For any crop improvement, basic information on the variability present in the crop is essential. Yield being a complex trait, is collectively influenced by various yield attributes, which are polygenically inherited and influenced by environmental variations. The effective selection for improvement of these traits was determined by magnitude and nature of interaction between genotypic and phenotypic variability. It was, therefore, required to know the heritable and non-heritable components with genetic parameters such as genotypic and phenotypic co-efficient of variation, heritability and genetic advance. French bean, *Phaseolus vulgaris* L. (2n = 2x = 22) also known as snap bean, kidney bean, garden bean or string bean, is one of the most important leguminous vegetables grown for its tender fleshy green pods, shelled green seeds and also dry beans. It has anti-diabetic property and is good for natural cure of bladder burns and cardiac problems, diarrhoea, sciatica and tenesmus. It is a nutritious vegetable, rich in protein (1.7 g), calcium (132 mg), thiamin (0.08 mg) and vitamin C (24 mg per 100 g of edible pods). French bean originated from Central America and Peruvia...
components for effective selection programme, it would be desirable to consider the relative magnitude of various characters contributing towards yield. Keeping in view the above estimate correlation co-efficient between yield and its components.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

The field experiment was conducted on sandy loam soil in the new orchard of Main Agriculture Research Station (MARS), Raichur, which is situated in the north eastern dry zone of Karnataka; the location corresponds at 16° 12' N latitude and 77° 20' E longitude with an altitude of 389 meters above the mean sea level. The daily climatological data during the study period were obtained from the meteorological observatory at MARS, Raichur. The investigation was carried out during *Rabi* season of 2010. It consisted of 12 genotypes collected from different sources. The experiment was laid out by adopting Randomized Block Design with three replications. Thirty plants per genotype per replication were maintained. The experimental field was brought to fine tilth by repeated ploughing and harrowing. Twenty-five tonnes of FYM and recommended dose of fertilizers (62.5:100:75 kg NPK/ha) were incorporated in the soil. Ridges were prepared at a distance of 30 cm. The seeds of different genotypes were sown on November 13th, 2010 by dibbling two to three seeds per hill at a distance of 15 cm on one side of the ridges. The plots were irrigated immediately after the completion of sowing. Thinning of excess seedlings and gap filling was undertaken one week after germination. Plant protection practices undertaken as per the package of practice of UAS, Dharwad. The observations were recorded from 5 randomly selected plants from each genotype in each replication for days to 50 per cent flowering, plant height, number of branches per plant, stem thickness, leaf area, leaf area index, chlorophyll content, number of pods per plant, ovule number per pod, pod length, pod width, weight of 10 pods, number of seeds per pod, tenderness of pods, pod yield per plant, pod yield per hectare. The collected pool data were subjected for statistical analysis by using indowstat software.

**RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

In the present study, results obtained in correlation computed among 15 characters revealed that pod yield per hectare was significant and positively correlated with pod yield per plant, pod length, weight of 10 pods, plant height, leaf area, leaf area index, ovule number per pod, pod width, number of seeds per pod and pod yield per plant at both genotypic and phenotypic levels as presented in Table 1 and 2 and shown in Fig. 1 and 2. Thus, it can be concluded that selection based on these characters will bring about improvement in yield. Positive and significant association of these characters with pod yield per hectare were in accordance
Table 1: Phenotypic correlation coefficients of different characters in French bean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>X_1</th>
<th>X_2</th>
<th>X_3</th>
<th>X_4</th>
<th>X_5</th>
<th>X_6</th>
<th>X_7</th>
<th>X_8</th>
<th>X_9</th>
<th>X_{10}</th>
<th>X_{11}</th>
<th>X_{12}</th>
<th>X_{13}</th>
<th>X_{14}</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2940</td>
<td>-0.4748</td>
<td>0.157</td>
<td>0.107</td>
<td>0.1836</td>
<td>0.4286**</td>
<td>0.6111**</td>
<td>0.3233**</td>
<td>-0.0817</td>
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<td>0.6299**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X_2</td>
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<td>0.3972</td>
<td>-0.2933</td>
<td>-0.9108</td>
<td>0.2152</td>
<td>0.9928</td>
<td>0.7275**</td>
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<td>0.0977</td>
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<td>0.0822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>-0.1683</td>
<td>0.4548**</td>
<td>0.1635</td>
<td>0.5299</td>
<td>0.1671</td>
<td>0.1237</td>
<td>0.2529</td>
<td>0.1138</td>
<td>0.1612</td>
<td>0.4557**</td>
<td>0.6557**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X_4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.6098**</td>
<td>0.162</td>
<td>0.2582**</td>
<td>0.0223</td>
<td>0.4283**</td>
<td>0.6685</td>
<td>0.2731**</td>
<td>0.0283</td>
<td>0.4652**</td>
<td>0.6620**</td>
<td>0.6257**</td>
<td>0.6257**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X_5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0911</td>
<td>-0.5663**</td>
<td>0.093</td>
<td>0.7187</td>
<td>0.6683**</td>
<td>0.7191**</td>
<td>0.6875**</td>
<td>0.6683**</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* and ** indicate significance of values at P < 0.05 and 0.01, respectively

X_1 - Plant height
X_2 - Leaf area index
X_3 - Chlorophyll content
X_4 - Truss number per plant
X_5 - Pod width

X_{10} - Stem thickness
X_{11} - Days to 50% flowering
X_{12} - Number of pods per plant
X_{13} - Pod length

Table 2: Genotypic correlation coefficients of different characters in French bean

<table>
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<th>Y_1</th>
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CORRELATION STUDIES IN FRENCH BEAN (Phaseolus vulgaris L.)
with earlier reports by Shah et al. (1986) observed between pod yield and pod length. Singh et al. (2000), Shinde and Dumbre (2001), Rai et al. (2004) and Atilla Dursun (2007) observed between pod yield and plant height, pod length, pod width, pod weight, number of seeds per pod at both phenotypic and genotypic level. In the present study negative and significant association of yield with days to 50 per cent flowering was observed. Similar results were realized by Singh et al. (2000).

Plant height exhibited significant association with number of pods per plant, pod length, pod width, number of seeds per pod, pod yield per plant and negative significant association with days to 50 per cent flowering and stem thickness. Similar results were observed by Shinde and Dumbre (2001) for number of pods per plant, pod length, pod yield per plant. Singh et al. (2000) for plant height with pod yield per plant for both phenotypic and genotypic level. Number of branches exhibited significant association with stem thickness, number of pods per plant. Similar results were observed by Shah et al. (1986) at phenotypic level. Leaf area has significant and positive association with LAI, ovule number per pod, weight of 10 pods, pod length, number of seeds per pod and pod yield per plant strongly and positively both at genotypic and phenotypic level. Negative and significant correlation with days to 50 per cent flowering and pod width. Similar results were observed by Kumara Swamy (1990) for pod width, pod yield per plant and days to 50 per cent flowering with LAI. Days to 50 per cent flowering had negative and significant correlation with ovule number per pod, weight of 10 pods, pod length and pod yield per plant at both, phenotypic and genotypic level. These were in conformation with the findings of Pandey et al. (2004) and Singh et al. (2004). Ovule number per pod had positive significant correlation with weight of 10 pods, pod length, number of seeds per pod and pod yield per plant. Weight of 10 pods had positive and significant correlation with pod length, pod width, number of seeds per pod and pod yield per plant at both phenotypic and genotypic level. This was in conformity with the findings of Rai et al. (2004). Pod length had strong positive correlation with number of seeds per pod and pod yield per plant at both genotypic and phenotypic level. These results were supported by the findings of Shah et al. (1986), Singh et al. (2000), Singh et al. (2004) and Rai et al. (2004). Pod width exhibited strong positive significant association with yield per plant at both genotypic and phenotypic level. These results were supported by the findings of Saha et al. (1990). Number of seeds per pod has positive and significant association with pod yield per plant at both phenotypic and genotypic levels. These results were
supported by the findings of Saha et al. (1990), Singh et al. (2000) and Singh et al. (2004). On the basis of these results obtained in the correlation studies it can be emphasized to improve pod yield per hectare by selecting plants based on maximum yield per plant, pod length, weight of pods, plant height, number of pods per plant both at phenotypic and genotypic level.

REFERENCES


WEBLIOGRAPHY


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