RESEARCH ARTICLE

# GENETIC VARIABILITY, HERITABILITY AND GENETIC ADVANCE STUDIES IN FINGER MILLET (*ELEUSINE CORACANA* (L.) GAERTN) CULTIVARS UNDER FOOTHILL CONDITION OF NAGALAND

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**Abstract:** A set of 42 cultivars were studied for genetic variability, heritability and genetic advance of grain yield and its eleven component traits in finger millet. The analysis of variance revealed highly significant differences among the genotypes for all the twelve characters studied. The highest PCV and GCV were recorded for finger length and ear head length indicating presence of ample variation for these traits in the present material. In the present study, high estimates of heritability and genetic advance was obtained for finger length and ear head length. Thus selection for these traits is likely to accumulate more additive genes leading to further improvement of their performance and these traits may be used as selection criteria in finger millet breeding program.

**Keywords:** Genetic variability, Heritability, Genetic advance, Finger millet

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