

MALE TO FEMALE RATIOS FOR BETTER SEED YIELD IN INTERSPECIFIC CROSSES

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ABSTRACT

Four parental combinations were evaluated at four spacings on the basis of quantity of seed setting of F₁. The maximum seed yield was recovered from the parental combination "A" at 10 and 8 row spacings (1749.16 and 1680.83 kg/ha respectively). The next combination was "C" and it produced 1616.660 kg/ha at six rows spacing. In the two top yielding parental combinations, at three spacings sudangrass-green leaf was a common male parent though females were different. The results indicated that synchronization of sudangrass-green leaf was significantly better than the old male parent (sudangrass S.S.I).

INTRODUCTION

One of the major limitations to increased livestock production in Pakistan is the inadequate levels of high quality forages. In spite of the fact that 15-18% of the total cropped area comes under forages, there is a net short fall of 25% in TDN and 40% in CP (crude protein) even in maintenance ration. These deficiencies are apparent from the poor health of the animals.

Fodder crops are grown round the year in the regions for the regular supply of animal feed. The major kharif fodders i.e. maize, jowar and bajra are grown in pure stands or mixed with some legume. These are usually cut once. A limited acreage is covered by lucerne and sadabahar (interspecific hybrid -sorghum X sudangrass) which may be called as berseem of the kharif season. These two crops are said to be the answer for the regular summer fodder