

VARIABILITY AND DIVERGENCE STUDIES IN KODO MILLET (*PASPALUM SCROBICULATUM* L.)

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Abstract: Fifteen kodo millet genotypes were grouped into six clusters using Tocher's method. Among the clusters, cluster I and II had four genotypes each, three genotypes in cluster III, two genotypes in cluster IV, cluster V and VI were solitary each containing single genotype. Maximum intra cluster distance was recorded for cluster III (187.36) followed by cluster II (151.48) and cluster IV (147.29), which suggested that genotypes in cluster III were relatively more diverse among themselves. Genotypes falling in V and VI exhibited higher inter cluster distances (2066.95), followed by cluster V and III (1553.74) and cluster VI and II (1536.57) indicating that genetic makeup of genotypes falling in these clusters may be entirely different from one another. Inter-mating of the genotypes in cluster III (TNAU 86, TNPSU 301 and PPK 1) with genotypes in cluster IV (GAK 3 and RPS 694), cluster V (KMNDL 1) and cluster VI (BK 14-48) would produce superior genotypes for the respective traits.

Keywords: Kodo millet, Divergence, Variability

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