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Estimation of Heterosis for Seed Yield, Morphological Traits and Alternaria Blight Resistance in Linseed (Linum usitatissimum L.)

Pradeep Kumar^{1*}, Gaurav Kamboj², Ravi Kumar² and P. K. Singh³

¹Indian Institute of Wheat & Barley Research, Karnal-132001 (Haryana), India ²Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Meerut-250110 (UP), India ³Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur-208002 (UP), India *Corresponding Author E-mail: pradeeptaliyan231@gmail.com Received: 3.05.2017 | Revised: 27.06.2018 | Accepted: 5.07.2018

ABSTRACT

A study was conducted for the estimation of heterosis involving 13 parents and their 26 F_{1s} (direct cross) for seed yield, morphological traits and incidence of Alternaria blight resistance in linseed. The analysis of variance (ANOVA) showed highly significant differences among the parents and their F_1 s for all the characters under study, indicated that sufficient variability was existed in the present set of breeding material and further evaluation would be meaningful. The cross (JAWAHAR 1 x EC 322680) showed positive and significant heterosis over mid parent (64.12**), better parent (28.89**) and standard variety (28.89**) for seed yield and also showed significant heterosis for number of capsules per plant and corolla size whereas one other cross (GS 234 x EC 322680) showed significant heterosis over mid parent (67.92**) and better parent (35.54**) for seed yield. Hence these crosses would be exploited for isolating transgressive segregants for seed yield and its contributing components for genetic improvement of linseed.

Key words: Heterosis, Linseed, Alternaria blight, Seed yield, Morphological traits.

INTRODUCTION

Linseed (Linum usitatissimum L.) commonly known as 'alsi', and it is mainly cultivated for fiber (flax fiber) and seed oil (linseed oil) or both (dual purpose linseed). In India, among the oilseeds crops grown during Rabi season, linseed is next in importance to rapeseedmustard in area as well as in production. At global level, India ranks second in terms of area after Canada and in terms of production; it occupies fourth positions after Canada, China and USA, respectively. Across the

world it covers 2270.35 thousand hectare area with production of 2238.94 thousand tons having productivity of 986.16 kg per hectare, where as in India it covers 338 thousand hectares area and production of 147 thousand tons with the productivity of 434.91 kg per hectare¹. The fiber of linseed is known for its high strength and durability therefore, used in the manufacturing cloth, paper, strawboard and water resistant pipes. The by-product, oilcake is a valuable dairy feed containing 36% protein, of which 85% is digestible.

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The linseed oil is rich in fatty acids alpha linolenic acid (ALA) an essential Omega-3 fatty acid and lignin oligomers accounting for 57 % of total fatty acids in its biochemical composition⁸. Therefore every part of linseed is utilized commercially either directly or after processing with numerous medicinal uses. Linseed primarily a rainfed crop is cultivated on marginal and sub-marginal soils under input starved condition. Moreover, Alternaria blight, powdery mildew, rust and wilt are the major biotic stresses associated with it. Therefore, the average yield of linseed is very low. Other reasons of low productivity are narrow genetic base coupled with age old cultivation method and susceptibility of the varieties to Alternaria blight, rust, wilt and powdery mildew diseases. Genetic improvement of any trait largely depends on the magnitude and direction of available heterosis. The phenomenon of heterosis has proved to be the most important genetic tool in boosting the yield of self as well as cross pollinated crops and is recognized as the most important breakthrough in field of crop improvement. The best hybrids for yield and related traits can be achieved by evaluating the promising diverse lines and their cross combination¹⁰. Commercial exploitation of heterosis in linseed in the form of hybrid varieties is a breakthrough in the field of linseed improvement⁶. Hence, heterotic studies can provide the basis for the exploitation of valuable hybrid combinations in future breeding programs. Therefore the main objective of present investigation was to identify the heterotic cross for seed yield, morphological traits and Alternaria blight resistance in linseed.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The base materials consisted of 13 genotypes (H 36, JRF 4, POLF 19, PANJAB FLAX, EC 322680, EC 541194, EC 607789, EC 1465, JAWAHAR 1, GS 234, EC 1424, FRW 1, and EC 541196) and their 23 F_{18} crosses. These genotypes were taken on the basis of morphological differences with respect to various traits. The pedigree, salient features

and source of these parents are appended in Table 1. The experimental materials were evaluated during crop season 2008-2009 in a randomized blook design with three replications at Crop Research Farm Nawabganj, Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur. Each genotype was sown in a single row plot of three meter length and spacing was 40 cm between the rows and 5 cm within rows. All recommended agronomic package of practices were followed during the crop growth period for raising good crop. The data were recorded on five randomly selected plants from each genotype for plant height (cm), corolla size (mm), number of primary branches per plant, days to maturity, number of capsules per plant, incidence of Alternaria blight [0-5 scale: 0 =no disease (free), 1 = 0-10% area of leaves/buds infection (R), 2 = 10-25% area of leaves/buds infection (MR), 3 = 25-50% area of leaves/buds infection (MS), 4 = 50-75%area of leaves/buds infection (S), 5 = above75% area of leaves/buds infection (HS)], capsule size (at the time of maturity in cm), number of seeds per capsule (from randomly selected capsules), seed size (in mm at the time of maturity), 1000 seed weight (g) and seed yield per plant (g). The mean data for each character was subjected to analysis of variance following the method suggested by Panse and Sukhatme⁷. The percent increase or decrease of F₁ hybrids over the parental value was calculated by using the formula suggested by Fonseca and Patterson³.

Heterosis (%) $\frac{F1 \text{ mean value-Parental mean value}}{Parental mean value} \times 100 \text{ F}_1\text{s}$

mean = Mean value of F_1 s hybrid, Parental mean = Mean value of parent.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis of variance (Table 2) revealed that the differences among the parents and their $F_{1}s$ were highly significant for all the characters under study, indicated that sufficient variability was existed in the present set of material and further genetic analysis would be meaningful. The percentage of

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heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety for seed yield, morphological traits and *Alternaria* blight resistance are presented in table 3. The estimates of heterosis showed that none of the crosses were found significantly to be high heterosis (over mid parent, better parent and standard parent) for all the traits under study. Negative and significant values of heterosis are considered to be desirable for days to maturity and incidence of *Alternaria* blight whereas positive and significant values are considered to be desirable for other yield components.

None of the crosses showed significant negative heterosis for plant height and days to maturity over better parent, mid parent and standard variety. For primary branches per plant, the heterosis was ranged from -43.82 (EC 1465 \times JRF 4) to 38.09 % (PANJAB FLAX × FRW 1) over mid parent, from -52.15 (GS 234 × POLF 19) to 25.14 % (PANJAB FLAX × FRW 1) over better parent and from -50.00 (EC 1465 \times JRF 4) to 33.33 % (EC 541194 \times EC 607789) over standard variety. The cross (EC 541194 \times EC 607789) showed highly significant and positive heterosis over standard variety. Positive heterosis was also reported by Reddy et al.⁸, Choudhary *et al.*² and Kumar *et al.*⁵ for primary branches per plant. The presence of significantly positive heterosis for primary branches per plant in crosses indicates their potential use in developing high yielding genotypes in linseed.

The heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety ranged from -40.39 (EC 607789 \times EC 1424) to 46.02 % (EC 541196 × EC 1465), -46.56 (EC 607789 × EC 1424) to 44.47 % (EC 541196 × EC 1465) and -38.03 (EC 607789 \times EC 1424) to 41.99 % (FRW 1 \times EC 322680), respectively for corolla size. Positive and significant heterosis was observed in nine crosses over mid parent, three crosses over better parent and nine crosses over standard variety. Two best crosses namely (EC 541196 \times EC 1465) and (JAWAHAR $1 \times EC 322680$) showed positive and significant heterosis over all three parents (mid parent, better parent and standard variety) for corolla size.

The range of heterosis for number of capsules per plant was from -77.82 (FRW $1 \times EC$ 322680) to 92.48 % (EC 541194 × EC 607789), -80.23 (FRW $1 \times \text{EC}$ 322680) to 40.05 % (EC 607789 × EC 1424) and -78.19 (FRW 1 \times EC 322680) to 123.06 % (EC $541194 \times EC 607789$) over mid parent, better parent and standard variety, respectively. Out of 23 crosses, ten crosses over mid parent, nine crosses over better parent and nine crosses over standard variety showed positive and significant heterosis for this trait. The cross (EC 541194 \times EC 607789) exhibited highest significant and desirable heterosis over all three parents (mid parent, better parent and standard variety) for number of capsules per plant. Importance of positive and significant heterosis for this trait was also reported by Choudhary *et al.*², Kumar and Poul⁴, Kumar *et* al.⁵, Reddy et al.⁸ and Singh et al.⁹ in linseed crop.

For capsule size, the extent of heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety ranged from -31.51 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 33.33 % (FRW 1 × JRF 4), -33.33 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 33.33 % (FRW 1 × EC 322680) and -42.86 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 14.29 % (FRW 1 × JRF 4), respectively. Two crosses namely (FRW 1 × JRF 4) and (FRW 1 x EC 322680) showed positive and highly significant heterosis over mid parent and better parent for capsule size. Positive and significant heterosis in linseed for capsule size was also reported by Choudhary *et al.*² and Singh *et al.*⁹ in linseed crop.

The heterosis for number of seeds per capsule ranged from -36.84 (EC 541196 × EC 01465) to 15.95 % (PANJAB FLAX × FRW 1), -40.00 (EC 541196 × EC 1465) to 8.04 % (JAWAHAR 1 × POLF 19) and -27.97 (EC 541196 × EC 1465) to 8.04 % (JAWAHAR 1 × POLF 19) over mid parent, better parent and standard variety, respectively. None of the crosses showed positive and significant heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety. The cross JAWAHAR 1 × POLF 19 exhibited positive but non significant heterosis over all three parent (mid parent,

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better parent and standard) for number of seeds per capsule.

For 1000 seed weight, the heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety ranged from -68.11 (EC 541194 x EC 607789) to 44.33 % (FRW 1 × JRF 4), -71.84 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 44.09 % (FRW 1 × JRF 4) and -74.61 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 72.69 per cent (EC 1465 × JRF-4), respectively. Out of 23 crosses, four crosses over mid parent, two crosses over better parent and one cross over standard variety showed positive and significant heterosis. Positive and significant heterosis for 1000 seed weight were also reported by Choudhary *et al.*², Kumar and Poul⁴, Kumar *et al.*⁵, Reddy *et al.*⁸ and Singh *et al.*⁹ in linseed.

In the present study, a wide range of variation in the estimates of heterobeltiosis, average heterosis and standard heterosis in positive and negative direction was recorded for seed yield For seed yield per plant, the heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety ranged from-79.40 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 67.90 % (GS 234 × EC 322680), -82.28 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 35.54 % (GS 234 × EC 322680) and -85.25 (FRW 1 × POLF 19) to 28.89 %

(JAWAHAR 1 × EC 322680), respectively. Out of 23 crosses, six crosses over mid parent, two crosses over better parent and one cross over standard variety exhibited positive and significant heterosis for seed yield. The cross (JAWAHAR 1 × EC 322680) exhibited positive and highly significant heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety. Similar findings for exploitation of positive and significant heterosis were also reported by Choudhary *et al.*², Kumar and Poul⁴, Kumar *et al.*⁵, Reddy *et al.*⁸ and Singh *et al.*⁹ for seed yield in linseed crop.

The extent of heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety ranged from-56.92 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 138.55 % (EC 541194 \times EC 1424), -40.98 (EC 541194 × EC 607789) to 355.79 % (FRW $1 \times JRF 4$) and -58.37 (GS $234 \times POLF 19$) to 103.34 % (FRW 1 × EC 322680), respectively. Out of 23 crosses, three crosses over mid parent, one cross over better parent and five crosses over standard variety showed significant and negative heterosis. The cross (EC 541194 \times EC 607789) showed highest negative but non-significant heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety for incidence of Alternaria blight.

| Variety | Pedigree | Source of origin | Salient features |
|-------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---|
| H 36 | - | - | Yield components |
| JRF 4 | - | - | Flax type, resistant to Alternaria blight |
| POLF 19 | - | Polland | Resistant to Alternaria blight & wilt |
| PANJAB FLAX | - | - | Flax type |
| EC 322680 | Exotic material | - | Earliness |
| EC 541194 | Linum angustifolium (wild spp.) | Russia | Small seeded, multiple resistance |
| EC 607789 | Exotic material | Cambridge UK | Spring type |
| EC 1465 | Exotic material | - | Earliness |
| JAWAHAR 1 | Selection from KP-29 | Raipur | Yield Components |
| GS 234 | _ | _ | Resistant to budfly |
| EC 1424 | Exotic material | - | Resistant to budfly |
| FRW 1 | - | - | Susceptible to wilt |
| EC 541196 | Linum bienne (wild spp.) | Russia | Small seeded, multiple resistance |

Table 1: Salient feature of parents of linseed

 Table 2: Analysis of variance for seed yield and other morphological

traits in linseed (Linum usitatissimum L.)

| Source of | | Corolla Plant | | Primary | Days to Capsules | | Incidence of | Capsule | Seeds per | 1000-seed | Seed | |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|------------------|------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|----------|--|
| Variation | D . r . | size | size height bran | | maturity | /plant | Alternaria blight | size | capsule | weight | yield | |
| Replication | 2 | 1.119 | 260.875 | 1.398 | 28.875 | 212.875 | 33.093 | 0.453 | 0.676 | 4.186 | 1.073 | |
| Treatment | 35 | 34.078** | 782.752** | 21.598** | 31.573** | 4123.378** | 880.491** | 2.091** | 2.544** | 9.182** | 22.982** | |
| Error | 70 | 3.634 | 24.701 | 0.760 | 1.270 | 46.889 | 11.036 | 0.806 | 0.894 | 0.130 | 0.238 | |

*,** Significant at 5% and 1% probability level respectively

| F1- Cross Combination | Corolla size | | | Plant height | | | Primary branches/plant | | | Days to maturity | | | Capsules/plant | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---------|---------|--------------|---------|---------|------------------------|--------|---------|------------------|--------|--------|----------------|---------|----------|
| r r- cross combination | МР | BP | SV | MP | BP | SV | MP | BP | sv | MP | BP | SV | MP | BP | SV |
| JAWAHAR 1 X POLF 19 | -3.53 | -14.06 | 9.96 | 2.07 | -13.42 | 24.30** | -20.00 | -33.33 | -33.33 | -1.11 | -0.88 | -1.33 | 15.25** | 11.84* | 11.84* |
| JAWAHAR 1 X JRF 4 | 24.96* | 00.00 | 00.00 | 9.72* | -13.49 | 49.99** | -33.33 | -33.33 | -33.33 | 0.62 | 3.00** | -1.33 | -39.77 | -45.49 | -45.49 |
| JAWAHAR 1 X EC 322680 | 30.54** | 27.95** | 27.95** | 15.31** | 2.87 | 31.18** | 2.76 | 00.00 | 5.50 | 1.24* | 3.71** | -1.10 | 25.08** | 16.51** | 16.51** |
| GS 234 X POLF 19 | 8.26 | -7.78 | 17.99 | -1.00 | 21.40 | 12.84* | -37.16 | -52.15 | -38.83 | 2.09** | 3.11** | 2.65** | 29.27** | 22.56** | 28.66** |
| GS 234 x JRF 4 | 4.00 | -13.33 | -22.02 | 4.97 | -21.96 | 35.31** | -31.73 | -39.11 | -22.17 | 4.04** | 7.16** | 2.65** | 55.10** | 37.39** | 44.23** |
| GS 234 x EC 322680 | 14.00 | 10.44 | 5.99 | 9.07 | -9.36 | 15.59** | -4.72 | -13.04 | 11.17 | 4.49** | 7.89** | 2.87** | 5.54 | -3.85 | 0.93 |
| EC 1465 x POLF 19 | -22.22 | -34.36 | -16.01 | 7.27 | -7.67 | 32.56** | -30.88 | -35.76 | -50.00 | 2.88** | 3.11** | 2.65** | 25.49** | 25.49** | 18.07** |
| EC 1465 x JRF 4 | 14.92 | 4.49 | -8.04 | -5.93 | -24.87 | 30.27** | -43.82 | -50.00 | -50.00 | 4.86** | 7.16** | 2.65** | 3.20 | -3.97 | -9.65 |
| EC 1465 x EC 322680 | 26.01* | 20.81* | 15.96 | 7.98 | -2.16 | 24.77** | -21.27 | -31.59 | -27.83 | 5.32** | 7.89** | 2.87** | -16.40 | -19.87 | -24.61 |
| PANJAB FLAX X FRW 1 | 7.95 | 4.61 | 35.99** | 8.34 | -10.12 | 34.40** | 38.09* | 25.14 | 11.17 | -0.45 | -2.55 | -1.77 | 5.18 | 0.28 | 10.59* |
| PANJAB FLAX X GS 234 | 13.19 | -1.62 | 19.98* | 13.73** | -11.04 | 33.03** | -7.69 | -21.77 | 00.00 | 0.34 | 2.54** | -1.77 | -34.05 | -35.61 | -32.40 |
| PANJAB FLAX X EC 1465 | 21.89* | 4.92 | 27.95** | -5.05 | -19.64 | 20.17** | 13.40 | 6.38 | -5.50 | 2.37** | 4.62** | 0.22 | -1.77 | -4.67 | -4.67 |
| H 36 x POLF 19 | 8.35 | 1.59 | 29.99** | -24.74 | -29.09 | 15.14** | 26.00 | 13.40 | -5.50 | 1.46* | 2.97** | -0.44 | 18.46** | 12.58* | 5.92 |
| EC 607789 x EC 1424 | -40.39 | -46.56 | -38.03 | 87.93** | 83.52** | 43.11** | 5.50 | -5.09 | 5.50 | 1.69** | 3.93** | -0.44 | 65.95** | 40.05** | 42.68** |
| EC 607789 x EC 1465 | 15.71 | 1.76 | 17.99 | 20.25** | 5.39 | 9.16 | 23.45 | 4.95 | 16.67 | 1.69** | 3.93** | -0.44 | 3.97 | -9.28 | -14.64 |
| EC 541194 x EC 607789 | -27.57 | -27.57 | -16.01 | 17.12** | -5.10 | 19.27** | 16.96 | 14.29 | 33.33** | 3.93** | 3.93** | -0.44 | 92.48** | 37.96** | 123.06** |
| FRW 1 x POLF 19 | -5.44 | -6.18 | 21.96* | 2.29 | -13.24 | 23.85** | 00.00 | -16.67 | -16.67 | -0.99 | 00.00 | -0.44 | 7.62 | -0.28 | 9.97 |
| FRW 1 x JRF 4 | 22.03* | -10.79 | 15.96 | 5.24 | -17.46 | 43.11** | -11.17 | -11.17 | -11.17 | 0.89 | 3.93** | -0.44 | -9.78 | -21.75 | -13.71 |
| FRW 1 x EC 322680 | 25.64** | 9.23 | 41.99** | 6.31 | -5.76 | 20.17** | -13.47 | -15.79 | -11.17 | 0.89 | 4.18** | -0.66 | -77.82 | -80.23 | -78.19 |
| EC 541194 x EC 1465 | 3.94 | -8.59 | 5.99 | -0.76 | -9.48 | 13.76** | 2.74 | -14.29 | 00.00 | 1.69** | 3.93** | -0.44 | -42.76 | -54.72 | -26.79 |
| EC 541196 x EC 1465 | 46.02** | 44.47** | 29.99** | 18.08** | 5.85 | 9.63 | -16.32 | -37.95 | 00.00 | -0.99 | -0.44 | -0.44 | 18.27** | -13.25 | -18.28 |
| EC 541194 x EC 1424 | 23.08* | 10.35 | 27.95** | 19.72** | -4.74 | 19.72** | -18.96 | -28.57 | -16.67 | 0.56 | 3.24** | -1.10 | -47.04 | -56.84 | -30.21 |
| EC 541196 x EC 1424 | 20.83* | 19.57 | 9.96 | 38.41** | 31.84** | 8.26 | 2.27 | -24.19 | 22.17 | -2.08 | -1.97 | -1.10 | 55.55** | 11.31* | 13.39* |

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 Table 3: Estimation of heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety for seed yield and other morphological traits in linseed (*Linum usitatissimum* L.)

*,** Significant at 5% and 1% probability level respectively

Table 4: Estimation of heterosis over mid parent, better parent and standard variety

for seed yield and other morphological traits in linseed (Linum usitatissimum L.)

| Cross Combination | Incidence of Alternaria blight | | | Capsule size | | | Seeds per capsule | | | 1000 seed weight | | | Seed yield | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|---------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------|------------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|
| Cross Combination | MP | BP | sv | MP | BP | sv | МР | BP | sv | МР | BP | sv | MP | BP | sv |
| JAWAHAR 1 X POLF 19 | 22.99** | 24.76** | 21.31** | 7.69 | 00.00 | 00.00 | 12.50 | 8.04 | 8.04 | -14.78 | -25.29 | -25.29 | 16.28** | 1.73 | 1.73 |
| JAWAHAR 1 X JRF 4 | 92.89** | 333.33** | 24.05** | 7.69 | 00.00 | 00.00 | -5.88 | -7.73 | -3.96 | -6.91 | -23.93 | -23.93 | 18.08** | -2.34 | -2.34 |
| JAWAHAR 1 X EC 322680 | 57.26** | 74.32** | 43.28** | 2.62 | -4.71 | -4.71 | -14.32 | -15.97 | -15.97 | -21.02 | -26.96 | -26.96 | 64.12** | 28.89** | 28.89** |
| GS 234 X POLF 19 | -37.69 | 14.42 | -58.37 | 16.67 | 16.67 | 00.00 | 00.00 | -3.96 | -3.96 | -36.91 | -40.83 | -49.11 | 40.19 | 2.71 | -22.99 |
| GS 234 x JRF 4 | -22.93 | -12.49 | -74.95 | 00.00 | 00.00 | -14.29 | -29.41 | -30.79 | -27.97 | -41.39 | -49.09 | -56.21 | 13.79 | -12.76 | -42.93 |
| GS 234 x EC 322680 | -1.57 | 60.43** | -41.62 | 11.17 | 11.17 | -4.71 | -2.08 | -3.96 | -3.96 | -12.84 | -13.37 | -25.49 | 67.92** | 35.54** | -22.78 |
| EC 1465 x POLF 19 | 51.49** | 61.96** | 38.38** | 00.00 | 00.00 | -14.29 | -16.06 | -22.22 | -15.97 | 1.17 | -3.89 | -27.69 | -17.00 | -17.23 | -37.95 |
| EC 1465 x JRF 4 | 120.96** | 340.30** | 26.05** | 5.50 | 5.50 | 9.57 | -28.39 | -29.27 | -24.00 | -4.31 | -7.27 | 72.69** | -20.93 | -25.78 | -44.66 |
| EC 1465 x EC 322680 | 28.50** | 31.05** | 7.70 | 16.67 | 16.67 | 00.00 | -5.88 | -11.11 | -3.96 | 2.88 | -7.63 | -21.53 | -20.56 | -29.87 | -47.71 |
| PANJAB FLAX X FRW 1 | -14.38 | -2.67 | -17.29 | 2.62 | -4.71 | -4.71 | 15.95 | 7.45 | 16.08 | -14.03 | -25.33 | -35.32 | -49.79 | -61.32 | -75.48 |
| PANJAB FLAX X GS 234 | 101.06** | 299.29** | 45.28** | 12.77 | 4.71 | 4.71 | 00.00 | -3.96 | -3.96 | 6.17 | 5.79 | -8.36 | 13.25 | -12.19 | -44.35 |
| PANJAB FLAX X EC 1465 | 21.64** | 37.79** | 17.74** | -7.69 | -14.29 | -14.29 | -4.08 | -11.11 | -3.96 | -25.34 | -33.53 | -42.42 | 0.74 | -6.82 | -30.52 |
| H 36 x POLF 19 | 31.41** | 50.26 | 46.11** | 2.76 | 00.00 | 9.57 | -4.08 | -11.11 | -3.96 | -25.93 | -30.56 | -47.75 | -47.65 | -52.78 | -55.95 |
| EC 607789 x EC 1424 | 24.73** | 120.99** | 9.96 | -2.74 | -10.04 | -14.29 | -2.08 | -11.11 | -3.96 | -21.99 | -27.38 | -41.79 | -75.07 | -76.09 | -73.25 |
| EC 607789 x EC 1465 | 24.75** | 54.76** | 32.23** | 2.74 | 00.00 | -14.29 | -14.32 | -22.22 | -15.97 | -26.45 | -27.12 | -49.74 | -48.97 | -55.94 | -54.73 |
| EC 541194 x EC 607789 | -56.92 | -40.98 | -57.06 | -31.51 | -33.33 | -42.86 | 4.30 | 00.00 | -3.96 | -68.11 | -71.84 | -74.61 | -79.40 | -82.28 | -81.79 |
| FRW 1 x POLF 19 | 40.80** | 50.91** | 28.35** | 11.17 | 11.17 | -4.71 | -8.03 | -14.78 | -7.93 | 8.72* | 0.42 | -24.45 | -72.99 | -80.33 | -85.25 |
| FRW 1 x JRF 4 | 129.58** | 355.79** | 30.49** | 33.33** | 33.33** | 14.29 | -9.50 | -11.11 | -3.96 | 44.33** | 44.09** | -8.15 | 38.78** | 5.75 | -30.82 |
| FRW 1 x EC 322680 | 143.21** | 147.40** | 103.34** | 33.33** | 33.33** | 14.29 | -5.88 | -11.11 | -3.96 | 35.67** | 18.82** | 0.94 | -3.56 | -22.68 | -55.95 |
| EC 541194 x EC 1465 | 35.39** | 47.24** | 7.10 | -16.67 | -16.67 | -28.57 | -17.65 | -22.22 | -15.97 | -34.83 | -42.98 | -48.59 | -52.12 | -52.25 | -64.39 |
| EC 541196 x EC 1465 | 15.78* | 43.13** | 22.29** | 26.60 | 5.50 | -9.57 | -36.84 | -40.00 | -27.97 | 18.72** | -16.69 | -43.68 | -57.72 | -67.12 | -75.48 |
| EC 541194 x EC 1424 | 138.55** | 193.65** | 46.11** | -5.36 | -10.04 | -14.29 | -17.65 | -22.22 | -15.97 | -35.58 | -39.17 | -45.14 | -48.79 | -57.45 | -52.39 |
| EC 541196 x EC 1424 | 41.79** | 150.16** | 24.47** | 12.35 | -10.04 | -14.29 | -26.32 | -30.00 | -15.97 | -20.82 | -46.94 | -57.47 | -52.65 | -67.55 | -63.68 |

*,** Significant at 5% and 1% probability level respectively

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Table 5: Mean performance of parents and F_{1s} for seed yield and other morphological traits in lineard (*Linum usitatissimum* L)

| et uns in miseeu (Linum usuuissimum Li) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Parents | Corolla size | Plant height | Primary branches/plant | Days to maturity | Capsules/ plant | Incidence of Alternaria blight | Capsule size | Seeds/ capsule | 1000- seed weight | Seed yield | | |
| Н 36 | 18.67 | 118.00 | 5.00 | 145.67 | 90.67 | 53.90 | 6.33 | 9.00 | 6.30 | 9.17 | | |
| JRF 4 | 10.00 | 126.00 | 6.00 | 144.33 | 86.67 | 12.33 | 6.00 | 8.67 | 6.07 | 6.43 | | |
| POLF 19 | 21.33 | 104.33 | 4.00 | 150.00 | 100.67 | 41.88 | 6.00 | 7.67 | 7.20 | 7.37 | | |
| PANJAB FLAX | 20.33 | 108.67 | 5.33 | 144.33 | 107.00 | 46.57 | 7.00 | 7.67 | 8.29 | 6.23 | | |
| EC 322680 | 16.00 | 92.67 | 6.33 | 143.67 | 92.33 | 35.40 | 6.00 | 8.00 | 8.13 | 5.60 | | |
| EC 541194 | 19.33 | 91.33 | 19.33 | 144.33 | 173.00 | 31.33 | 6.00 | 8.00 | 8.63 | 7.28 | | |
| EC 607789 | 19.33 | 56.67 | 6.67 | 144.33 | 75.00 | 54.50 | 5.67 | 7.33 | 6.60 | 10.10 | | |
| EC 1465 | 14.67 | 75.27 | 4.67 | 150.67 | 100.67 | 36.80 | 6.00 | 9.00 | 6.47 | 7.33 | | |
| JAWAHAR 1 | 16.67 | 72.67 | 6.00 | 150.67 | 107.00 | 43.07 | 7.00 | 8.33 | 9.57 | 9.83 | | |
| EC 1424 | 15.33 | 54.00 | 5.33 | 152.00 | 109.00 | 21.43 | 6.67 | 9.00 | 7.67 | 11.00 | | |
| FRW 1 | 21.67 | 71.63 | 4.33 | 153.00 | 118.00 | 36.63 | 6.00 | 9.00 | 6.10 | 3.37 | | |
| EC 541196 | 15.00 | 59.67 | 9.67 | 152.33 | 47.00 | 54.18 | 4.00 | 10.00 | 2.60 | 4.07 | | |
| F1S | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| JAWAHAR 1 X POLF 19 | 18.33 | 90.33 | 4.00 | 148.67 | 119.67 | 52.25 | 7.00 | 9.00 | 7.15 | 10.00 | | |
| JAWAHAR 1 X JRF 4 | 16.67 | 109.00 | 4.00 | 148.67 | 58.33 | 53.43 | 7.00 | 8.00 | 7.28 | 9.60 | | |
| JAWAHAR 1 X EC 322680 | 21.33 | 95.33 | 6.33 | 149.00 | 124.67 | 61.71 | 6.67 | 7.00 | 6.99 | 12.67 | | |
| GS 234 X POLF 19 | 19.67 | 82.00 | 3.67 | 154.67 | 137.67 | 17.93 | 7.00 | 8.00 | 4.87 | 7.57 | | |
| GS 234 x JRF 4 | 13.00 | 98.33 | 4.67 | 154.67 | 154.33 | 10.79 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 4.19 | 5.61 | | |
| GS 234 x EC 322680 | 17.67 | 84.00 | 6.67 | 155.00 | 108.00 | 25.14 | 6.67 | 8.00 | 7.13 | 7.59 | | |
| EC 1465 x POLF 19 | 14.00 | 96.33 | 3.00 | 154.67 | 126.33 | 59.60 | 6.00 | 7.00 | 6.92 | 6.10 | | |
| EC 1465 x JRF 4 | 15.33 | 94.67 | 3.00 | 154.67 | 96.67 | 54.29 | 6.33 | 6.33 | 6.00 | 5.44 | | |
| EC 1465 x EC 322680 | 19.33 | 90.67 | 4.33 | 155.00 | 80.67 | 46.39 | 7.00 | 8.00 | 7.51 | 5.14 | | |
| PANJAB FLAX X FRW 1 | 22.67 | 97.67 | 6.67 | 148.00 | 118.33 | 35.62 | 6.67 | 9.67 | 6.19 | 2.41 | | |
| PANJAB FLAX X GS 234 | 20.00 | 96.67 | 6.00 | 148.00 | 72.33 | 62.57 | 7.33 | 8.00 | 8.77 | 5.47 | | |
| PANJAB FLAX X EC 1465 | 21.33 | 87.33 | 5.67 | 151.00 | 102.00 | 50.71 | 6.00 | 8.00 | 5.51 | 6.83 | | |
| H 36 x POLF 19 | 21.67 | 83.67 | 5.67 | 150.00 | 113.33 | 62.93 | 6.33 | 8.00 | 5.00 | 4.33 | | |
| EC 607789 x EC 1424 | 10.33 | 104.00 | 6.33 | 150.00 | 152.67 | 47.36 | 6.00 | 8.00 | 5.57 | 2.63 | | |
| EC 607789 x EC 1465 | 19.67 | 79.33 | 7.00 | 150.00 | 91.33 | 56.95 | 6.00 | 7.00 | 4.81 | 4.45 | | |
| EC 541194 x EC 607789 | 14.00 | 86.67 | 8.00 | 150.00 | 238.67 | 18.49 | 4.00 | 8.00 | 2.43 | 1.79 | | |
| FRW 1 x POLF 19 | 20.33 | 90.00 | 5.00 | 150.00 | 117.67 | 55.28 | 6.67 | 7.67 | 7.23 | 1.45 | | |
| FRW 1 x JRF 4 | 19.33 | 104.00 | 5.33 | 150.00 | 92.33 | 56.20 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.79 | 6.80 | | |
| FRW 1 x EC 322680 | 23.67 | 87.33 | 5.33 | 149.67 | 23.33 | 87.58 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 9.66 | 4.33 | | |
| EC 541194 x EC 1465 | 17.67 | 82.67 | 6.00 | 150.00 | 78.33 | 46.13 | 5.00 | 7.00 | 4.92 | 3.50 | | |
| EC 541196 x EC 1465 | 21.67 | 79.67 | 6.00 | 150.00 | 87.33 | 52.67 | 6.33 | 6.00 | 5.39 | 2.41 | | |
| EC 541194 x EC 1424 | 21.33 | 87.00 | 5.00 | 149.00 | 74.67 | 62.93 | 6.00 | 7.00 | 5.25 | 4.68 | | |
| EC 541196 x EC 1424 | 18.33 | 78.67 | 7.33 | 149.00 | 121.33 | 53.61 | 6.00 | 7.00 | 4.07 | 3.57 | | |

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