3.00	9.20	-0.52**	-0.14	149.86	0.81**	-14.71
41.	J-2503 × J-2508	30.03	0.19	3.25	9.73	2.21**	-0.14	151.15	1.79**	-15.39
42.	J-2503 × J-2510	29.21	2.11	2.45	8.93	-4.51	0.85**	153.31	1.51**	-12.65
43.	J-2507 × J-2508	30.97	-0.12	-2.97	9.60	2.54*	-0.03	152.43	1.29**	-16.12
44.	J-2507 × J-2510	29.64	2.41	30.83**	9.20	0.82	0.53*	152.60	1.43**	-16.24
45.	J-2508 × J-2510	26.05	-1.28	-1.34	7.99	-2.74**	-0.13	149.83	0.93	16.78
Mean		30.03	-	-	8.40	-	-	153.45	-	-

*, ** Indicates significance at P = 0.05 and P = 0.01 levels, respectively

Table 6: Stability parameters of different genotypes for total biomass per plant and harvest index in pearl millet

Sr. No.	Genotype	Total biomass per plant (g)			Harvest index (%)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
Parents							
1.	J- 2433	94.35	0.45	-6.54	31.70	-0.43	10.45*
2.	J-2479	90.33	4.22	53.24*	33.08	0.43	-0.58
3.	J-2482	90.76	-3.38	1.75	33.92	1.82	1.65
4.	J-2496	90.56	-1.61	12.43	29.80	1.77*	-2.36
5.	J-2500	72.67	-0.54	-8.17	35.40	4.27**	-1.61
6.	J-2503	73.44	-1.33	75.04*	34.40	-0.27	-2.41
7.	J-2507	84.04	0.83	-2.83	32.38	1.62**	-2.40
8.	J-2508	88.15	-1.81**	-15.26	28.83	-1.25**	-2.51
9.	J-2510	79.75	1.99	67.39*	30.95	-0.01	-1.65

Crosses							
10.	J-2433 × J-2479	101.71	4.86*	6.33	36.15	0.27	-2.52
11.	J-2433 × J-2482	102.75	3.66**	-13.26	35.37	0.33	-1.27
12.	J-2433× J-2496	94.43	2.22**	-14.96	33.16	1.73	4.29
13.	J-2433× J-2500	92.88	3.96	12.85	31.72	0.32	3.75
14.	J-2433× J-2503	95.28	3.28**	-14.68	36.06	2.65**	-1.97
15.	J-2433× J-2507	95.85	1.19**	-15.45	37.13	2.07**	-2.06
16.	J-2433× J-2508	93.20	5.32**	-12.03	34.05	1.48**	-2.25
17.	J-2433× J-2510	92.82	-2.68	-2.242	35.25	2.74**	-2.49
18.	J-2479× J-2482	95.51	3.41	63.09*	35.56	2.03**	-2.55
19.	J-2479× J-2496	100.70	4.18**	-12.50	33.97	-0.22	9.68*
20.	J-2479× J-2500	95.46	1.36	30.04	30.79	1.712	1.98
21.	J-2479× J-2503	91.13	3.52**	-15.14	31.61	2.86*	-1.35
22.	J-2479× J-2507	85.81	-0.04	-2.511	34.59	0.54	1.46
Sr. No.	Genotype	Total biomass per plant (g)			Harvest index (%)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
23.	J-2479× J-2508	87.71	1.21	50.17*	33.96	-0.49**	-2.55
24.	J-2479× J-2510	89.80	5.98**	-8.02	32.15	-0.09	-2.37
25.	J-2482× J-2496	98.24	-3.99**	-14.77	35.91	1.78**	-2.58
26.	J-2482× J-2500	88.46	-4.55	26.52	36.10	-0.81	1.16
27.	J-2482× J-2503	90.83	1.21	-0.98	36.58	3.17**	-1.23
28.	J-2482× J-2507	88.27	4.55*	0.65	39.00	1.80**	-2.29
29.	J-2482× J-2508	76.00	4.78*	7.17	32.03	0.39	-1.37
30.	J-2482× J-2510	77.42	-4.71**	-10.38	31.86	2.97**	-2.58
31.	J-2496× J-2500	79.90	0.98*	-14.66	36.56	3.65	7.036
32.	J-2496× J-2503	95.29	3.70*	-6.68	36.80	0.35	-1.92
33.	J-2496× J-2507	76.36	-0.13	8.37	40.76	0.11	-2.05
34.	J-2496× J-2508	93.82	1.12**	-15.40	34.47	-3.25**	-2.35
35.	J-2496× J-2510	69.50	3.94**	-13.20	35.33	-1.08	0.97
36.	J-2500× J-2503	78.42	0.09	-15.12	35.09	2.49*	-0.62
37.	J-2500× J-2507	82.77	4.23**	-14.53	37.08	1.31	-0.67
38.	J-2500× J-2508	77.29	1.96	1.85	36.67	-1.99	-0.16
39.	J-2500× J-2510	82.48	-5.83**	-11.22	32.25	5.03**	-2.28
40.	J-2503× J-2507	88.55	-1.08**	-15.45	34.79	-1.01**	-2.54
41.	J-2503× J-2508	79.98	2.43	10.78	37.50	0.06	-2.56
42.	J-2503× J-2510	90.01	-1.09	-4.42	32.46	2.95**	-2.42
43.	J-2507× J-2508	95.78	-0.41	43.86	32.25	1.42*	-2.03
44.	J-2507× J-2510	71.45	0.55	122.31**	41.40	1.40	4.66
45.	J-2508× J-2510	83.12	-0.16	-14.41	31.33	-2.03**	-2.43
	Mean	87.58	-	-	34.37	-	-

*, ** Indicates significance at P = 0.05 and P = 0.01 levels, respectively

Table 7: Stability parameters of different genotypes for Fe & Zn content (ppm) in pearl millet

Sr. No.	Genotype	Fe content (ppm)			Zn content (ppm)		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
Parents							
1.	J- 2433	59.67	2.05**	-17.81	44.78	1.27**	-9.06
2.	J-2479	71.89	2.48*	-9.76	45.89	1.41**	-8.53
3.	J-2482	76.67	1.70	-9.16	43.67	0.37	-8.93
4.	J-2496	61.41	-0.66	-11.51	40.22	0.44**	-9.15
5.	J-2500	62.67	0.84**	-17.84	46.11	-0.43**	-9.11
6.	J-2503	74.00	2.05**	-17.81	36.33	1.33**	-9.17
7.	J-2507	59.89	1.80**	-17.90	40.56	1.40**	-9.07
8.	J-2508	66.54	0.55	-16.64	41.78	1.06**	-8.54
9.	J-2510	68.89	-0.48	-15.19	44.11	1.11	-6.79
Crosses							
10.	J-2433 × J-2479	79.67	2.07**	-17.81	43.78	3.51	46.47*
11.	J-2433 × J-2482	73.33	2.05**	-17.81	43.00	0.43	-1.40
12.	J-2433× J-2496	71.85	2.07**	-17.81	32.44	1.47**	-8.86
13.	J-2433× J-2500	75.68	2.05**	-17.81	39.56	-1.23	49.66*
14.	J-2433× J-2503	72.20	2.05**	-17.80	43.00	1.33**	-9.17
15.	J-2433× J-2507	69.00	2.07**	-17.81	48.11	-0.05	-9.13
16.	J-2433× J-2508	75.22	1.935**	-18.00	43.33	1.33**	-9.17
17.	J-2433× J-2510	55.56	-0.92	-15.09	40.00	1.54**	-8.54
18.	J-2479× J-2482	81.57	2.05**	-17.81	39.67	1.33**	-9.17
19.	J-2479× J-2496	56.84	-1.25	-0.57	39.00	1.33**	-9.17
20.	J-2479× J-2500	60.21	0.71**	-17.63	38.33	1.33**	-9.17
21.	J-2479× J-2503	64.08	1.92**	-15.86	49.89	1.15	-1.89
22.	J-2479× J-2507	60.56	1.59	-1.89	48.22	0.06	-9.13

Sr. No.	Genotype	Fe ppm			Zn ppm		
		Mean	b _i	S ² d _i	Mean	b _i	S ² d _i
23.	J-2479× J-2508	62.49	1.05*	-16.03	45.22	0.04	-7.79
24.	J-2479× J-2510	52.91	-2.72**	-17.64	42.78	0.85	-6.95
25.	J-2482× J-2496	71.03	2.05**	-17.81	48.00	1.33**	-9.17
26.	J-2482× J-2500	55.36	0.78	-2.48	43.33	1.68**	-7.40
27.	J-2482× J-2503	56.03	0.32	-11.88	45.67	1.33**	-9.17
28.	J-2482× J-2507	64.73	2.02**	-17.52	36.22	1.22**	-8.83
29.	J-2482× J-2508	56.09	2.01**	-17.66	46.67	2.46**	-8.97
30.	J-2482× J-2510	82.67	2.05**	-17.81	41.56	-0.96	26.64*
31.	J-2496× J-2500	62.05	1.50**	-17.95	42.33	1.74*	-6.97
32.	J-2496× J-2503	70.33	2.02**	-17.52	43.00	1.33**	-9.17
33.	J-2496× J-2507	67.52	1.88**	-14.92	37.33	1.33**	-9.18
34.	J-2496× J-2508	58.26	-0.76	-0.90	47.00	1.33**	-9.17
35.	J-2496× J-2510	106.51	2.66**	-11.55	38.00	1.33**	-9.18
36.	J-2500× J-2503	95.16	-0.54	-15.12	39.22	-1.45	77.34**
37.	J-2500× J-2507	96.26	-1.72	123.59**	48.22	1.35	-5.14
38.	J-2500× J-2508	62.78	0.85	-9.38	39.00	1.33**	-9.17
39.	J-2500× J-2510	68.76	1.62	4.55	38.78	0.32**	-9.14
40.	J-2503× J-2507	62.78	0.63	12.97	39.67	1.33**	-9.17
41.	J-2503× J-2508	76.90	1.77**	-17.67	44.00	0.26	3.16
42.	J-2503× J-2510	56.00	0.32	-9.28	38.33	1.33**	-9.17
43.	J-2507× J-2508	57.78	-2.41	15.24	37.67	1.33**	-9.17
44.	J-2507× J-2510	60.89	0.94	-9.64	42.00	1.54**	-8.54
45.	J-2508× J-2510	57.56	0.44	-17.53	40.89	1.63	-5.29
	Mean	67.75	-	-	42.17	-	-

*, ** Indicates significance at P = 0.05 and P = 0.01 levels, respectively

Table 8: The most widely adapted hybrids identified on the basis of grain yield per plant along with their stability for component traits in pearl millet

Sr. No.	Crosses	Mean (gm)	Stable yield attributes
1	J-2433 × J-2482	36.40	Number of nodes on main stem, Plant height, Ear head length, Ear head girth, Harvest index, Zn content
2	J-2482 × J-2496	35.23	Number of nodes on main stem, Green ear head weight
3	J-2482 × J-2507	34.46	Days to 50% flowering, Days to maturity, Ear head length, Ear head girth
4	J-2479 × J-2496	34.06	Number of nodes on main stem, Number of effective tillers per plant, Plant height, Ear head girth, Green ear head weight, Dry ear head weight
5	J-2496 × J-2508	32.22	Days to maturity, Ear head length
6	J-2433 × J-2508	31.73	Number of nodes on main stem, Plant height
7	J-2433 × J-2496	31.51	Plant height
8	J-2496 × J-2507	31.08	Plant height, Green ear head weight, Dry ear head weight, Harvest index
9	J-2507 × J-2508	30.97	Days to maturity, Plant height, Ear head length, Green ear head weight, Dry ear head weight, Total biomass per plant

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