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YIELD COMPONENTS IN MUNG BEAN [*Vigna radiata* (L.) Wilczek]

Huseyin CANCI[*]*, Cengiz TOKER*

Akdeniz University, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Field Crops, Turkey.
**Corresponding author: huseyincanci@akdeniz.edu.tr*

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to evaluate the yield components in mung bean [Vigna radiata (L.) Wilczek] using the correlation, path and factor analyses. It was found that there was considerable variation for the characters studied. Factor 1 composed of 100-grain weight, pod length, pod width, branches per plant and pods per plant. The grain weight was strongly correlated with pod length and pod width. Pods per plant were significantly and positively associated with branches per plant. Factor 2 consisted of biological, straw and grain yields. The seed yield was highly associated with biological and straw yields. Factor 3 comprised of seed per pod, pods and flowers per peduncle. The fourth factor was only the days to flowering. The last factor was plant height. The total factors had 74% of the total variance induced by the characters. It was firstly concluded that the factor analysis together with path and correlation coefficients could successfully be used for determining characters usable for selection in the mung bean breeding programs.

Key words: Correlation analysis, Factor analysis, Mung bean, Path analysis, Selection criteria, Vigna radiata

INTRODUCTION

Genetic relationships between yield and yield related characters are prerequisite in selecting desirable types for the target environment. Some of the yield components are highly interrelated. On the other hand, grain yield is governed by many genetic as well as environmental factors that are interdependent. Heritability for grain yield is low in mung bean (Tickoo and Jain, 1988); as well as in chickpea (Toker, 1998; 2004). Path coefficient analysis is helpful to determine the direct contribution of yield components and their indirect contributions over other traits on grain yield (Dewey and Lu, 1959). Path analysis has been widely used to determine direct and indirect selection criteria in food legumes (Duarte and Adams, 1972; Bahl et al., 1976; Islam and Shaikh, 1978; Toker and Cagirgan, 2003).

Cattel (1965) explained that the factor analysis has decreased a large number of correlated variables to a small number of main factors. It has been successfully utilized in wheat (Lee and Kaltsikes, 1973), in switch grass (Godshalk and Timothy, 1988) and in barley (Cagirgan and Yildirim, 1990) as well as in chickpea (Toker, 2004; Toker and Cagirgan, 2004). Until today, any selection criteria have not been proposed to determine characteristics related to grain yield in mung bean. The objective of this study was to determine the yield component of mung bean by using the path and factor analysis.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A total of nineteen mung bean genotypes, 17 from Nuclear Institute for Agriculture and Biology (NIAB); one genotype from market of Faisalabad, Pakistan; and one genotype from Gazipasa, Antalya, Turkey were grown in the lowland conditions (approximately 30^{o} 44' E, 36^{o} 52' N, 51 m from sea level) of the west Mediterranean region of Turkey during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 growing seasons. Grains of genotypes were sown on May 18, 2000 and on May 7, 2001 in a Randomized Complete Block Design with 3 replications and one experimental plot consisted of two rows of 2 m length 30 cm apart and 10 cm in the row spacing. Fertilization was applied at a rate of 20 kg nitrogen and 50 kg phosphorus per hectare prior to sowing. The experimental area was irrigated with sprinkler system with 10 days intervals. Weeds were controlled by hand without using any chemicals. Some important phenologic, morphologic and agronomic characters were recorded. These characters were described in Descriptors for *Vigna mungo* and *V. radiata* (IBPGR, 1985). *Phenological descriptors*: Days to flowering (DF) was recorded in days as number of days after sowing when 50% plants in the plot set the first flower. *Morphological descriptors*: Plant height (PH) was recorded in cm as average height from ground to top of

two plants at maximum growth. Branches per plant (BP) were average number of stems from two plants at flowering. Pods per plant (PP) were average number of pods from two plants at podding. Flowers per peduncle (FN) were recorded in number as average of flowers from two plants. Pods per peduncle (PN) were average number of pods from two plants. Pod length (PL) was recorded in cm as average length of pods of two plants at maximum growth. Pod width (PW) was recorded in cm as width of pod of two plants at maximum growth. Grains per pod (GP) were recorded as grains of pod in two plants at maximum growth. *Agronomical descriptors*: Grain yield (GY) was recorded in g and then converted to kg ha-1 basis as after threshing seed weight each genotype. Biological yield (BY) was recorded in g after harvesting as total dry weight each genotype. Straw yield (SY) was calculated following to the formula: [(Biological yield) – (Grain yield)] as g. 100-Seed weight (SW) was recorded in g as average of two times randomly 100 grains selected. Path and factor analyses were performed according to Dewey and Lu (1959) and Cattel (1965), respectively. Analyses were performed by using MINITAB statistical package programs (MINITAB, 2000).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Considerable variations were found for all the 13 characteristics studied, even though limited genotypes have been evaluated (Table 1). It could be seen in Table 2 that grain yield was significantly and positively correlated the biological yield (r = 0.688), pods per plant (r = 0.682), pods per peduncle (r = 0.654), plant height (r = 0.602), days to flowering (r = 0.593), branches per plant (r = 0.585), straw yield (r = 581), grains per pod (r = 0.574), flowers per peduncle (r = 0.556) and pods width (r = 0.510). The biological yield was strongly and positively associated with straw yield (r = 0.989), plant height (r = 0.834), days to flowering (r = 0.690) and pods per plant (r = 0.479). Grain weight 100^{-1} was highly and positively related with pod length (r = 0.905), pod width (r = 0.880), plant height (r = 0.831), pods per peduncle (r = 0.692) and days to flowering (r = 0.625). Biological yield (6.034) had the highest direct and positive effect, while 100-grain weight (0.011) was the lowest contribution to grain yield (Table 3). Biological yield was followed by straw yield with negative direct effect (-5.848) and days to flowering with positive direct effect (0.797). The indirect effect of biological yield via straw yield (-5.784) was negative and high on grain yield (Table 3).

Table 1. The mean, standard error, minimum and maximum values of 13 characters in mung bean

Characters	Mean	±SE	Minimum	Maximum
Days to Flowering (days)	58.2	±0.94	20.0	76.0
Plant height (cm)	48.1	±1.44	19.5	91.0
Branches per plant	3.2	±0.07	2.0	6.0
Pods per plant	25.0	±1.13	8.0	62.5
Flowers per peduncle	4.3	±0.07	3.5	7.0
Pods per peduncle	2.9	±0.03	2.0	4.0
Pod length (cm)	9.2	±0.17	5.6	20.0
Pod width (cm)	0.48	±0.01	0.3	0.6
Grains per pod	9.9	±0.15	5.0	13.0
Biological yield (g plot-1)	665.0	±44.10	41.0	2520.0
Straw yield (g plot-1)	516.9	±39.10	22.0	2150.0
Grain yield (kg ha-1)	1209.6	±72.90	33.3	3916.6
100-grain weight (g)	5.5	±0.14	3.1	8.6

Table 2. Correlations among 13 characters in mung bean (df = 17)

Characters	PH	BP	PP	FN	PN	PL	PW	GP	BY	SY	GY	SW
DF	0.805**	0.525*	0.354	0.558*	0.831**	0.714**	0.779**	0.693**	0.690**	0.675**	0.593**	0.625**
PH		0.525*	0.587**	0.558*	0.587**	0.384	0.453*	0.555*	0.834**	0.831**	0.602**	0.222
BP			0.755**	0.840**	0.737**	0.462*	0.466*	0.731**	0.427	0.371	0.585**	0.275
PP				0.536*	0.532*	0.290	0.345	0.482*	0.479*	0.397	0.682**	0.140
FN					0.825**	0.555*	0.571**	0.800**	0.297	0.238	0.556*	0.357
PN						0.811**	0.865**	0.820**	0.409	0.343	0.654**	0.692**
PL							0.918**	0.723**	0.194	0.138	0.433	0.905**
PW								0.740**	0.312	0.258	0.510*	0.880**
GP									0.257	0.185	0.574**	0.596**
BY										0.989**	0.688**	0.090
SY											0.581**	0.057
GY												0.268

DF = Days to flowering, PH = Plant height, BP = Branches per plant, PP = Pods per plant, FN = Flowers per peduncle, PN = Pods per peduncle, PL = Pod length, PW = Pod width, GP = Grains per pod, BY = Biological yield, SY = Straw yield, GY = Grain yield, SW = 100-seed weight. Degrees of freedom is df. P < 0. 456 and 0.575 statistically significant at 0.05 and 0.01 probability levels, respectively.

Table 3. The direct and indirect contribution of characters to grain yield in mung bean

	GW	PL	PW	BP	PP	BY	SY	GP	PP	FP	DF	PH
GW	**0.011**	0.010	0.010	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.007	0.008	0.004	0.007	0.003
PL	-0.231	**-0.259**	-0.234	-0.118	-0.074	-0.049	-0.035	-0.184	-0.207	-0.141	-0.182	-0.098
PW	-0.256	-0.267	**-0.291**	-0.135	-0.100	-0.091	-0.075	-0.215	-0.251	-0.166	-0.227	-0.132
BP	-0.080	-0.133	-0.135	**-0.289**	-0.218	-0123	-0.107	-0.211	-0.212	-0.243	-0.201	-0.152
PP	0.010	0.020	0.024	0.052	**0.068**	0.033	0.027	0.033	0.036	0.037	0.030	0.024
BY	0.543	1.170	1.884	2.575	2.892	**6.034**	5.968	1.552	2.465	1.791	4.161	5.032
SY	-0.332	-0.806	-1.508	-2.168	-2.324	-5.784	**-5.848**	-1.082	-2.006	-1.392	-3.950	-4.859
GP	-0.017	-0.021	-0.022	-0.021	-0.014	-0.008	-0.005	**-0.029**	-0.024	-0.023	-0.020	-0.016
PP	0.119	0.140	0.149	0.127	0.092	0.070	0.059	0.141	**0.172**	0.142	0.143	0.101
FP	-0.016	-0.025	-0.027	-0.038	-0.024	-0.014	-0.011	-0.036	-0.038	**-0.045**	-0.031	-0.025
DF	0.498	0.569	0.621	0.555	0.355	0.550	0.539	0.553	0.663	0.547	**0.797**	0.642
PH	0.018	0.032	0.037	0.043	0.029	0.069	0.068	0.046	0.048	0.046	0.066	**0.082**

DF = Days to flowering, PH = Plant height, BP = Branches per plant, PP = Pods per plant, FN = Flowers per peduncle, PN = Pods per peduncle, PL = Pod length, PW = Pod width, GP = Grains per pod, BY = Biological yield, SY = Straw yield, GY = Grain yield, SW = 100-seed weight.

It could be seen in Table 4 that 5 factors explained 74% of the total variance of the characters. Factor 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 explained 0.26%, 0.18%, 0.15%, 0.08% and 0.07% of total variance expressed. Factor 1 comprised of 100- grain weight (-0.729), pod length (-0.655), pod width (-0.631), branches per plant (0.591) and pods per plant (0.486), whereas factor 2 composed of biological yield (0.675), straw yield (0.613) and grain yield (0.612) with positive loadings. Factor 3 consisted of grains per pod (0.626), pods per peduncle (0.505) and flowers per peduncle (0.471), while factor 4 encompassed days to flowering with negative loading (–0.697). The last factor consisted of only plant height with negative loading (–0.598).

Table 4. Factor loadings and communalities of 13 characters on five principal factors in mung bean

Characters	Factors					Communality
	1	2	3	4	5	
100-grain weight	**-0.729**	0.479	0.130	-0.155	-0.029	0.80
Pod length	**-0.655**	0.472	0.236	-0.047	-0.145	0.73
Pod width	**-0.631**	0.579	0.147	-0.113	-0.009	0.76
Branches per plant	**0.591**	-0.105	0.342	-0.525	-0.072	0.75
Pods per plant	**0.486**	0.212	0.466	-0.050	-0.224	0.55
Biological yield	0.623	**0.675**	-0.228	0.052	0.231	0.95
Straw yield	0.593	**0.613**	-0.327	0.003	0.280	0.91
Grain yield	0.458	**0.612**	0.310	0.265	-0.134	0.76
Grains per pod	0.010	-0.050	**0.626**	0.124	-0.327	0.51
Pods per peduncle	0.078	0.260	**0.505**	-0.400	0.371	0.62
Flowers per peduncle	0.450	-0.373	**0.471**	-0.204	0.211	0.65
Days to Flowering	-0.038	0.066	-0.575	**-0.697**	-0.273	0.89
Plant height	0.489	0.223	-0.193	-0.006	**-0.598**	0.68
Variance	3.34	2.31	1.92	1.10	0.95	9.62
% Variance	0.26	0.18	0.15	0.08	0.07	0.74

Bold and italic numbers are the main factors.

Variation is the first requirement for selection in plant breeding. Bos and Caligari (1995) pointed out that the more genetic variation in characters is the more genetic gain. Ahmed et al. (1981) reported that pods per plant were the most important selection criteria to increase potential yield in mung bean. In black gram [*Vigna mungo* (L.) Hepper], it was shown that plant yield was significantly correlated with grains per pod, pods per plant, main branches per plant and plant height (Majid et al., 1982). Shamsuzzaman et al. (1983) studied for genetic, phenotypic and environmental correlations in mung bean. They found that plant height was strongly associated with main branches per plant and pods per plant. Similar results were obtained by Remanandan et al. (1988) in pigeonpea. Our results are in agreement with findings of Karadavut (2009). Biological yield could be accepted as the most valuable characteristic among the traits. Biological yield had the highest direct effect on grain yield (Table 3) and biological yield could be increased via straw yield, branches per plant and pods per peduncle. The biological yield in chickpea was found to be the most important selection criteria for the contributing grain yield due to the highest and the positive direct effect (Canci and Toker, 2009). The more branches per plant resulted in the more pods per plant. To utilize pods per peduncle characteristic, genotypes with high

numbering flowers per peduncle should be selected. Besides, the days to flowering and plant height should also be evaluated. In a similar way, selection criteria to be used in chickpea were evaluated (Toker and Cagirgan, 2004). Toker (2004) stressed that biological yield should be evaluated in the selection to increase the grain yield in chickpea breeding programs.

In conclusion, biological or straw yield could be used as a selection criteria in mung bean. To select large seeded genotypes, pod width and length should also be evaluated.

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