

Influence of Nature of Gene action in Sugarcane Germplasm accessions for yield and Quality Traits

M. Charumathi,* and N.V. Naidu

Regional Agricultural Research Station (ANGRAU) Anakapalle-531001

Abstract: A large diverse sugarcane germplasm is essential for sustained crop improvement. high heritability values were recorded for cane length, brix per cent, sucrose per cent and CCS per cent revealed the existence of narrow range of variability indicated the operation of non additive gene action in the inheritance of the characters. moderate estimates of GCV, PCV, GAM and heritability values were recorded for NMC and cane Yield indicated the importance of additive gene action in inheritance of the characters. The promising accessions could be utilized in the breeding programmes to develop high yielding genotypes for different traits.

Keywords: Germplasm, quality traits, gene action, sugarcane

I. Introduction

Collection, Conservation, characterization, maintenance and utilization of plant genetic resources are essential components of crop improvement programmes. Characterization, as defined by the International Board of Plant Genetic Resources means recording those characters which are highly heritable, can be easily seen by the eye and are expressed in all environments. The breeder has to periodically verify the trueness to label of clones in a germplasm collection. Hence database development of plant genetic resources collection, conservation, characterization, maintenance and utilization is of prime importance which should not be undermined. A large diverse germplasm is essential for sustained crop improvement. Clones from 31 expeditions during 1892 – 1985 have been deposited in India and United states (Ray Ming *et al.*, 2006). These specific agronomic needs for pests and diseases resistance and to broaden the genetic base of commercially grown cultivars. It is expected that hybridization between the genotypes of two divergent clusters will lead to high heterotic effects and better performance in terms of yield and quality (Singh *et al.*, 2004)

The six species of *Saccharum* and the related genera comprising of *Erianthis*, *Miscanthis*, *Narenga* and *Sclerostachya* form the basic genetic resources of sugarcane. Apart from the basic germplasm several historical and commercial hybrids developed over the years at different cane breeding stations also form a potential gene pool for sugarcane improvement. This category also includes natural and induced mutants, aneuploids, some clones etc with specific attributes of importance in cane breeding. Consequent to the sustained efforts by several national and international agencies, a large collection of sugarcane germplasm is available today representing the native variability available in the *Saccharum complex*. These collections have been conserved in the two World collections in USA and India. Nearly 4000 accessions of *Saccharum*, related genera and man – made historical and commercial hybrids are currently being maintained in India (Vijayan Nair, 2005).

Some of the varieties viz., CoT 8201, Co 62175, Co 419, Co 997, Co 7706, CoA 7602, CoA 8401 and 87A 298 with high yield and adaptability are being slowly removed from cultivation due to either susceptibility to pests and diseases or low sugar recoveries magnificent canes of yester years have become a measure specimens. Such clones need to be preserved to meet the future demand for development of varieties having desirable wide genetic base to wide stand over growing stains of pest complex. A successful breeding programme depends on the existence and hence there is a need to develop superior clones by using parents with wide genetic base. Obsolete varieties have to be maintained for future use. In the present investigation, the variability studies were conducted among the germplasm accessions of sugarcane.

II. Materials And Methods

The experimental material consisted of 91 sugarcane germplasm accessions including promising varieties and standards. They were grown in two rows of 5m length in 80 cm between furrows adopting a seed rate of four three budded sets per meter. RDF 112 kg N + 100 kg P₂O₅ + 120 kg K₂O/ ha was applied. Irrigation was accorded at 10 days intervals along formative phase of the crop. All the cultural practices were followed as per the recommendation. Data were recorded for NMC, cane yield, single cane weight, cane diameter, cane length, brix per cent sucrose per cent, CCS per cent and purity before harvest. SPAD Chlorophyll meter readings at 120DAP, red rot and smut diseases scoring was done on 0 to 9 scale (ICAR) at sixth month age of the crop.

III. Results And Discussion

Per se performance of sugarcane germplasm accessions were identified for yield and quality traits were presented in Tables 1, 2 and 3. In the present study variation was observed for all the characters (Tables 1 and 2). The values ranged from 46.20 to 135.80 thousands/ha (number of millable canes), 44.00 to 132.00 t/ha (cane yield) 0.50 to 1.70 (single cane weight), Cane Girth (1.80 to 3.02), Cane length (1.60 to 3.8), brix per cent (15.00 to 24.02), sucrose per cent (13.00 to 22.34) CCS per cent (8.89 to 15.63) and purity per cent (86.66 to 96.51) (Table 1 and Fig. 1).

Low genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) and phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) and genetic advance as per cent of mean and high heritability values were recorded for cane length, brix per cent, sucrose per cent and CCS per cent revealed the existence of narrow range of variability indicated the operation of non additive gene action in the inheritance of the characters (Table 2). The present study was in conformity with the findings of Hapse and Repale (2001), Singh *et al* (2005), Sabitha (2007) Sirisha (2009) Anbanandan and Sarvanan (2010) and Charumathi *et al* (2012). While lower estimates of GCV, PCV, moderate estimates of GAM and high heritability values were recorded for single cane weight and cane diameter indicated the importance of both additive and non additive gene action in inheritance of the characters. The results are in conformity with the findings of Sabitha *et al* (2009), Anbanandan Sarvanan (2010) and Charumathi *et al* (2012) for the character, whereas moderate estimates of GCV, PCV, GAM and heritability values were recorded for NMC and cane Yield indicated the importance of additive gene action in inheritance of the characters. The results are in conformity with the findings of Jain *et al.* (2001), Gagandeep *et al.* (2004), Sabitha *et al.* (2009) and Anbanandan and Sarvanan (2010) for the character. High estimates of heritability and moderate genetic advance over mean were noted for the character. Similar results were reported by Jain *et al.*(2001), Singh *et al.* (2002), Rajabapa Rao (2002), Kumar *et al.* (2004), Doule and Balasudam (2006) and Charumathi (2011) for the traits. Simple selection procedures may help in bringing genetic improvement in these characters.

A total of 26 accessions for number of millable canes, 15 accessions for cane yield, 14 accessions for single cane weight, 27 accessions for cane diameter, 39 accessions for cane length, 45 accessions for brix per cent, 38 accessions for sucrose per cent and CCS per cent were found to be superior for yield and quality characters (Table 3). SCMR readings (35.00 to 49.50), red rot disease under nodal and plug methods of inoculation (0.00 to 9.00) smut disease under artificially inoculated conditions (0.00 to 9.00) were noted during the crop growth period. The promising accessions could be utilized in the breeding programmes.

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Table1. Per se performance of sugarcane germplasm accessions for yield and quality traits

S. No.	Germplasm accession	Single cane weight (kg)	Cane girth (cm)	Cane length (m)	Brix (%)	S. No.	Germplasm accession	Single cane weight (kg)	Cane girth (cm)	Cane length (m)	Brix (%)	S. No.	Germplasm accession	Single cane weight (kg)	Cane girth (cm)	Cane length (m)	Brix (%)
1	91 A 37	0.86	3.02	1.80	19.60	31	ISH 100	0.80	2.20	2.80	22.00	61	84 A 125	1.20	2.20	2.60	23.80
2	Co6806	1.05	2.30	2.90	22.80	32	92 A 62	1.00	2.30	2.60	15.00	62	93 A 145	1.30	2.40	2.95	22.00
3	91 V 83	1.20	2.25	3.0	21.40	33	90 A 278	1.10	2.60	2.50	20.60	63	87 A 298	1.25	2.90	2.80	22.60
4	Co1287	1.25	2.90	2.2	18.80	34	Co 7219	1.40	2.30	3.0	23.00	64	Co62194	0.80	2.00	2.30	18.20
5	Co6907	1.35	2.40	3.10	20.00	35	87 R 71	1.00	2.60	3.0	24.00	65	MS 219	1.20	2.50	2.60	20.00
6	Co87043	1.24	2.30	3.38	21.00	36	Co T 8201	1.42	2.80	2.60	22.00	66	96 A 168	1.30	2.30	2.65	22.20
7	93 V 297	1.50	2.50	2.70	24.02	37	94 A 124	1.50	2.90	2.75	18.20	67	97 R 401	1.40	2.90	1.60	18.80
8	Co C 99063	1.15	2.70	2.50	21.40	38	Co975	1.35	2.00	2.85	21.30	68	81 V 48	1.20	2.20	2.50	23.20
9	Co C 99064	1.20	2.50	2.75	19.00	39	ISH 37	1.23	2.40	2.70	21.60	69	98 A 300	1.50	2.70	2.60	18.00
10	93 A 21	1.50	3.00	2.65	20.20	40	93 A 53	1.00	2.60	2.85	21.80	70	Co C 98061	1.20	2.80	2.70	21.80
11	Co C 027	1.20	2.40	2.50	19.60	41	99 A 53	0.80	2.20	2.40	18.00	71	99 V 30	0.90	2.70	2.85	21.00
12	Co997	0.89	2.60	2.70	23.80	42	Co C 92061	1.30	2.40	2.60	19.40	72	Co M 9910	0.80	2.40	2.70	23.20
13	Co M 88121	0.99	2.30	2.50	20.10	43	85 A 261	0.89	2.40	2.80	23.60	73	Co M 2645	1.20	2.40	2.60	22.00
14	97 R 383	1.69	2.50	2.82	20.60	44	2003 V 46	1.50	2.50	2.70	20.00	74	Co C 671	0.85	2.60	2.70	23.40
15	Co A 8401	0.70	2.30	2.20	22.80	45	83 R 23	1.10	2.30	2.50	22.20	75	B 091	0.55	2.40	2.60	23.80
16	2002 V 48	2.10	3.00	2.68	20.20	46	99 A 5	1.90	2.90	2.70	23.00	76	ISH 1	0.90	2.30	2.90	21.80
17	70 C 0A 5	0.70	2.10	2.20	20.20	47	Co 6304	1.0	2.30	2.65	23.20	77	88 A 162	1.20	2.70	2.45	22.80
18	96 A 3	2.20	2.60	2.95	20.20	48	97 V 60	0.90	2.65	2.75	22.00	78	Co A 7602	1.10	2.80	2.70	21.80
19	70 A 2	0.90	2.20	2.60	24.60	49	2000 V 59	1.70	2.30	2.85	23.20	79	2003 A 51	0.50	2.80	2.60	23.80
20	97 A 44	1.60	2.80	2.55	21.60	50	92 R 62	1.20	2.30	2.50	19.20	80	Co 86249	0.80	2.20	2.70	22.00
21	Co 03-13	1.20	2.50	2.75	22.00	51	Co T L 1153	0.81	2.30	2.70	21.80	81	Co 419	0.70	2.30	2.80	22.80
22	Co 0305	1.80	2.40	2.50	21.20	52	Co 92020	0.90	2.60	2.80	18.60	82	89 V 74	1.10	2.40	2.75	23.00
23	Co 5767	1.55	2.50	2.70	19.80	53	Co 7805	1.20	2.90	2.72	22.00	83	Co TL 1358	0.80	2.30	2.72	20.30
24	Co 93020	1.25	2.60	2.90	20.10	54	2003 A 26	0.80	2.30	2.20	23.80	84	96 A 176	1.30	2.60	2.50	22.00
25	96 A 5	1.10	2.40	2.80	21.80	55	Co 8339	1.10	2.50	2.45	20.80	85	ISH 100	1.00	2.40	2.61	20.00
26	Co 03-16	1.80	2.20	2.80	22.00	56	Co 7706	1.90	3.0	2.65	22.00	86	OSJ 105	1.00	2.60	2.36	21.00
27	Co 87044	1.20	2.20	2.30	18.80	57	83 V 15	1.15	2.30	3.00	20.80	87	Co M 9909	1.30	3.20	3.15	19.00
28	Co A 71-1	1.00	1.80	2.10	21.80	58	97 A 129	0.90	2.30	2.60	20.80	88	Co 8371	1.35	2.94	3.20	20.40
29	Co 1148	1.12	2.30	2.50	21.80	59	NC 0301	0.50	2.00	2.40	16.00	89	Co Or 03151	1.30	2.32	2.70	22.80
30	Co 62175	1.45	2.40	3.0	23.40	60	97 A 85	1.25	2.30	2.50	22.00	90	97 R 247	1.00	2.80	2.50	19.00
												91	Co M 250	1.20	2.44	2.55	21.80

Table 2 : Mean, variability, heritability, genetic advance and genetic advance as per cent of mean for cane yield, yield components and quality parameters in sugarcane germplasm accessions.

Trait	Mean	Range	GCV (%)	PCV (%)	Heritability (h ²)	Genetic Advance(GA)	GAM
NMC (thousands/ha)		46.20-135.80	10.34	10.37	41.71	9.58	10.05
Cane yield (t/ha)		44.00-132.00	10.88	15.00	45.00	16.82	12.85
Single cane weight (kg)	1.16	0.50-1.70	0.35	0.59	64.45	29.74	17.86
Cane girth (cm)	2.47	1.80-3.02	0.27	0.52	56.80	11.03	15.00
Cane length (m)	2.65	1.60-3.38	0.24	0.49	75.20	9.54	17.23
Brix (%)	21.33	15.00-24.02	1.86	1.36	48.20	0.03	10.03
Sucrose (%)		13.00-22.34	4.08	5.45	77.24	1.92	10.06
CCS (%)		8.89-15.63	5.25	5.80	80.55	1.36	10.03

Table 3. The following sugarcane germplasm accessions were identified for yield and quality traits

S.No	Trait	No. of accessions	Germplasm accessions
1	Single cane weight (kg)	14	93 V 297, 97 R 383, 2002 V 48, 96 A 3, 97 A 44, Co 0305, Co 5767, Co 03-16, 94 A 124, 2003 V 46, 99 A 5, 2000 V 59, Co 7706 and 98 A 300,
2	Cane girth (cm)	27	91 A 37, Co 1287, Co C 99063, 93 A 21, Co 997, 2002 V 48, 96 A 3, 97 A 44, Co 93020, 90 A 278, 87 R 71, Co T 8201, 94 A 124, 93 A 53, 99 A 5, 97 V 60, Co 92020, Co 7805, Co 7706, 87 A 298, 97 R 401, 98 A 300, Co C 98061, 99 V 30, Co C 671, 88 A 162, Co A 7602, 2003 A 51, 96 A 176, OSJ 105, Co M 9909, Co 8371 and 97 R 247.
3	Cane length (m)	39	Co 6806, 91 V 83, Co 6907, Co 87043, 93 V 297, Co C 99064, Co 997, 97 R 383, 96 A 3, Co 03-13, Co 5767, Co 93020, 96 A 5, Co 03-16, Co 62175, ISH 100, Co 7219, 87 R 71, 94 A 124, Co 975, ISH 37, 93 A 53, 85 A 261, 2003 V 46, 99 A 5, 97 V 60, 2000 V 59, Co T L 1153, Co 92020, Co 7805, 83 V 15, 93 A 145, 87 A 298, Co C 98061, 99 V 30, Co M 9910, Co C 671, ISH 1, Co A 7602, Co 86249, Co 419, 89 V 74, Co TL 1358, Co M 9909, Co 8371, Co Or 03151.
4	Brix (%)	45	Co 6806, 93 V 297, Co 997, Co A 8401, 70 A 2, 97 A 44, Co 03-13, 96 A 5, Co

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			03-16, Co A 71-1, Co 1148, Co 62175, ISH 100, Co 7219, 87 R 71, Co T 8201, ISH 37, 93 A 53, 85 A 261, 83 R 23, 99 A 5, Co 6304, 97 V 60, 2000 V 59, Co T L 1153, Co 7805, 2003 A 26, Co 7706, 97 A 85, 84 A 125, 93 A 145, 87 A 298, 96 A 168, 81 V 48, Co C 98061, Co M 9910, Co M 2645, Co C 671, B 091, ISH 1, 88 A 162, Co A 7602, 2003 A 51, Co 86249, Co 419, 89 V 74, 96 A 176, ISH 100, Co Or 03151 and Co M 250.
5	Sucrose(%), CCS(%) and Purity Per cent	38	Co6806,91V83,Co87043,93V297,CoC99063,CoA8401,2002V48,97A44,Co0313,Co5767,96A5,Co0316,CoA711,CA2612003V46,99A5,Co6304,97V602000V48,Co1148,Co62175,ISH100,Co7219,87R71,Co975,93A53,85A261,2003V46,99A5,Co6304,97V60,2000V59,2003A26,84A125,93A145,87A298,96A168,CoC98061,99V30,CoM9910,CoM265,CoA7602,CoOr 03151 and CoM250.

