

Performance of Turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) Genotypes under Hill Zone (Zone-9) of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

Field trial on the evaluation of turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) genotypes for growth and yield was carried out during 2015-16 at College of Horticulture, Sirsi, Karnataka. The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with twenty-two treatments (varieties), replicated thrice. The turmeric genotypes were planted on raised bed of 3m × 1m following a spacing of 30cm × 20cm. Among the genotypes Suroma, Phule Swaroop, Prathibha and Cuddapah recorded higher plant height, number of tillers per plant, number of leaves per plant, leaf area and leaf area index. The var. Suroma registered the highest yield per plant (535.00 g), estimated fresh rhizome yield per hectare (67 t/ha) and curing percentage (22.05). The var. CO-1 and BSR-2 were found to be of long duration type while var. Kanti, Suvarna and Varna took 210 days in each to maturity. The var. Prathibha was found to be of short duration type (216.7 days) producing higher fresh rhizome yield (40.78 t/ha) under hill zone (Zone-9) of Karnataka.

Key words: Turmeric, Genotype, Hill zone, Rhizome.

INTRODUCTION

Turmeric (*Curcuma longa* L.) also called as Indian saffron or haldi is one of the most important and ancient spices of India. India has been recognized as world's largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric. In India, it is mainly grown in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Orissa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala. The national productivity of crop is 5.1 tons per hectare². Belgaum, Chamarajnaraga, Uttar Kannada, Hassan, Shimoga and Chickmagalore are important districts growing turmeric in Karnataka¹.

Uttara Kannada district (Karnataka) is topographically divided into three distinct zones/region: the narrow coastal line (Zone-10), the abruptly rising hills of the western ghats (Zone-9) and the flatter eastern portion (Zone-8) that merges with the Deccan plateau. Hill zone is characterized by high rainfall (2500 mm) with slopy land, light soils of lateritic origin and acidic pH (5.5-6.0). In this region turmeric is either grown as a pure crop or inter/mixed crop in coconut and arecanut plantations.

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Lack of suitable cultivar and package of practices for a particular agro-climatic conditions and cropping systems are reported to be the reasons for low productivity Veena¹⁵.

Though wide genetic variability exists in turmeric with respect to the growth and yield, work on crop improvement through selection is inadequate¹⁴. With this background the present study was taken up to evaluate promising genotypes and released varieties of turmeric for rainfed cultivation under hill zone (Zone-9) of Karnataka.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment was carried out in the experimental plot of College of Horticulture, Sirsi, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka, during 2015-16. Geographically Sirsi lies under hill zone (Zone-9) in the Agro climatic zone of Karnataka. It is situated at 14° 42.53' N latitude and 74° 41.58' E longitude and at an altitude of 637 m above the mean sea level. The investigation on performance of turmeric genotypes for growth and yield was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design involving twenty-two genotypes replicated three times. Turmeric rhizomes were planted on raised beds of 3m × 2m size and rhizomes were spaced at 30cm × 20cm apart. Planting was done on 21st May 2015. Agronomic and plant protection measures were carried out as per standard practices. Observations on growth and yield attributes, curing percentage and crop duration were also recorded.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Performance of different genotypes varied significantly with regard to plant height, number of tillers per plant, number of leaves per plant, leaf area and leaf area index (LAI) at all the stages of crop growth. Among growth parameters (Table-1) Plant height of var. Phule Swaroop (125.17 cm) and Suroma (119.0 cm) was statistically on par but significantly higher than the other varieties. These variations are attributed to variability in genetic makeup among turmeric genotypes when grown under hill zone (Zone-9) of Karnataka. Similar variations in these characters among the genotypes were reported by earlier workers in turmeric under different agroclimatic

conditions⁵ under Dharwad conditions, Gangadharappa *et al*⁷, under malnad conditions, Dhatt *et al*⁶, under Ludhiana conditions and Veena¹⁵ under Mudigere conditions).

The var. Suroma, Phule Swaroop and Prathibha were found to be statistically on par with each other recording higher number of tillers per plant which resulted in higher number of leaves per plant. Anusuya⁴ also indicated better tiller production in Suroma, Rajapuri and Bidar-1 when grown under different agro-climatic conditions of Karnataka. Veena¹⁵ recorded maximum number of tillers in var. Kanti (5.83) followed by var. Suroma (5.60), Rajapuri (4.73) and genotype CLI-325 (4.63) under Mudigere conditions of Karnataka.

The maximum leaf area was recorded in the var. Suroma (5671.33 cm²) which was on par with Prathibha (5240.00 cm²), while minimum was in var. Sona (3715.11 cm²). Leaf area index (LAI) is the measure of rate of photosynthesis. Higher LAI was registered in var. Suroma (9.45) and var. Prathibha (8.73) which can be attributed towards the higher number of leaves and leaf area among the two varieties. The results are in conformity with the findings of earlier workers in turmeric⁴ under Arabhavi conditions, Veena¹⁵ under Mudigere conditions, Kandiannan *et al*¹⁰, under Peruvannamuzhi, Kerala conditions and Shashidhar¹³ under Arabhavi conditions.

A perusal of data presented in table-2 revealed that the var. CO-1 (265 days) and BSR-2 (256.7 days) were found to be of long duration type, while var. Kanti, Suvarna and Varna took minimum number of days to maturity (210 days each). Veena¹⁵, reported from Mudigere conditions that turmeric var. Suguna (176 days) and Kedaram (180 days) were slightly early maturing types, while var. Kanti (245 days), Varna (245 days), Prabha (243 days) and Salem (240 days) were grouped as medium crop duration. Such variations were also reported by Hrideek *et al*⁸, and Anusuya⁴ in turmeric cultivars grown under Western Ghats and Northern dry zone of Karnataka respectively.

The var. Suroma registered the highest fresh yield (41.67 t/ha) and curing percentage (22.05) among the evaluated 22 genotypes of

turmeric. The var. Prathibha (40.78 t/ha), Phule Swaroop (39.33 t/ha) and Cuddapah (37.76 t/ha) were found to be on par with var. Suroma recording higher estimated fresh rhizome yield. The maximum curing percentage was recorded in the var. Suroma (22.05) which was on par with var. Alleppey Supreme (21.20), CO-1 (21.00), Salem (20.67) and Phule Swaroop (20.50) and the minimum was in var. Krishna (16.42). Rao¹² and Aiyadurai³ reported that variation in curing percentage was largely related to the genetic factors and environmental conditions under which they were grown and the similar variation in curing percentage was also reported by Pujari *et al*¹¹, and Jadhao *et al*⁹. Present investigation is also in confirmity of these findings. Higher yield in var. Suroma, Phule Swaroop, Prathibha, and Cuddapah could be attributed to better growth and vigour of the genotypes. The growth is governed by the genetic composition of the genotype coupled with the environmental conditions under which the crop is grown. When different genotypes are grown under the identical conditions, it is the genetic makeup that

expresses the morphological differences. Similar variation were observed in turmeric under different agroclimatic conditions of Karnataka⁵ under Dharwad conditions, Gangadharappa *et al*⁷, under malnad conditions, Anusuya⁴ under Arabhavi conditions and Veena¹⁵ under Mudigere conditions.

Summary

Among the twenty-two genotypes evaluated Suroma, Phule Swaroop, Prathibha and Cuddapah recorded maximum plant height, number of tillers per plant, number of leaves per plant, leaf area, leaf area index and fresh rhizome yield. The var. Suroma recorded highest curing percentage. The var. CO-1 and BSR-2 were found to be of long duration type while, var. Kanti, Suvarna and Varna took minimum number of days to maturity. The var. Prathibha was found to be of short duration type, producing higher fresh rhizome yield. Thus it can be concluded that var. Suroma and Prathibha are significantly better than others in terms of growth and yield under hill zone (Zone-9) of Karnataka.

Table 1: Growth parameters in turmeric genotypes at 180 days after planting

Treatment	Genotype	Growth parameters				
		Plant height (cm)	Number of tillers per plant	Number of leaves per plant	Leaf area (cm ²)	Leaf area index
T ₁	Alleppey Supreme	96.94	3.86	13.06	3916.44	6.53
T ₂	Bidar Local	101.33	4.20	13.73	3753.56	6.26
T ₃	BSR-2	103.83	5.10	14.63	4013.33	6.69
T ₄	CO-1	105.20	4.50	15.40	4283.33	7.14
T ₅	CO-2	101.96	4.26	15.53	4333.33	7.22
T ₆	Cuddapah	108.07	4.75	16.88	4601.67	7.67
T ₇	Erode Local	98.00	3.96	13.74	3980.00	6.63
T ₈	Kanti	98.33	4.67	14.01	4150.00	6.92
T ₉	Kedaram	98.33	4.70	13.33	4012.00	6.69
T ₁₀	Krishna	100.92	4.88	16.00	4332.47	7.22
T ₁₁	Phule Swaroop	125.17	5.36	18.30	4923.33	8.20
T ₁₂	Prabha	97.61	4.29	14.08	4170.64	6.95
T ₁₃	Prathibha	110.17	5.33	19.70	5240.00	8.73
T ₁₄	Rajapuri	103.67	5.10	16.31	4535.33	7.56
T ₁₅	Salem	107.71	4.73	15.91	4325.33	7.21
T ₁₆	Sobha	98.13	3.74	14.17	4040.00	6.73
T ₁₇	Sona	100.33	4.40	14.92	3715.11	6.19
T ₁₈	Sudharsana	96.50	4.52	15.60	4223.33	7.04
T ₁₉	Suroma	119.00	5.86	19.48	5671.33	9.45
T ₂₀	Suvarna	101.00	4.70	16.50	4033.33	6.72
T ₂₁	Tekurpet	97.00	4.88	15.80	4310.67	7.18
T ₂₂	Varna	99.55	3.93	16.26	4004.02	6.67
	S. Em±	4.26	0.20	0.63	178.98	0.30
	C. D. at 5%	12.16	0.57	1.81	510.80	0.85
	CV (%)	7.16	7.51	7.02	7.21	7.16

Table 2: Fresh rhizome yield, curing percentage and crop duration in turmeric genotypes

Treatment	Genotype	Crop duration (days)	Yield per plant (kg)	Estimated fresh yield (t/ha)	Curing per cent
T ₁	Alleppey Supreme	216.3	314.41	22.73	21.20
T ₂	Bidar Local	223.0	221.65	17.66	18.25
T ₃	BSR-2	256.7	380.81	24.04	19.47
T ₄	CO-1	265.0	409.66	29.56	21.00
T ₅	CO-2	241.3	351.15	28.38	17.76
T ₆	Cuddapah	249.3	447.69	37.76	20.02
T ₇	Erode Local	235.0	401.35	30.11	18.51
T ₈	Kanti	210.0	283.42	18.67	19.09
T ₉	Kedaram	213.3	244.11	18.02	18.07
T ₁₀	Krishna	238.7	279.32	19.11	16.42
T ₁₁	Phule Swaroop	245.0	515.55	39.33	20.50
T ₁₂	Prabha	212.0	319.45	21.67	17.44
T ₁₃	Prathibha	216.7	488.87	40.78	20.03
T ₁₄	Rajapuri	235.7	403.93	27.33	19.40
T ₁₅	Salem	231.3	437.61	31.67	20.67
T ₁₆	Sobha	220.0	351.79	26.89	18.00
T ₁₇	Sona	225.0	336.84	25.00	17.40
T ₁₈	Sudharsana	220.0	302.93	19.80	16.75
T ₁₉	Suroma	238.0	535.00	41.67	22.05
T ₂₀	Suvarna	210.0	309.87	20.72	19.00
T ₂₁	Tekurpet	232.0	422.06	30.78	20.09
T ₂₂	Varna	210.0	301.53	20.00	18.10
	S. Em±	2.51	15.04	1.40	0.58
	C.D. at 5%	7.15	42.91	4.00	1.66
	CV (%)	1.89	7.11	9.04	5.28

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