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Neeraj SinghDepartment of Agronomy,
A.N.D.U.A. & T, Kumarganj,
Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India**Shashank Shekher Singh**Department of Agronomy,
A.N.D.U.A. & T, Kumarganj,
Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India**Gajendra Singh**Department of Agronomy,
A.N.D.U.A. & T, Kumarganj,
Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India**Raghvendra Singh**Department of Agronomy,
A.N.D.U.A. & T, Kumarganj,
Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India**Shivendra Pratap**Department of Genetics and
Plant Breeding, ANDUAT,
Kumarganj, Ayodhya, Uttar
Pradesh, India**Surendra Kumar Yadav**Department of Genetics and
Plant Breeding, ANDUAT,
Kumarganj, Ayodhya, Uttar
Pradesh, India**Corresponding Author:****Neeraj Singh**Department of Agronomy,
A.N.D.U.A. & T, Kumarganj,
Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India

To access the performance of different varieties of wheat in terms of growth and yield of wheat

Neeraj Singh, Shashank Shekher Singh, Gajendra Singh, Raghvendra Singh, Shivendra Pratap Singh and Anand Singh

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Abstract

A field experiment was conducted during the *Rabi* season of 2019-20 at the Agronomy Research Farm of A.N.D. University of Agriculture & Technology Kumarganj, Ayodhya (UP) to find out the effect of dates of sowing and different varieties on growth and yield of wheat. The experiment consisted of 16 treatment combinations comprised of four dates of sowing and four varieties, tested in split plot design with three replications. The observation on different growth and yield parameters were recorded and analyzed statistically. The maximum values all yield attributes was significantly highest with November 28 sown crop being at par with November 18 sown crop but significantly superior over December 8 and December 18 sown crop.

Keywords: Observation, superior, combinations

Introduction

In India, wheat occupies second place after rice. It is cultivated on an area of 29.58 million ha with the production of 99.70 million tones having productivity of 3.37 tonnes ha⁻¹ (Anonymous, 2018) [1]. As per Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the demand for wheat in the country will reach 140 million tonnes by 2050. Most of this demand in production will have to manage by increasing productivity as the land area under wheat is not expected to expand. Efficient input management along with varietal improvement are the two basic element that can help in achieving the target.

India is blessed with both the rich land and extremely suitable weather climate for crop production. Therefore, the rate of wheat production is second highest in the world. There are still many factors, which are responsible for low average yield of wheat in this country. One of such environmental factors is untimely planting which affects the yield of wheat crop considerably. Another important aspect is lack of improved varieties which are having short maturity and suitable under late sown condition due to relatively shorter growing period available to the crop. Moreover, varieties also vary both in yield and nutrient uptake under late sown condition.

Wheat area is decreasing every year and there is a very little scope for expansion of area in future. So, there is urgent need to vertical increase in yield per hectare to insure household food security. This yield increase requires a continuing supply of improved germplasm an appropriate agronomy in order to sustain enhanced productivity and preserve the natural resource base. However, global warming, as a result of climate change, may negatively affect wheat grain yields potentially increasing food insecurity and poverty, although it should be noted that current effects of climate change in relation to wheat are inconclusive and model dependent (Tubiello *et al.* 2000). More recent and extensive research on climate change effects predicts marked increases in both rainfall and temperature, with temperatures projected to rise by as much as 3-4°C by the end of the century in South Asia (DEFRA, 2005). Predicted effects on wheat production include reduced grain yield over most of India, with the greatest impacts in the lower potential areas, for example in the eastern plains.

The time of sowing & different varieties are of greater significance & these are the main factors which determines the good crop stand which in turn influences the yield & returns (Kabesh *et al.*, 2009) [6] The ear length, grains ear-1, ear weight and test weight were influenced significantly by the dates of sowing.

The highest ear length, grains ear-1, ear weight and test weight were recorded in 20th November sown wheat, followed by 6th December. All these attribute significantly decreased with delay in date of sowing. It might be due to longer and favourable period of ear formation resulting more spikelet's development and greater chances of producing long ears containing a large number of grains.

Materials and methods

The experiment was conducted at the Agronomy Research Farm of the Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture & Technology, Kumarganj, Ayodhya, (UP). The experimental site is situated in the main campus of the university, about 42 km away from Ayodhya district head quarter on Ayodhya-Raibareili road at 26047 N latitude and 82012 E longitude and an altitude of 113 meters above mean sea level.

Summary and Conclusion

Some interesting variations caused by the various cultivars have been noticed where significant trends of plant height, no. of tillers m⁻², dry matter accumulations and leaf area index was observed by showing its superiority in DBW-187 followed by HD-2967, which being at par with each other but exhibited statistical superiority over NW-5054 and NW-1014. Overall, wheat sown in November gave an excellent growth as compare to crop sown in December whereas DBW-187 and HD-2967 proved to be the best in terms of growth parameters followed by NW-5054 and NW-1014. Therefore these varieties may be selected for obtaining higher growth point of view.

Yield and yield attributes

The maximum values all yield attributes was significantly highest with November 28 sown crop being at par with November 18 sown crop but significantly superior over December 8 and December 18 sown crop.

Grain yield of the crop is manifestation of growth characters. The low yield under delayed sowing in December may partially due to the loss growth period available to the crop which might have adversely affected the normal growth and development of crop. It may also be noted that there was an abrupt rise in the mean temperature from the end of march and up to end of April which reduced the yield under delayed sowing. Delay in sowing means early flowering and grain filling phase during the hot month of April. The high temperature particularly in the month of April coupled with hot western wind hastens maturity and does not permit proper manufacture and translocation of food to the developing grain. This has also produced immature and shriveled grain which resulted in lower thousand grain weight in the late sown crop. Therefore, early sowing (November) was at the advantage because after having completed its vegetative growth satisfactory, it had come in the month of January when the temperature remained quite favorable. The grain development and maturity kept a favorable imbalance with the steady rise in temperature during the mid-growth period (before ear emergence) with the normal sowing at November

28 and November 18. The adverse effect of weather was associated more with late sowing (December 8 and December 18) which resulted in significantly lesser no. of effective tillers m⁻², no. of grains, grain weight spike-land 1000 grain weight which ultimately reflected in reduced per hectare grain yield. These results are in close conformity with those of Dube *et al* (2008) and Naniwal and Singh (2000) [17].

Similar to grain yield straw yield was also decrease significantly as the sowing was delayed beyond November 28 over November 18, December 8 and December 18, respectively. Dhaka *et al.* (2006), Dubey *et al.* (2018), Thorat *et al.* (2015), Akram *et al.* (2016) [3] have also reported that straw yield was decreased as the sowing of wheat was beyond November. The reduction in straw yield as a result of delayed sowing was mainly due to reduction in crop growth parameters like plant height, tillers m⁻², dry matter accumulation and leaf area index which continued to be declined with the delay in sowing.

Varieties

Alike growth and yield attributes, per hectare grain, straw yield and total yield affected significantly due to different varieties. A critical examination of data presented in (Table 7) gave clear cut understanding that variety DBW-187, produced significantly highest grain yield of (56.00 q/ha), straw yield (72.40 q/ha) and total biological yield (138.84 q/ha) followed by HD-2967 which gave (52.05 q/ha) grain yield, (68.28 q/ha) straw yield and (110.33 q/ha) total biological yield. The higher yields with DBW-187 was mainly attributed due to higher growth and yield attributes owing to their own genetic capability as compare to HD-2967. The lower growth and yield attributes with NW-1012 and NW-5054 were mainly responsible for lower yield with these varieties under present investigation. These results were in close conformity with those of Brijkishor (1998).

Overall, November sown crop (November 18, and November 28) was found to be the most optimum time of sowing of wheat crop.

Table 1: Plant height (cm) as affected by date of sowing and varieties at successive growth stage.

Treatments	Days after sowing			
	Plant height (cm)			
	30	60	90	At harvest
Date of Sowing				
18-11-2019	25.53	69.20	86.50	88.23
28-11-2019	26.03	72.40	90.50	92.31
08-12-2019	24.53	64.56	80.63	82.24
18-12-2019	23.98	61.05	76.25	77.84
S.Em±	0.52	1.72	2.31	2.36
CD at 5%	1.33	4.34	5.85	5.98
Varieties				
HD 2967	25.28	70.18	87.59	89.35
NW 1012	24.38	59.00	73.75	75.23
NW 5054	24.73	63.00	78.75	80.39
DBW 187 (Karan Vandana)	25.68	75.03	93.78	95.66
S.Em±	0.46	1.32	1.25	1.72
CD at 5%	0.99	2.82	2.68	3.67

Table 2: Dry matter accumulation (gm⁻²) as affected by date of sowing and varieties at successive growth stage

Treatments	Days after showing			
	Dry matter accumulation			
	30	60	90	At harvest
Date of Sowing				
18-11-2019	62.20	690.62	1151.04	1308.00

28-11-2019	63.24	713.46	1189.10	1351.25
08-12-2019	59.59	547.29	912.14	1036.53
18-12-2019	58.23	504.50	840.86	955.53
S.Em±	1.36	14.91	24.59	30.40
CD at 5%	3.46	37.79	62.29	77.01
Varieties				
HD 2967	61.42	635.05	1058.42	1202.75
NW 1012	59.20	547.47	912.45	1036.88
NW 5054	60.01	593.09	988.48	1123.28
DBW 187 (Karan Vandana)	62.39	680.28	1133.79	1288.40
S.Em±	1.47	12.64	18.36	24.22
CD at 5%	3.16	27.00	39.22	51.74

Table 3: Numbers of tillers/m² as affected by Dates of sowing and varieties at successive growth stage.

Treatments	Days after showing			
	30	60	90	At harvest
Date of Sowing				
18-11-2019	218.70	321.92	402.40	394.51
28-11-2019	223.20	327.24	409.05	401.03
08-12-2019	210.30	270.18	337.44	330.83
18-12-2019	205.50	255.72	319.37	313.37
S.Em±	4.51	7.46	10.43	10.39
CD at 5%	11.44	18.90	26.42	26.34
Varieties				
HD 2967	216.60	298.25	372.26	364.96
NW 1012	209.10	277.89	347.36	340.55
NW 5054	211.80	289.36	361.71	354.87
DBW 187 (Karan Vandana)	220.20	309.55	386.94	379.35
S.Em±	3.96	5.55	5.47	7.03
CD at 5%	8.46	11.86	11.68	15.02

Table 4: Leaf Area Index (LAI) as affected by Dates of sowing and varieties at successive growth stage

Treatments	Days after showing		
	30	60	90
Date of Sowing			
18-11-2019	1.55	5.44	3.88
28-11-2019	1.58	5.61	3.92
08-12-2019	1.49	4.85	3.40
18-12-2019	1.46	4.45	3.11
S.Em±	0.034	0.120	0.088
CD at 5%	0.087	0.304	0.222
Varieties			
HD 2967	1.53	5.30	3.71
NW 1012	1.46	4.71	3.29
NW 5054	1.50	4.90	3.44
DBW 187 (Karan Vandana)	1.56	5.44	3.81
S.Em±	0.037	0.102	0.065
CD at 5%	0.079	0.217	0.138

Table 6: Yield attributing characters of wheat as affected by Dates of sowing and varieties

Treatments	Effective Tillers/m ²	Length of spike	No. of grain	Grain weight(g)	Test weight (g)
		(cm)	spike ⁻¹	/spike	
Date of Sowing					
18-11-2019	358.64	10.10	43.31	1.59	36.60
28-11-2019	364.57	10.40	43.70	1.62	36.94
08-12-2019	300.75	8.90	40.71	1.46	35.88
18-12-2019	284.65	8.00	39.91	1.40	35.18
SEm±	8.37	0.19	1.10	0.042	0.96
CD at 5%	21.21	0.49	2.78	0.105	2.44
Varieties					
HD 2967	331.78	9.70	42.28	1.56	36.88
NW 1012	309.59	8.60	40.50	1.41	34.85
NW 5054	322.38	8.90	41.70	1.48	35.49
DBW 187 (Karan Vandana)	344.87	10.20	43.15	1.61	37.38
SEm±	6.67	0.17	0.84	0.022	0.72
CD at 5%	14.24	0.36	1.78	0.047	1.55

Conclusion

Variety DBW-187 was found to be the highest yielder followed by HD-2967.

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