

## PERFORMANCE OF SUCCESSFUL COMBINATION OF THE FRUITS OF WILD POMEGRANATE (*PUNICA GRANATUM* L.) IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

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**Abstract:** Wild Pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.) is one of the oldest known edible fruits which originated in Iran and surrounding areas, and there from spread to other regions. *P. granatum* is a predominant member of family Punicaceae which comprises of only two species. The present study was aimed to document the genetic variability in wild crossed fruits of pomegranate in Himachal Pradesh On the basis of morphological and physicochemical characters, 22 crosses were obtained after hybridization between screened parents in adjoining areas of the campus of Dr. Y.S. Parmar U.H.F. Nauni, Solan, H.P. in 2015-2016. Remarkable variability was observed amongst the genotypes for traits fruit length, diameter and TSS, reducing sugars, total sugar and non reducing sugar. On the basis of the performance, best genotypes will be selected for use in future pomegranate improvement programme.

**Keywords:** *Punica granatum* L., Variation, Morphological, Physicochemical characters

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