

EVALUATION OF YIELD AND STABILITY IN EARLY FLAX GENERATIONS. II. SEED YIELD AND ITS COMPONENTS

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Abstract

Combining ability and stability performance for seed yield/plant and its component traits viz., capsules/plant, seeds/capsule and 1000-seed weight were studied in the F_3 and F_4 generations of 36 diallel crosses involving nine flax parents over three diverse environments.

GCA/SCA mean squares indicated that both additive and non-additive gene effects governed the inheritance of seed yield/plant and its three component traits. However, additive was more important than non-additive genetic variance in the genetic expression of 1000-seed weight, seed yield/plant and capsules number/plant. On the other hand, non-additive was more important than additive genetic variance in the inheritance of seeds/capsule. Significant GCA x E interaction indicated that the additive effects were not stable over environments, hence more than one test environment is required to obtain reliable information for seed yield/plant and its components. On the contrary, SCA x E interaction was not significant for seed yield /plant and seeds/capsule indicating that the non-additive effects governing these two characters were less distorted by environmental fluctuations. Giza-8 and S.2419/1 were good combiners for seed yield/plant, capsules/plant and 1000-seed weight, whereas Ariane-R3 was good combiner for seeds/capsule. Nine out of the 36 studied crosses showed positive and significant SCA effects for seed yield/plant or its three components over environments in both F_3 and F_4 generations. Two out of these nine superior crosses, Giza 8 x Ariane-R3 and S.2419/1 x Ariane-R3 involved high x high general combining parents for seed yield /plant and one or more of its components. Moreover, the cross S.2419/1x S.148/6/1 showed positive and significant SCA effects for seed yield /plant plus two of its components 1000-seed weight and seeds /capsule. Stability analysis showed that the five crosses, (Giza 7 x Giza 8, Giza 7 x S.2419/1, Giza 8 x S.2419/1, Giza 8 x S.148/6/1 and S.2419/1 x S.148/6/1) were consistent for seed yield /plant and its two important components, 1000-seed weight and capsules/plant in F_3 and F_4 generations. Hence these five crosses were considered adapted and may be useful as potential breeding material for developing crosses with stable seed yield /plant in later generations. It concluded that early generation for yield and stability performance would provide reliable information for improving seed yield in flax.

INTRODUCTION

Gene effects are known to be influenced by environmental variation to a large extent. Several workers have reported significant interaction of GCA effects with seasons and locations in flax (Shehata and Comstock, 1971; Patil and Chopde, 1981 and Abo-El Zahab et al., 2000). Repeatability of GCA estimates over environments and the variability of better estimates from F_2 generations indicated that it may be advisable

In crops such as flax (*Linum usitatissimum* L.) the small quantities of crossed seed produced by hand pollination prohibit adequate testing in the F_1 generation and combining ability studies would, therefore, be easier in the F_2 or F_3 generations, in which there is usually ample seed (Shehata and Comstock, 1971; Bhullar *et al.*, 1979 and Patile and Chopde, 1981).

Researchers need a statistic that provides a measure of stability or consistency of performance across a range of environments, particularly one that reflects the contribution of each genotype to the total GE interaction. Recently, Kang (1993) developed a yield - stability (Ys_i) statistic which is used as a selection criterion when GE interaction is significant. Keeping these points in view, the present investigation was conducted in the F_3 and F_4 generations over three environments to predict the breeding potentialities of 36 diallel crosses in flax.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The materials used for the present investigation consisted of 36 possible diallel crosses among nine flax genotypes (the full details of these crosses in F_1 and F_2 generations were tested by Abo-Kaied, 1999). These nine parents included two standard cultivars (P_1 =Giza 7 and P_2 =Giza 8), five advanced experimental strains, (P_3 =S.2419/1, P_4 =S.2656/1, P_5 =S.148/6/1, P_6 =S.237/1 and P_7 =S.110/3) and two introductions (P_8 =Gawhar-552 and P_9 =Ariane-R₃).

In 1999/2000 season, a part of the F_2 seed bulks of the 36 diallel crosses was used to evaluate their F_3 progenies at Giza, Gemmiza and Zarzoorah experiment stations of the Agricultural Research Center; located at Giza, Gharbia and El-Beheira Governorates, respectively. In 2000/2001 season, the other part of the F_2 seed bulks of the 36 diallel crosses in addition to their F_3 of seed bulks resulting from 1999/2000 season were used to evaluate the F_3 and F_4 generations at the three previous experiment stations. The experiments were laid out in a randomized complete block design with 3 replications, and a restricted randomization where each plot consisted of two rows for each cross in F_3 and F_4 generations. Rows were 2m long, 20 cm apart, plants spaced 5 cm apart. Ten random guarded plants plot from each F_3 and F_4 p were used to measure seed yield per plant, number of capsules per plant, number of seeds per capsule and 1000- seed weight.

Plot means were used for statistical analysis. Data from each environment (years and locations) were analyzed and Bartlett's test for heterogeneity of error variances across environments indicated that error terms were homogeneous. In the combined analysis across environments effect was assumed to be fixed.

General (GCA) and specific (SCA) combining abilities were calculated according

to Griffing's method 4, model 1. Forms of analysis for individual environments as given by Griffing (1956) and for combined analysis as suggested by Singh (1973) were used.

Data were subjected to yield - stability (Ysi) analysis as outlined by Kang (1993) according to the program developed by Kang and Magari (1995).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Combining ability:

Mean squares due to GCA effects for seed yield/plant and its components viz., capsules / plant ,1000- seed weight and seeds/ capsule were significant in both F_3, F_4 generations for each environment and over environments (Table 1) except for No. of seeds/ capsule in E_1 in both F_3, F_4 generations in 2000/2001 and E_2 in F_4 only. However, SCA mean squares were significant for seed yield and its components for individual environments and combined over environments except for E_2 in both seasons and E_1 in both F_3 and F_4 generations in 2000/2001 for seed yield/plant. Also, SCA mean square for capsules/plant (E_2) in F_4 generation was not significant.

The ratios of GCA/ SCA mean squares were significant in E_2 and E_3 in both F_3 and F_4 generations and over environments for seed yield/plant, except for the combined analysis in F_3 generation. Moreover, GCA/ SCA mean squares were significant for 1000-seed weight at all environments and combined over environments in both generations. These results indicated that both additive and non – additive effects were involved in the inheritance of seed yield/plant and 1000-seed weight. However, the additive effects were more important than non – additive for these traits. In spite of the significant GCA and SCA mean squares for capsules/plant at all environments ,except for E_2 in F_4 generation, and combined over environments ;the ratios of GCA/ SCA mean squares were not significant at most environments and combined analysis in both F_3 and F_4 generations. Seeds/capsule gave similar results to capsules/plant. A comparison of the magnitude of GCA mean squares for capsules /plant and seeds/capsule shows that both additive and non –additive genetic effects governed the inheritance of these two traits. Furthermore, non-additive genetic variance seemed to be more important than additive in the genetic expression of seeds /capsule. Murty and Anand 1966; Murty *et al.*, 1967; Mourad, 1977; El-Farouk *et al.*, 1998; and Abo-El-Zahab *et al.*, 2000 reported similar results.

Combining ability x environment interactions:

Mean squares of general combining ability by environments (GCA x E) interaction were significant for seed yield and its components in both F_3 and F_4 generations with the exception of seeds/capsule in F_4 . Likewise, significant specific (SCA x E) was detected for 1000-seed weight in both generations and capsules / plant in F_3 generation

Table 1. Mean square of individual and combined ANOVA across environments (E) for 36 flax crosses in F3 and F4 generations for seed yield and its components.

S.O.V.	Seed yield/plant (g)												
	F3						F4						
	1999/2000		2000/2001		C		2000/2001		E2		C		
	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	C
Rep./E	0.060	0.060	1.073	0.194	0.122	0.864	0.030	0.075	0.085	0.030	0.075	0.085	0.060
Environments(E)							8.780 **			8.780 **			5.380 **
Crosses (C)	2.814 **	0.877 **	1.744 **	1.065 **	1.063 **	1.664 **	0.982 **	1.787 **	1.893 **	0.982 **	1.787 **	1.893 **	3.170 **
C * E							0.976 **			0.976 **			0.750 **
Heterogeneity							1.383 **			1.383 **			2.917 **
Residual							0.874 **			0.874 **			2.870 **
GCA	1.55 **	0.870 **	1.279 **	0.447 *	1.09 **	1.069 **	0.526 *	1.699 **	1.414 **	0.526 *	1.699 **	1.414 **	2.740 **
SCA	0.757 **	0.122	0.375 *	0.328	0.136	0.403 *	0.269	0.269 *	0.399	0.269	0.269 *	0.399	0.560 **
GCA*E							0.953 **			0.953 **			0.450 *
SCA*E							0.139			0.139			0.190
Pooled error	0.151	0.149	0.212	0.209	0.104	0.235	0.204	0.244	0.297	0.204	0.244	0.297	0.250
GCA/SCA	2.048	7.156 **	3.413 **	1.363	7.995 **	2.655 *	1.960	6.318 **	3.544 **	1.960	6.318 **	3.544 **	4.893 **
Rep./E	7.425	27.070	196.635	37.000	11.610	126.190	67.650	97.340	31.420	67.650	97.340	31.420	45.008
Environments(E)							2612.34 **			2612.34 **			2898.15 **
Crosses (C)	351.191 **	245.198 **	520.483 **	223.473 **	306.671 **	425.93 **	849.190 **	172.952 **	430.253 **	849.190 **	172.952 **	430.253 **	418.552 **
C * E							243.130 **			243.130 **			170.756 **
Heterogeneity							357.136 **			357.136 **			234.956 **
Residual							214.621 **			214.621 **			106.536 **
GCA	129.833 **	192.543 **	319.44 **	67.53 *	259.823 **	216.775 **	437.350 **	87.781 *	291.485 **	437.350 **	87.781 *	291.485 **	245.541 **
SCA	113.317 **	48.9 *	130.622 **	76.591 **	55.528 *	115.903 **	237.350 **	59.628 **	99.546 *	237.350 **	59.628 **	99.546 *	108.053 **
GCA*E							149.720 **			149.720 **			92.376 **
SCA*E							60.700 **			60.700 **			46.443
Pooled error	49.663	27.500	44.882	32.576	26.901	43.002	37.420	40.375	46.683	37.420	40.375	46.683	37.110
GCA/SCA	1.146	3.937 **	2.446	0.862	4.679 **	1.870	1.843	2.102	2.928 *	1.843	2.102	2.928 *	2.272

Table1. Continued

S.O.V.	seeds/capsule											
	F3						F4					
	1999/2000			2000/2001			2000/2001			2000/2001		
	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3
Rep./E	0.050	0.123	0.043	0.060	0.122	0.059	0.076	0.140	0.225	0.095	0.140	0.225
Environments(E)	1.465 **	0.951 **	1.197 **	1.537 **	0.951 **	1.165 **	6.028 **	0.076	0.225	1.132 **	0.699 **	1.637 **
Crosses (C)	0.364 *	0.662 **	0.409 *	0.355	0.662 **	0.364 *	4.065 **	0.076	0.225	0.250	0.235	0.363 *
C*E	0.525 **	0.216 **	0.396 **	0.559 **	0.215 **	0.396 **	1.245 **	0.076	0.225	0.415 **	0.258 *	0.600 **
Heterogeneity							0.490 **	0.076	0.225	0.250	0.235	0.363 *
Residual							1.103 **	0.076	0.225	0.415 **	0.258 *	0.600 **
GCA	0.166	0.156	0.170	0.209	0.156	0.170	1.426 **	0.176	0.225	0.188	0.134	0.176
SCA	0.693	3.083 *	1.032	0.635	3.087 *	0.921	0.176	0.176	0.225	0.188	0.134	0.176
SCA*E							0.343 **	0.176	0.225	0.188	0.134	0.176
Pooled error							0.176	0.176	0.225	0.188	0.134	0.176
GCA/SCA							0.773	0.176	0.225	0.602	0.910	0.605
							1000-seed weight(g)					
Rep./E	0.252	0.030	0.281	0.003	0.351	0.481	0.233	0.330	0.770	1.162	0.330	0.770
Environments(E)	4.662 **	3.3 **	5.618 **	240.081 **	3.003 **	5.179 **	7.461 **	11.357 **	20.358 **	19.659 **	11.357 **	20.358 **
Crosses (C)							19.420 **	11.357 **	20.358 **	19.659 **	11.357 **	20.358 **
C*E							1.536 **	11.357 **	20.358 **	19.659 **	11.357 **	20.358 **
Heterogeneity							4.595 **	11.357 **	20.358 **	19.659 **	11.357 **	20.358 **
Residual							0.771 **	11.357 **	20.358 **	19.659 **	11.357 **	20.358 **
GCA	3.714 **	3.039 **	4.231 **	4.201 **	2.651 **	3.973 **	17.886 **	11.418 **	17.84 **	13.809 **	11.418 **	17.84 **
SCA	0.914 **	0.539 **	1.174 **	0.914 **	0.467 **	1.061 **	3.092 **	1.524	3.611 **	4.403 **	1.524	3.611 **
GCA*E							0.785 **	1.524	3.611 **	4.403 **	1.524	3.611 **
SCA*E							0.396 **	1.524	3.611 **	4.403 **	1.524	3.611 **
Pooled error	0.100	0.086	0.105	0.091	0.086	0.092	0.093	1.230	3.54 **	1.058	1.055	1.114
GCA/SCA	4.064 **	5.637 **	3.603 **	4.594 **	5.673 **	3.746 **	5.785 **	7.490 **	5.082 **	3.136 *	7.490 **	5.082 **

** indicating significant and highly significant, respectively.
 E1,E2 and E3=Giza, Gemiza and Zaizoora, respectively
 and C= combined over environments.

only. On the other hand, SCA x E interactions for seed yield /plant and seeds/capsule were non-significant in both generations and for capsules / plant in F₄ generation only. The consistency of GCA x environment interaction for seed yield/plant, capsules/plant and 1000-seed weight suggests that the additive effects were no more stable over environments for these traits. On the contrary, non-additive genetic variance was less distorted by environmental fluctuation as the SCA x E interactions were not significant for seed yield/plant and seeds/capsule in both generations. Similar results were reported by Shehata and Comstock, 1971; Patil and Chopde, 1981 and Abo- El Zahab *et al.*, 2000.

GCA effects:

Estimates of GCA effects are presented in Table 2. P₂ (Giza 8) and P₃ (S.2419/1) showed significant and positive GCA effects for seed yield/plant, capsules/plant and 1000-seed weight in F₃ and F₄ generations over individual environments and over environments.

The GCA estimates of these parents were consistent over generations, indicating that the F₃ data may give reliable indication of combining ability for seed yield and its components viz., capsules / plant, seeds/capsule and 1000-seed weight.

P₉ (Ariane-R3) gave significant and positive GCA effects in both generations for seeds/capsule in individual environments and combined over environments. Similar results were obtained by Abo – EL Zahab *et al.*, (2000).

SCA effects :

Out of the 36 crosses evaluated in F₃ and F₄ generations, two crosses viz., P₃ x P₅ and P₄ x P₈ revealed positive and significant SCA effects for seed yield /plant in most individual environments and over environments in both generations (Table3) .

The five crosses P₅, P₃ x P₉, P₄ x P₈, P₅ x P₇ and P₆ x P₉, showed significant and positive SCA effects in F₃ and F₄ generations for 1000-seed weight over individual environments and over environments. The three crosses P₂ x P₇, P₂ x P₈ and P₃ x P₅, gave positive and significant SCA effects for seeds/capsule. The two crosses P₁ x P₃ and P₂ x P₉ exhibited significant and positive SCA effects for capsules/plant in most individual environments and combined over environments in both generations. It could be noticed that two out of these nine crosses ,which showed positive and significant SCA effects for seed yield/plant and its three components across environments in both F₃ and F₄ generations, i.e. P₂ x P₉ and P₃ x P₉ resulted from crossing parents that have high GCA effects for yield or yield components. In addition, the three crosses P₂ x P₇, P₂ x P₈ and P₃ x P₅ included at least one parent as high general combiner for seed yield. Bhatade and Bhale (1983) mentioned that hybrids which involved high x high

Table 2. Estimates of GCA effects for seed yield /plant and its components in individual environments (E) and combined (C) over environments for 9- parents diallel cross in flax.

Parents	Seed yield/plant (g)													
	F3						F4						C	
	1999/2000			2000/2001			2000/2001			2000/2001				
P1 #	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	C	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	C
P1	0.009	0.362**	-0.328**	-0.110	0.140	0.100	0.029	0.365**	0.166*	0.220*	0.365**	0.166*	0.220*	0.250
P2	0.242**	0.102	0.595**	0.763**	0.570**	0.580**	0.475**	0.123	0.868**	0.800**	0.372**	0.705**	0.560**	0.597**
P3	0.741**	0.363**	0.520**	0.555**	0.370**	0.130	0.447**	0.372**	0.705**	0.560**	0.372**	0.705**	0.560**	0.546**
P4	-0.108	-0.048	-0.049	-0.028	-0.340**	-0.010	-0.097*	-0.039	-0.321**	-0.300*	-0.039	-0.321**	-0.300*	-0.220
P5	0.026	-0.028	0.146*	-0.154*	0.520**	0.500**	0.168*	0.032	-0.060	0.070	0.032	-0.060	0.070	0.014
P6	-0.307**	-0.143	-0.046	-0.145*	-0.250*	-0.260*	-0.192*	-0.217*	-0.363**	-0.170	-0.217*	-0.363**	-0.170	-0.250
P7	-0.622**	-0.379**	-0.300**	-0.415**	0.020	0.010	-0.281**	-0.385**	-0.576**	-0.300*	-0.385**	-0.576**	-0.300*	-0.420*
P8	0.588**	0.034	-0.243**	-0.326**	-0.520**	-0.530**	-0.166*	0.080	-0.250**	-0.480**	0.080	-0.250**	-0.480**	-0.217
P9	-0.569**	-0.263*	-0.296**	-0.139*	-0.510**	-0.510**	-0.381**	-0.331**	-0.171*	-0.410**	-0.331**	-0.171*	-0.410**	-0.304*
LSD 5%	0.220	0.297	0.169	0.163	0.273	0.275	0.233	0.202	0.152	0.205	0.202	0.152	0.205	0.186
(Sij-Sik)1%	0.339	0.457	0.260	0.251	0.420	0.423	0.358	0.310	0.234	0.316	0.310	0.234	0.316	0.287
							capsules/plant							
P1	0.024	-0.725	-8.547**	-8.268**	4.800**	4.830**	-1.304	-0.667	-2.731*	5.410**	-0.667	-2.731*	5.410**	0.671
P2	6.390**	3.709**	7.455**	8.883**	9.070**	5.500**	6.835**	2.958*	3.189*	9.410**	2.958*	3.189*	9.410**	5.186*
P3	5.690**	3.069*	4.644**	8.324**	5.730**	6.030**	5.581**	3.681*	3.681*	6.270**	3.681*	3.681*	6.270**	4.640*
P4	-6.003**	-5.155**	0.073	-0.437	-9.880**	-3.470**	-4.145**	-4.981**	-6.127**	-9.180**	-4.981**	-6.127**	-9.180**	-6.763**
P5	1.226	-2.856*	5.717**	3.698**	0.430	0.520	1.456	-0.547	2.457	0.840	-0.547	2.457	0.840	0.917
P6	-3.740*	3.278*	-0.845	-0.109	-1.350	-1.270	-0.673	0.974	2.759*	0.470	0.974	2.759*	0.470	1.401
P7	-4.570**	-2.035	-2.755*	-5.057**	2.750*	2.840*	-1.471	-0.476	-3.174*	-1.230	-0.476	-3.174*	-1.230	-1.627
P8	1.559	1.701	-5.359**	-6.361**	-10.93**	-10.84**	-5.038**	1.166	1.956	-8.940**	1.166	1.956	-8.940**	-1.939
P9	-0.576	-0.986	-0.383	-0.673	-0.640	-4.200**	-1.243	-2.394	-2.010	-3.050*	-2.394	-2.010	-3.050*	-2.485
LSD 5%	3.994	3.281	2.966	2.935	3.789	3.710	3.446	2.957	2.541	2.839	2.957	2.541	2.839	2.779
(Sij-Sik)1%	6.147	5.050	4.564	4.516	5.831	5.710	5.303	4.550	3.910	4.370	4.550	3.910	4.370	4.277

Table2. Continued

Parents	seeds /capsule														
	F3					C					F4				
	.1999/2000		2000/2001		E3	.1999/2000		2000/2001		E3	.1999/2000		2000/2001		E3
	E1	E2	E1	E2		E1	E2	E1	E2		E1	E2			
P1 #	-0.168	-0.205 **	-0.109 **	-0.188 **	0.100	0.110	-0.077	-0.114	-0.020	0.090	-0.015	-0.038	-0.038	-0.038	-0.038
P2	0.037	0.069	-0.558 **	-0.479 **	-0.220 *	-0.250 *	-0.234 *	0.099	-0.044	-0.170	-0.028	-0.028	-0.028	-0.028	-0.028
P3	0.049	0.016	0.172 **	0.172 **	-0.220	-0.150	0.007	0.007	-0.020	-0.070	0.128 *	0.128 *	0.128 *	0.128 *	0.128 *
P4	-0.208 *	-0.184 *	-0.199 **	-0.099 *	0.120	0.060	-0.085	-0.080	0.105	0.360 *	0.260 **	0.260 **	0.260 **	0.260 **	0.260 **
P5	-0.388 **	-0.387 **	-0.241 **	-0.341 **	-0.170	-0.160	-0.281 **	-0.418 **	-0.231 *	-0.130	-0.260 **	-0.260 **	-0.260 **	-0.260 **	-0.260 **
P6	0.380 **	0.368 **	0.167 **	0.166 **	-0.030	-0.020	0.172 *	0.143	0.024	-0.030	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046
P7	0.156	0.150	0.011	0.111 *	0.140	0.140	0.118	0.032	-0.100	-0.220	-0.096	-0.096	-0.096	-0.096	-0.096
P8	0.000	0.057	0.228 **	0.127 *	-0.220 *	-0.210 *	-0.003	0.123	-0.017	-0.190	-0.028	-0.028	-0.028	-0.028	-0.028
P9	0.144	0.118	0.529 **	0.530 **	0.500 **	0.480 **	0.384 **	0.209	0.303 **	0.370 *	0.294 **	0.294 **	0.294 **	0.294 **	0.294 **
LSD 5%	0.293	0.260	0.134	0.134	0.293	0.293	0.235	0.251	0.202	0.273	0.242	0.242	0.242	0.242	0.242
(Sj-Sik)1%	0.451	0.401	0.206	0.206	0.451	0.451	0.361	0.386	0.310	0.420	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372
					1000-seed weight (g)										
P1	1.029 **	0.971 **	0.612 **	0.502 **	-0.079	-0.080	0.493 **	1.047 **	0.474 **	-0.090 **	0.477 **	0.477 **	0.477 **	0.477 **	0.477 **
P2	0.685 **	0.820 **	0.739 **	0.849 **	0.720 **	0.750 **	0.761 **	0.666 **	0.803 **	0.780 **	0.750 **	0.750 **	0.750 **	0.750 **	0.750 **
P3	0.772 **	0.887 **	0.757 **	0.757 **	0.490 **	0.460 **	0.687 **	0.691 **	0.696 **	0.480 **	0.622 **	0.622 **	0.622 **	0.622 **	0.622 **
P4	0.003	-0.001	0.066	0.066	0.670 **	0.640 **	0.241	0.247 **	0.316 **	0.580 **	0.381 **	0.381 **	0.381 **	0.381 **	0.381 **
P5	0.085	0.055	0.139 *	0.139 *	0.440 **	0.450 **	0.218	0.104	0.198 *	0.430 **	0.244 **	0.244 **	0.244 **	0.244 **	0.244 **
P6	-0.925 **	-1.007 **	-0.354 **	-0.343 **	-0.440 **	-0.420 **	-0.582 **	-0.894 **	-0.646 **	-0.420 **	-0.653 **	-0.653 **	-0.653 **	-0.653 **	-0.653 **
P7	-0.925 **	-0.925 **	-0.643 **	-0.654 **	-0.570 **	-0.560 **	-0.713 **	-1.008 **	-0.792 **	-0.460 **	-0.753 **	-0.753 **	-0.753 **	-0.753 **	-0.753 **
P8	-0.097	-0.077	-0.149 *	-0.249 **	0.420 **	0.350 **	0.033	-0.149 *	0.074	0.330 **	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085
P9	-0.626 **	-0.723 **	-1.167 **	-1.067 **	-1.650 **	-1.590 **	-1.137 **	-0.705 **	-1.124 **	-1.630 **	-1.153 **	-1.153 **	-1.153 **	-1.153 **	-1.153 **
LSD 5%	0.185	0.170	0.165	0.165	0.183	0.170	0.173	0.291	0.233	0.191	0.238	0.238	0.238	0.238	0.238
(Sj-Sik)1%	0.285	0.262	0.254	0.254	0.282	0.262	0.267	0.449	0.358	0.293	0.367	0.367	0.367	0.367	0.367

For expansion see Table (1).
 # =(P1=Giza 7,P2=Giza 8,P3=S.2419/1,P4=S.2656/1,P5=S.148/6/1,P6=S237/1,P7=S.110/3,P8=Gawhar-552 and P9=Arlane-R3).

GCA combiners represented additive \times additive type of interactions and these crosses may yield transgressive segregates in later generations.

Also data indicated that the cross $P_3 \times P_5$ may yield transgressive segregates in later generations, because it exhibited significant SCA effects for seed yield/plant and its two components viz., 1000-seed weight and seeds/capsule. Similar results were reported by Abo-El-Zahab *et al.* (2000).

Stability measurement:

Mean squares from the individual environments (E) and combined variances over environments are given in Table 1. Highly significant variance due to crosses (C) revealed the presence of genetic variability in the material under investigation (36 crosses) for seed yield/plant and its components. Variances due to C \times E interaction as well as environment were found to be significant and positive for these characters indicating differential expression of crosses over environments. Therefore, it is important to give ample consideration to C \times E interaction effect while breeding flax to improve seed yield.

The variances due to heterogeneity (C \times E- linear) were significant for seed yield/plant and its components viz., 1000-seed weight, capsules/plant and seeds/capsule in both generations, indicating that these crosses differed genetically in their response to different environments when tested with pooled deviation.

The variance due to the pooled deviation from regression (residual) was significant for all traits in both generations with the exception of 1000-seed weight, and capsules/plant in F_4 only. A portion of C \times E interaction sum of squares was non linear, indicating that crosses differed with respect to their stability and that the prediction would be difficult, which means that selection of cross combinations on the basis of mean performance alone would not be appropriate. In such situations, methods that combine yield and stability of performance are useful (Bachireddy *et al.*, 1992).

Data presented in Table 4 show that, out of 36 crosses in this study 8 crosses for seed yield/plant, 14 crosses for capsules/plant and 15 crosses for 1000-seed weight were identified to be superior over generations by measuring yield and stability criterion (YS_i). Five out of these crosses, ($P_1 \times P_2$, $P_1 \times P_3$, $P_2 \times P_3$, $P_2 \times P_5$ and $P_3 \times P_5$) remained consistent for seed yield /plant and its two important components, 1000-seed weight, capsules/plant in F_3 and F_4 generations. Hence these crosses were considered adapted crosses in both generations and may be useful as potential breeding material for developing crosses with stable seed yield. Moreover, the cross $P_3 \times P_5$ exhibited significant positive SCA effects for seed yield /plant and its two components, 1000-seed weight and seeds/capsule as well as stability measurement.

Table 3. Estimates of SCA effects for seed yield /plant and its components in individual environments (E) and combined (C), over environments for 36 flax crosses.

Crosses	Seed yield/plant (g)											
	1999/2000						2000/2001					
	F3			F4			F3			F4		
	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3
1x2	0.099	0.243	0.497	0.232	0.094	0.528	0.321	-0.045	0.099	0.282	0.245	0.089
1x3	0.497	0.225	0.443	-0.062	0.199	0.169	0.089	0.488	0.379	0.245	0.245	0.559
1x4	0.196	-0.056	-0.264	0.068	-0.119	-0.228	0.070	0.240	-0.149	-0.067	-0.067	-0.757
1x5	-0.501	-0.305	-0.973	-0.535	-0.045	-0.929	-0.325	-0.154	-0.845	-0.548	-0.548	-0.845
1x6	0.272	0.014	-0.430	0.030	0.072	-0.386	-0.386	0.046	-0.243	-0.71	-0.71	-0.243
1x7	0.010	-0.139	0.794	0.043	-0.064	0.838	0.243	-0.348	0.864	0.247	0.247	0.864
1x8	-1.157	-0.336	0.251	-0.250	-0.293	0.295	-0.219	-0.731	0.411	-0.248	-0.248	0.411
1x9	0.584	0.354	-0.320	0.473	0.196	-0.289	0.208	0.504	-0.087	0.160	0.160	-0.087
2x3	-0.999	0.382	0.497	0.212	0.356	-0.830	0.003	0.034	0.794	0.003	0.003	0.794
2x4	-0.223	-0.368	-0.344	0.189	-0.284	0.867	0.185	-0.518	-0.172	-0.027	-0.027	-0.172
2x5	-0.228	-0.014	-0.073	0.176	-0.101	-0.071	0.381	-0.506	-0.160	-0.052	-0.052	-0.160
2x6	0.082	-0.165	-1.023	-0.310	0.057	-1.021	-0.353	0.160	-0.722	-0.416	-0.416	-0.722
2x7	0.830	0.326	0.168	0.474	0.450	0.169	0.492	-0.040	0.059	0.403	0.403	0.059
2x8	-0.350	-0.528	-0.155	-1.340	-0.436	-0.154	-1.130	0.024	-0.817	-0.494	-0.494	-0.817
2x9	0.388	0.125	0.433	0.370	-0.023	0.512	0.071	0.829	0.938	0.301	0.301	0.938
3x4	-0.839	0.183	-0.364	-0.122	-0.097	0.051	-0.147	0.428	-0.205	-0.198	-0.198	-0.205
3x5	1.284	0.154	0.923	0.975	0.140	1.163	0.738	0.730	1.043	0.773	0.773	1.043
3x6	0.627	-0.111	-0.167	-0.147	-0.579	0.073	0.048	-0.310	-0.282	-0.051	-0.051	-0.282
3x7	-0.258	-0.403	-0.410	0.206	-0.146	-0.170	-0.001	-0.123	-0.481	-0.167	-0.167	-0.481
3x8	0.339	-0.360	-0.366	-0.351	-0.135	-0.126	-0.376	-0.330	-0.587	-0.167	-0.167	-0.587
3x9	-1.051	-0.071	-0.957	-0.711	0.261	-0.330	-0.385	-0.378	-0.842	-0.410	-0.410	-0.842
4x5	-0.857	-0.273	-0.037	-0.628	0.183	-0.367	-0.614	0.197	0.204	-0.330	-0.330	0.204
4x6	-0.537	-0.448	0.553	-0.487	-0.263	0.223	-0.435	-0.654	0.216	-0.160	-0.160	0.216
4x7	-0.079	0.250	0.033	-0.133	-0.370	-0.297	-0.150	-0.417	0.307	-0.099	-0.099	0.307
4x8	2.678	0.516	-0.270	1.383	0.755	-0.599	1.315	0.360	-0.176	0.744	0.744	-0.176
4x9	-0.339	0.196	0.692	-0.270	0.194	0.350	-0.224	0.365	0.582	0.137	0.137	0.582
5x6	-0.191	-0.080	1.000	0.237	0.617	1.016	0.237	0.442	0.761	0.420	0.420	0.761
5x7	-0.673	0.388	0.354	-0.620	-0.352	0.359	-0.688	-0.418	-0.065	-0.089	-0.089	-0.065
5x8	0.003	0.420	-0.109	0.020	-0.352	-0.094	-0.100	-0.128	-0.064	-0.128	-0.128	-0.064
5x9	1.164	-0.310	-1.087	0.377	0.011	-1.085	0.371	0.237	-0.873	-0.155	-0.155	-0.873
6x7	0.260	0.323	-0.582	0.425	0.715	-0.582	0.096	0.721	0.423	0.096	0.096	0.423
6x8	-1.057	0.516	0.518	-0.422	0.209	0.533	-0.007	0.282	0.721	0.116	0.116	0.721
6x9	0.544	-0.068	0.130	0.275	-0.615	0.132	0.404	-0.287	-0.028	0.066	0.066	-0.028
7x8	0.571	-0.373	-0.468	0.341	0.002	-0.454	0.288	0.908	-0.019	-0.097	-0.097	-0.019
7x9	-0.461	-0.371	0.110	-0.735	-0.235	0.112	-0.675	-0.283	-0.221	-0.283	-0.283	-0.221
8x9	-0.830	0.146	0.598	0.220	0.250	0.599	0.230	-0.386	0.530	0.164	0.164	0.530
LSD 5%	0.493	0.379	0.613	0.667	0.367	0.618	0.679	0.615	0.684	0.523	0.523	0.684
(SI)-SIK1%	0.709	0.545	0.882	0.960	0.528	0.889	0.976	0.741	0.998	0.752	0.752	0.998

Table 3. Continued

Crosses	capsules/plant														
	F3				F4				C						
	1999/2000		2000/2001		2000/2001		2000/2001		2000/2001		2000/2001		C		
E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	C
1x2	8.784 *	2.284 *	2.051 *	6.203 **	7.723 **	5.606 **	9.421 *	5.442 *	9.008 *	1.383 *	-1.262 *	10.168 **	10.46 **	-1.262 *	3.180 *
1x3	14.840 **	7.732 **	8.260 **	13.306 **	3.843 *	7.947 **	9.321 *	9.321 *	10.168 **	10.46 **	4.472 *	2.17	1.862	4.472 *	8.367 *
1x4	-5.857 *	-3.764 *	-1.051 *	-5.660 *	-4.410 *	-7.468 **	-4.702	-4.702	2.17	1.862	-13.096 **	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-6.052
1x5	-5.192	-4.307	-11.526 **	0.788	3.445	-11.623 **	-5.884 *	-5.884 *	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-4.263
1x6	-5.278	3.042	-3.398	-10.546 **	1.150	-3.494	-3.087	-3.087	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	0.917
1x7	-5.961 *	-2.805	14.437 **	-6.080 *	-1.659	14.343 **	2.046	2.046	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-0.463
1x8	-15.722 **	3.478	8.332 **	-13.235 **	-3.632	8.238 **	-3.250	-3.250	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-11.169 **	-2.922	-13.096 **	-0.975
1x9	14.383 **	1.296	-17.104 **	15.225 **	0.430	-13.549 **	0.114	0.114	4.363	2.702	7.193 *	0.139	0.139	7.193 *	2.532
2x3	6.527 *	-0.430	-2.231	3.213	-0.872	-20.270 **	-2.344	-2.344	0.162	0.162	-7.541 *	-3.758	-3.758	-7.541 *	-3.712
2x4	-9.656 **	0.691	-8.001 *	6.063 *	2.345	10.615 *	0.343	0.343	0.262	0.262	2.764	-0.632	-0.632	2.764	0.623
2x5	-8.465 **	-0.169	-4.553	-2.492	-0.456	-1.001	-2.856	-2.856	-1.917	-1.917	5.685	-4.453	-4.453	5.685	-0.202
2x6	2.632	1.106	-9.449 **	-2.726	-1.935	-5.892	3.876	3.876	-0.224	-0.224	2.639	1.461	1.461	2.639	1.461
2x7	9.557 *	3.213	1.343	1.034	3.210	4.898	-2.711	-2.711	1.967	1.967	-0.224	2.639	2.639	-0.224	1.461
2x8	0.329	-12.767 **	-16.596 **	-5.469 *	-14.070 **	-13.043 **	-10.269 **	-10.269 **	-4.948	-4.948	-9.788 **	-19.053 **	-19.053 **	-9.788 **	-11.263 **
2x9	-9.709 **	6.071 *	37.436 **	-5.825 *	4.055	19.086 **	8.519 **	8.519 **	4.772	4.772	0.548	26.37	26.37	0.548	7.382 *
3x4	1.163	1.369	3.027	7.049 **	-2.679	19.266 **	4.866	4.866	6.438	6.438	-4.76	1.168	1.168	-4.76	0.949
3x5	6.634 *	1.142	2.249	-3.466	4.160	1.941	2.110	2.110	7.618 *	7.618 *	-9.937 **	-0.403	-0.403	-9.937 **	7.761 *
3x6	-5.536	-8.036 **	-1.527	4.250	2.411	-1.834	-1.712	-1.712	-4.18	-4.18	6.692	8.974 *	8.974 *	6.692	0.949
3x7	-10.580 **	-3.489	-2.175	-9.047 **	-5.744 *	-2.481	-5.596 *	-5.596 *	-6.567 *	-6.567 *	-3.443	-9.034 *	-9.034 *	-6.567 *	-6.378 *
3x8	6.621 *	-2.086	3.133	0.367	-5.620 *	2.824	0.877	0.877	-3.222	-3.222	-0.244	3.46	3.46	-0.244	-0.005
3x9	-19.670 **	3.779	-10.736 **	-15.673 **	4.501 *	-7.393 **	-7.532 **	-7.532 **	-10.428 **	-10.428 **	-5.961 *	-8.766 *	-8.766 *	-10.428 **	-8.385 **
4x5	-5.903 *	11.053 **	4.102	-2.085	12.744 **	-2.311	2.940	2.940	-4.906	-4.906	-1.44	5.417	5.417	-1.44	-0.310
4x6	-5.363	-8.978 **	5.483	-12.136 **	-10.082 **	-0.938	-5.335 *	-5.335 *	-10.261 **	-10.261 **	6.369 *	0.786	0.786	6.369 *	-5.281
4x7	7.727 *	3.036	-4.642	5.020 *	4.970 *	-11.062 **	0.841	0.841	3.161	3.161	9.771 **	-1.391	-1.391	9.771 **	1.659
4x8	16.791 **	2.685	-1.844	3.055	3.320	-8.264 **	2.624	2.624	3.032	3.032	6.341	-1.95	-1.95	6.341	3.661
4x9	1.097	-6.130 **	2.927	-1.305	-6.208 *	0.159	-1.577	-1.577	-0.326	-0.326	5.341	6.223	6.223	-0.326	3.746
5x6	-1.182	-6.585 **	12.964 **	0.845	-9.750 **	12.866 **	1.526	1.526	0.585	0.585	2.24	6.005	6.005	0.585	2.943
5x7	-3.753	0.415	8.799 **	-1.895	-5.239 *	8.706 *	1.172	1.172	-1.895	-1.895	3.804	-11.676 **	-11.676 **	-1.895	3.154
5x8	-2.304	-4.062	2.711	-1.924	-1.918	2.611	-0.814	-0.814	-1.924	-1.924	9.074 *	-10.03 **	-10.03 **	9.074 *	-6.162
5x9	20.164 **	2.473	-14.745 **	10.229 **	3.904	-11.189 **	1.806	1.806	10.794 *	10.794 *	3.532	-4.476	-4.476	10.794 *	-1.968
6x7	10.588 **	12.467 **	-5.430	10.305 **	13.156 **	5.926 *	5.926 *	5.926 *	10.794 *	10.794 *	3.532	-4.476	-4.476	10.794 *	3.283
6x8	-4.181	12.980 **	1.012	3.405	12.370 **	0.920	4.418	4.418	5.989	5.989	3.625	0.655	0.655	5.989	3.423
6x9	8.318 *	-5.995 *	0.346	6.602 *	-7.319 **	3.899	0.975	0.975	10.059 **	10.059 **	3.051	1.698	1.698	10.059 **	4.936
7x8	2.735	-2.317	-5.477	11.858 **	0.111	-5.574 *	0.223	0.223	-10.579 **	-10.579 **	7.855 *	-1.242	-1.242	7.855 *	5.731
7x9	-10.313 **	-10.518 **	-6.855 *	-11.195 **	-8.804 **	-3.301	-8.498 **	-8.498 **	-1.601 **	-1.601 **	-7.798 *	-10.076 **	-10.076 **	-7.798 *	-9.825 **
8x9	-4.269	9.025 **	8.730 **	1.943	9.440 **	12.288 **	6.183 *	6.183 *	9.979	9.979	8.578	13.789	13.789	9.979	5.079
LSD 5%	8.981	6.675	8.628	7.383	6.603	8.348	7.755	7.755	14.359	14.359	8.578	13.789	13.789	8.578	13.495
(S) _{ij} -S _{ijk} 1%	12.936	9.605	12.270	10.622	9.501	12.011	11.158	11.158	14.359	14.359	13.789	13.789	13.789	13.789	13.495

Table 3. Continued

Crosses	seeds/capsule											
	F3						F4					
	1999/2000			2000/2001			2000/2001			2000/2001		
	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3	E1	E2	E3
1x2	-0.772 **	0.510 **	0.379	-0.763 **	0.510 **	0.403	0.045	-0.282	-0.747 *	-0.428	-0.083	-0.419
1x3	0.086	-0.220 *	-0.694 *	0.120	-0.220 *	-0.766 **	-0.282	-0.565 *	-0.362	-0.565 *	-0.854 *	-0.600 *
1x4	0.293	0.224 *	-0.480 **	0.350	0.224 *	-0.425 *	0.031	-0.096	-0.087	-0.087	-0.615 *	-0.096
1x5	0.103	0.224 *	0.553 *	0.113	0.225 *	0.545 *	0.294	0.547 *	0.404	0.549 *	0.687 *	0.547 *
1x6	-0.336	-0.038	0.337	-0.295	-0.038	0.329	-0.007	0.001	-0.416	-0.003	0.425	0.001
1x7	0.378	-0.252 *	0.211	0.367	-0.253 *	0.203	0.109	0.296	0.167	0.285	0.437	0.296
1x8	0.781 **	-0.269 *	-0.431	0.822 **	-0.269 *	-0.439 *	0.033	0.111	0.775 *	0.101	-0.544	0.111
1x9	-0.533	-0.180	0.126	-0.715 **	-0.178	0.150	-0.222	0.161	-0.234	0.168	0.548	0.161
2x3	-0.130	-0.157	-0.564 *	-0.187	-0.156	-0.157	-0.235	-0.472	-0.234	-0.415	-0.235	-0.472
2x4	-0.836 **	-1.286 **	-0.454 *	-0.834 **	-1.286 **	-0.813 **	-0.918 **	-0.745 *	-0.321	-0.890 **	-1.023 **	-0.745 *
2x5	-0.322	-0.210 *	-0.614 *	-0.344	-0.211 *	-0.590 **	-0.382 *	-0.217	-0.176	-0.121	-0.354	-0.217
2x6	1.319 **	-0.095	-1.053 **	1.334 **	-0.095	-1.029 **	0.064	0.846 **	0.882	-0.229	-0.943 **	0.846 **
2x7	0.586 *	0.234 *	0.487 *	0.622 **	0.234 *	0.511 **	0.446 *	0.826 **	1.044 **	0.858 **	0.536 *	0.826 **
2x8	0.233	0.824 **	1.163	0.251	0.825 **	1.186 **	0.747	0.826 **	0.392	0.858 **	1.229 **	0.826 **
2x9	-0.078	0.180	0.666 **	-0.079	0.179	0.488 **	0.224	0.376	-0.010	0.365	0.774 *	0.376
3x4	-0.524 *	0.250 *	0.807 **	-0.544 *	0.250 *	0.799 **	0.173	0.656 *	-0.315	0.823 **	1.986 **	0.656 *
3x5	0.969 **	0.800 **	0.630	0.999 **	0.799 **	0.558 *	0.793 **	0.027	0.806 **	0.659	0.502	0.656 *
3x6	-0.313	-0.325 **	0.104	-0.292	-0.325 **	0.033	-0.186	0.285	0.124	0.011	-0.054	0.285
3x7	1.434 **	0.160	0.238	1.442 **	0.160	0.166	0.600 **	0.177	1.186 **	0.278	-0.608	0.177
3x8	-0.522 *	0.034	0.593 *	-0.572 **	0.034	0.521 *	0.015	-0.904 **	-0.712 *	0.037	0.378	-0.904 **
3x9	-1.000	-0.544 **	-1.114 **	-0.966 **	-0.542 **	-1.154 **	-0.887 **	-0.077	-0.712 *	-0.885 **	-1.114 **	-0.077
4x5	0.330	-0.620 **	-0.209	0.289	-0.621 **	-0.154	-0.164	0.265	0.153	-0.074	-0.310	0.265
4x6	0.714 **	0.479 **	0.065	0.671 **	0.479 **	0.121	0.422 *	0.060	0.681 *	0.302	-0.189	0.060
4x7	-0.525 *	0.288 **	0.295	-0.558 **	0.291 **	0.351	0.024	-0.344	-0.654 *	-0.035	0.510	-0.344
4x8	0.198	-0.059	-0.423	0.215	-0.059	-0.367	-0.083	0.225	-0.065	-0.298	-0.670	0.225
4x9	0.350	0.723 **	0.400	0.411	0.722 **	0.488 **	0.516 **	0.294	0.105	0.259	0.311	0.294
5x6	-0.076	0.165	0.935 **	-0.120	0.164	0.927 **	0.333	-0.796 **	0.026	0.265	-0.451	-0.796 **
5x7	-1.082	-0.140	-0.618 *	-1.135	-0.141	-0.626 **	-0.624 **	-0.384	-1.095 **	-0.842 **	-0.915 **	-0.384
5x8	0.111	-0.156	-0.723 **	0.264	-0.154	-0.731 **	-0.232	-0.262	0.119	-0.355	0.250	-0.262
5x9	-0.033	-0.064	0.047	-0.066	-0.063	0.071	-0.018	0.004	-0.236	-0.081	0.034	0.004
6x7	-0.937 **	-0.355 **	-0.368	-0.840 **	-0.355 **	-0.375	-0.538 **	-0.131	-0.607 *	-0.213	0.034	-0.131
6x8	-0.437 *	0.029	0.031	-0.551 *	0.029	0.023	-0.146	0.004	-0.503	-0.143	0.253	0.004
6x9	0.065	0.141	-0.052	0.092 **	0.140	-0.028	0.060	-0.363	-0.884 **	-0.386	0.182	-0.363
7x8	-0.723 **	-0.042	-0.196	-0.826 **	-0.042	-0.204	-0.339	0.065	0.844 **	0.055	-0.740 *	0.065
7x9	0.869 **	0.107	-0.049	0.927 **	0.105	-0.025	0.004	0.107	0.844 **	0.055	-0.740 *	0.107
8x9	0.359	-0.363 **	-0.014	0.396 *	-0.364 **	0.010	0.322	0.107	0.128	0.108	0.086	0.107
LSD 5%	0.655	0.301	0.582	0.584	0.301	0.582	0.528	0.376	0.845	0.579	0.923	0.376
(SI-SI)1%	0.947	0.434	0.952	0.841	0.434	0.952	0.760	0.576	1.216	0.976	1.328	0.576

Table 3. Continued

Crosses	1000-seed weight(g)												
	1999/2000				F3 .2000/2001				F4 .2000/2001				C.
	E1	E2	E3	E4	E1	E2	E3	E4	E1	E2	E3	E4	C.
1x2	0.230	-0.059	0.274	-0.059	0.258	1.157	0.300	-0.073	0.300	0.432	1.307	0.559	
1x3	-0.560	-0.669	0.243	-0.669	0.229	1.482	0.011	-0.325	0.011	0.386	1.553	0.538	
1x4	-0.122	0.032	-0.179	0.032	-0.199	-0.340	0.011	-0.202	0.011	0.386	1.553	0.538	
1x5	-1.180	-1.187	-0.799	-1.187	-0.799	-1.143	-1.049	-1.167	-1.049	-1.016	-1.128	-0.419	
1x6	1.063	1.034	0.397	1.034	0.397	-0.885	0.507	0.834	-0.834	-0.036	-0.962	-1.104	
1x7	0.847	0.906	0.221	0.906	0.221	-0.213	0.478	0.784	0.478	0.277	-0.239	-0.055	
1x8	0.115	0.142	-0.311	0.142	-0.301	0.142	-0.086	0.216	-0.086	-0.170	-0.472	0.274	
1x9	-0.392	-0.199	0.155	-0.199	0.147	0.733	0.041	0.018	0.041	0.319	0.710	-0.142	
2x3	0.027	0.855	0.311	0.855	0.319	0.289	0.443	-0.183	0.443	0.431	0.502	0.349	
2x4	0.156	0.229	0.795	0.229	0.793	0.374	0.429	1.008	0.429	0.184	0.275	0.280	
2x5	0.414	0.227	0.015	0.227	0.010	0.517	0.235	0.377	0.235	0.326	0.613	0.489	
2x6	-1.109	-1.212	-0.577	-1.212	-0.594	-0.472	-0.863	-0.945	-0.863	-0.348	-0.286	0.439	
2x7	-0.172	-0.130	0.011	-0.130	0.111	-0.073	-0.064	-0.411	-0.064	-0.301	-0.174	-0.295	
2x8	-0.714	-0.788	-0.487	-0.788	-0.475	0.432	-0.470	-0.603	-0.470	-0.208	0.347	-0.295	
2x9	1.169	0.878	-0.311	0.878	-0.317	-2.223	0.012	0.830	0.012	-0.526	-2.585	-0.155	
3x4	-0.601	-0.764	0.512	-0.764	0.501	0.610	-0.084	-0.482	-0.084	-0.116	0.137	-0.154	
3x5	0.514	0.770	0.428	0.770	0.439	0.852	0.686	0.542	0.686	0.089	0.889	0.653	
3x6	-0.408	-0.492	-0.655	-0.492	-0.652	-0.526	-0.539	0.099	-0.539	-0.288	-0.524	-0.238	
3x7	-0.476	-0.634	-0.744	-0.634	-0.744	-1.968	-0.867	-1.108	-0.867	-1.108	-1.595	-1.020	
3x8	0.312	0.202	-1.263	0.202	-1.255	-2.095	-0.650	-0.357	-0.650	-1.018	-2.224	-1.127	
3x9	0.791	0.732	1.154	0.732	1.155	1.346	0.985	0.844	0.985	1.164	1.281	1.096	
4x5	-0.634	-0.702	-1.111	-0.702	-1.133	-0.423	-0.784	-0.524	-0.784	-0.428	-0.355	-0.436	
4x6	-0.271	-0.264	-0.514	-0.264	-0.513	0.309	-0.253	-0.613	-0.253	-0.075	0.445	-0.081	
4x7	0.489	0.434	-0.111	0.434	-0.031	0.064	0.213	0.281	0.213	0.228	0.008	0.172	
4x8	0.684	0.680	0.533	0.680	0.548	0.583	0.620	0.516	0.620	0.642	0.815	0.658	
4x9	0.300	0.356	0.073	0.356	0.004	-0.688	0.057	0.102	0.057	-0.233	-0.556	-0.229	
5x6	0.518	0.600	0.255	0.600	0.266	0.191	0.405	0.405	0.405	0.200	-0.053	0.199	
5x7	1.238	1.225	0.731	1.225	0.734	0.790	0.991	1.271	0.991	1.067	1.073	1.027	
5x8	0.716	0.927	1.502	0.927	1.511	-0.398	0.864	0.966	0.864	0.427	-0.393	0.333	
5x9	-1.985	-1.860	-1.024	-1.860	-1.021	-0.387	-1.356	-1.915	-1.356	-1.124	-0.295	-1.111	
6x7	-0.616	-0.427	0.041	-0.427	0.044	0.105	-0.213	-0.442	-0.213	-0.166	-0.006	-0.205	
6x8	-1.091	-1.095	0.742	-1.095	0.743	1.114	-0.114	-1.120	-0.114	-0.030	1.205	0.018	
6x9	1.912	1.855	0.326	1.855	0.325	0.165	1.073	1.736	1.073	0.742	0.180	0.886	
7x8	0.232	0.160	-0.337	0.160	-0.335	0.449	0.055	0.327	0.055	0.350	0.360	0.346	
7x9	-1.541	-1.534	0.114	-1.534	0.113	0.647	-0.569	-1.453	-0.569	-0.348	0.902	-0.300	
8x9	-0.253	-0.228	-0.403	-0.228	-0.402	0.206	-0.218	-0.162	-0.218	0.006	0.363	0.069	
LSD 5%	0.416	0.384	0.372	0.384	0.372	0.385	0.386	0.653	0.386	0.428	0.525	0.536	
(S.E.M) ¹	0.598	0.552	0.535	0.552	0.535	0.555	0.555	0.940	0.555	0.756	0.615	0.771	

¹For expansion see Table (1).

Table 4. Mean yield and yield stability statistic (Ysi) for 36 flax crosses evaluated at 6 environments in F3 and 3 environments in F4 for seed yield and its component variables.

Crosses	Seed yield/plant(g)			No. of capsules/plant			No. of seeds/capsule			1000-seed weight(g)			
	F3		F4	F3		F4	F3		F4	F3		F4	
	Mean	Ysi	#	Mean	Ysi	#	Mean	Ysi	#	Mean	Ysi	#	
1x2	4.37	35	18	72.87	33	32	7.04	-1	8	6.73	8	10.21	39
1x3	4.30	34	19	75.50	30	39	6.94	4	4	6.56	2	10.06	37
1x4	3.45	16	-2	51.75	0	3	7.17	12	18	7.22	18	8.86	25
1x5	3.23	8	0	56.17	7	11	7.21	5	7	7.48	27	8.04	11
1x6	3.35	14	3	56.84	8	11	7.38	23	17	7.24	16	8.19	13
1x7	3.58	14	3	61.17	9	10	7.46	22	25	7.39	14	8.42	20
1x8	3.20	0	-3	52.31	-7	8	7.23	6	6	7.27	17	8.68	24
1x9	3.39	8	8	59.47	5	14	7.37	14	29	7.65	29	8.10	13
2x3	4.51	30	18	71.98	28	37	6.86	3	4	6.67	4	10.22	31
2x4	3.93	21	13	64.94	18	9	6.09	-10	1	6.55	1	10.04	36
2x5	4.17	30	16	67.34	23	33	6.40	-1	5	6.69	5	9.85	33
2x6	3.45	11	5	65.35	29	32	7.31	12	4	7.02	4	7.99	9
2x7	4.18	35	14	71.14	35	27	7.66	25	34	7.92	34	8.12	15
2x8	3.40	9	-6	53.43	-6	7	7.81	34	34	7.96	34	9.10	29
2x9	3.98	31	9	76.01	31	27	7.69	23	27	7.84	34	7.26	-6
3x4	3.73	24	13	68.21	24	15	7.41	17	30	8.14	30	9.27	31
3x5	4.97	31	21	71.05	26	38	7.80	33	28	7.57	28	9.94	34
3x6	3.79	23	11	65.10	19	20	7.29	15	16	7.25	16	8.15	16
3x7	3.55	20	6	60.43	6	13	8.04	29	16	7.36	16	7.27	3
3x8	3.70	17	3	63.32	15	25	7.30	14	23	7.32	23	8.00	10
3x9	3.24	2	-2	58.71	4	5	6.80	-5	3	6.97	3	9.02	22
4x5	3.32	7	1	62.16	13	6	6.77	-2	11	7.00	11	8.07	7
4x6	3.13	1	-6	51.75	-1	0	7.82	33	31	7.65	31	7.86	0
4x7	3.10	2	-5	57.13	5	4	7.39	16	10	7.18	10	8.05	6
4x8	4.06	24	22	55.34	-3	2	7.13	11	10	6.96	10	9.30	24
4x9	3.24	7	3	54.94	3	8	8.13	34	35	7.85	35	7.36	-4
5x6	3.98	22	30	64.21	17	30	7.51	23	22	7.28	22	8.34	10
5x7	3.38	7	26	63.06	14	16	6.51	-8	-2	6.05	-2	8.78	20
5x8	3.56	13	24	57.51	10	2	6.75	-7	-2	6.53	-2	9.23	23
5x9	3.21	-1	33	63.92	16	4	7.37	19	15	7.22	15	6.36	-9
6x7	3.20	2	39	65.68	22	23	7.07	9	9	6.89	9	6.94	-7
6x8	3.34	13	25	60.61	7	18	7.31	19	13	7.09	13	8.04	5
6x9	3.08	1	28	60.96	8	28	7.91	36	28	7.55	28	7.46	-3
7x8	3.04	-9	77	55.62	-2	15	7.08	8	8	6.72	8	7.76	-2
7x9	2.66	-10	28	50.69	-4	-2	8.14	39	18	7.45	18	6.34	-10
8x9	3.20	5	21	61.81	18	21	7.67	30	30	7.58	30	7.11	-6
Mean	3.58	13.8	13.5	61.90	12.8	16.1	7.30	15.0	17.2	7.21	17.2	8.35	10.7
LSD 5%	0.255			3.354			0.233			0.500		0.073	
				5.704								0.819	

= Stable crosses on basis of Ysi

The aforementioned results show that evaluation of combining ability as well as stability measurement in early segregating generations is possible to obtain necessary information for improving seed yield in flax.

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تقييم المحصول وثبات السلوك الوراثي في الأجيال المبكرة في الكتان

٢- محصول البذرة ومكوناته

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تم دراسة ٢٦ هجيناً في كل من الجيلين الثالث والرابع ناتجة من التهجين ما بين ٩ أبناء من الكتان لتقدير القيمة التربوية وثبات السلوك الوراثي وذلك من خلال تقييمها عبر ثلاث بيئات مختلفة (الجيزة-الجميزة-زرزورة) في موسمي ١٩٩٩/٢٠٠٠ و ٢٠٠١/٢٠٠٠، وكان التصميم التجريبي المستخدم هو قطاعات كاملة العشوائية ذات الأربعة مكررات، وتشير نتائج نسبة التباين للقدرة العامة إلي الخاصة علي الانتلاف أن العوامل المضيضة وغير المضيضة تتحكم في توريث كلاً من صفات محصول البذرة/نبات و مكوناته، ومع ذلك كانت العوامل الوراثية المضيضة أكثر أهمية في وراثة صفات محصول البذرة وعدد الكسولات/نبات ووزن الألف بذرة، بينما العوامل غير المضيضة كانت أكثر أهمية تتحكم في توريث صفة عدد البذور/كيسولة، كما تشير معنوية التفاعل بين القدرة العامة علي الانتلاف و البيئة إلي أن التأثيرات المضيضة لم تكن ثابتة عبر البيئات ومن ثم فإن ذلك يتطلب التقييم في أكثر من بيئة واحدة للحصول علي نتائج يمكن الاعتماد عليها عند تقدير القدرة العامة علي الانتلاف لصفة محصول البذرة/نبات. وعلي العكس من ذلك كان تباين تفاعل القدرة الخاصة علي الانتلاف مع البيئة غير معنوي لصفة محصول البذرة /نبات وعدد البذور/الكيسولة، أي أن العوامل غير المضيضة لهذه الصفات كانت أقل تأثيراً بالتغيرات البيئية. كما أظهرت النتائج أن الآباء ج٨، س ١/٢٤١٩ كانت ذات قدرة عالية علي الانتلاف لكل من صفات محصول البذرة/نبات وعدد الكسولات ووزن الألف بذرة بينما كان الأب اريانا ذي قدرة عالية علي الانتلاف لصفة عدد البذرة/كيسولة، كما تشير نتائج تأثير القدرة الخاصة علي الانتلاف أن تسعة هجن من بين الـ ٢٦ هجين محل الدراسة أظهرت تفوقاً معنوياً لصفة محصول البذرة أو مكوناتها عبر البيئات والأجيال وأن هجينين منها فقط هما ج٨×إريانا، س١/٢٤١٩×إريانا كانت أبائهما ذات قدرة عالية علي الانتلاف (مضيف × مضيف) لصفة محصول البذرة /نبات، كما تميز الهجين س١/٢٤١٩×١/١٤٨/٦ بالجمع بين القدرة الخاصة علي الانتلاف العالية لصفة محصول البذرة/نبات وأثنين من مكوناته هما وزن الألف بذرة وعدد البذور/كيسولة، كما أوضحت النتائج الخاصة بتقديرات ثبات السلوك الوراثي أن خمسة هجن (ج٧×ج٨، ج٧×س١/٢٤١٩، ج٨×س١/٢٤١٩، ج٨×س١/١٤٨/٦، س١/٢٤١٩×١/٢٤١٩) ظلت مستمرة في الثبات عبر صفات محصول البذرة وأهم مكونين له هما وزن الألف بذرة وعدد الكيسولة/نبات في كل من الجيلين الثالث والرابع، لذلك تعتبر هذه الهجن ذات قيمة تربوية هامة لتحسين صفة محصول البذرة في الأجيال المتأخرة من برنامج التربية. ويستخلص من ذلك أن تقييم القدرة علي الانتلاف وثبات السلوك الوراثي في الأجيال الانعزالية المبكرة يوفر معلومات حقيقية لتحسين محصول البذرة في الكتان.