

STUDIES ON YIELD PERFORMANCE OF OATS CULTIVARS UNDER CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OF DERA ISMAIL KHAN

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ABSTRACT

Evaluation of six varieties of Oats viz. Cooba, Avon, Coolabach, DN-8, PD2/LV-65 and local oats in terms of green fodder yield was made at Agricultural Research Station, D. I. Khan during 1983-84 and 1984-85. The variations in yield performance of varieties were highly significant. The variety PD2/LV-65 significantly out-yielded all other varieties by giving 44.86 tonnes green fodder/ha. The varieties Coolabach and local produced significantly low yield of 25.94 and 26.79 tonnes/ha respectively, but these were at par with variety Cooba. The varieties Avon and DN-8 showed better performance but were statistically comparable with Cooba. The average fodder yields during 1983-84 and 1984-85 were not significantly different.

INTRODUCTION

Oats *Avena Sativa* L. ranks fourth in world production among all other cereal crops [5]. It supplies an excellent fodder as well as feed for domestic animals and poultry. It is one of the best nutritive fodder grown in this region alone as well as mixed with berseem or shaftal. It supplies an early fodder during fodder deficit period of November and December.

Ahmad [8] reported that amongst twelve varieties of oats the variety Avon outyielded all other varieties by giving 425.33 mds. of green fodder per acre (39.22 tonnes/ha). Chaudhry and Sarwar [4] concluded from experiments on oats conducted in Lahore district that yield performance of variety Sargodha Selection was better than all other oats varieties. Khalid [1] conducted a varietal trial on oats for fodder at Agril: Research Institute Tandojam (Sind). He found that the variety Guara gave the highest green fodder yield of 16.97 tonnes/acre followed by variety Palestine which produced 15.75 tonnes per acre. Zafar et al [9]