

INFLUENCE OF SEED GRADING ON SEED QUALITY IN SUNFLOWER
(Helianthus annuus L.) HYBRIDS AND THEIR PARENTAL LINES

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ABSTRACT: A field experiment was conducted to study the influence of screen size on seeds of sunflower hybrids (BSH-1, KESH-1 & APSH-11) and their parents (CMS-234A, 234B, CMS-1A, 7-1B) which were graded into three size fractions using screen size 2.9mm, 2.8mm (recommended) and 2.7mm. The influence of grading on seed index, seed recovery, seed rejection, germination per cent, field emergence, vigour index and EC of seed leachate were evaluated from the seeds produced during kharif 1992 and summer 1993.

The germination, field emergence, 1000 seed weight, EC of seed leachate, seed rejection, seed recovery of seed retained on 2.70 mm in hybrids, A and B lines showed non significant difference over the seeds retained on the recommended screen. Whereas seed recovery, vigour index of kharif and germination, 1000 seed weight, EC of seed leachate and vigour index of summer, recorded significant differences between the seeds retained over 2.80mm and 2.70mm for hybrids and A, B lines. Screen size 2.70mm gave seed recovery of 91.15% for A, B and hybrids as compared to recommended screen which gave 88%, without significant loss in seed quality.

Key words: Sunflower, screen size, germination, vigour.

Sunflower shows wide variation in seed size, this heterogeneity could be observed even within a single capitulum and this will influence the uniform growth in the field crop. Hence, the optimum seed size needs to be evaluated to ensure better field performance. Modern seed production techniques recognises the importance of optimum seed size for a good seed crop. The literature of earlier workers also confirm that large seeds of sunflower show better seed quality (Kumar *et al.*, 1979; Basavegowda 1988 and Hanumantharaya 1991) and blackgram (Dharmalingam and Ramakrishnan 1981) while it is small or medium seeds in case of soybean. In this study an attempt has been made to assess the influence of different seed sizes on seed quality parameters in sunflower.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A field experiment was conducted at the NSP Field Unit U.A.S., Bangalore during Kharif 1992 and summer 1993 with ten sunflower genotypes by adopting all recommended package of practices (Anon., 1991) to raise good crop.

The seeds obtained from the field experiment were size graded into 3 size fractions using bottom slotted screens of 2.9 mm, 2.8 mm, 2.70 mm for hybrids (BSH-1, KBSH-1, APSH-11) and A and B lines (CMS 234A, 234B, CMS7-1A, 7-1B). The cleaned and graded seeds retained on respective screens were evaluated for seed recovery and rejections. 1000 seed weight, germination per cent, field emergence potential, EC of seed leachate and vigour index. The per cent seed recovery was calculated as

$$\text{Per cent seed recovery} = \frac{\text{Total weight of cleaned seed}}{\text{Total weight of graded seed}} \times 100$$

The per cent seed rejection was calculated as

$$\text{Per cent seed rejection} = \frac{\text{Total weight of rejected seed}}{\text{Total weight of graded seed}} \times 100$$

Germination per cent and 1000 seed weight was conducted as per ISTA (1985). The field emergence was recorded by planting 4 x 100 seeds in a well prepared soil. Seedling that come out of the soil were considered as field emergence of seedlings on 10th day. To test EC of seed leachate 2 x 25 seeds from each grade were soaked separately in 25 ml of distilled water for 24 hours at 20°C ± 1°C and the conductivity of the seed leachate was measured using conductivity bridge and expressed as $\mu\text{mohs}/\text{cm}^2$. Jagadish & Shambulingappa (1983). Dry matter production was also recorded from ten normal seedlings, randomly selected and expressed in (mgs). The vigour index of each grade (mg) was calculated by multiplying dry matter of seedling and mean germination per cent.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Seed recovery per cent increased with the decrease in the screen size from 2.90 mm to 2.7 mm and recorded mean seed recovery of 94.61 and 92.48% respectively (Table-1). These results are in conformity with the findings of Basavegowda (1988) and Hanumantharaya (1991) whereas the seed rejection showed has non-significant difference based on the average of two seasons.

The mean germination percentage of seeds increased progressively from 88 % to 94 % as the size of the seed increased from

2.7 mm to 2.9 mm. The difference in germination percentage due to seed size observed in the present study. However interaction effect was not significant which was also reported by Singh (1972) in soybean, the seed retained on screen 2.7 mm showed 88% of germination and it was well above the certification standard. Field emergence potential of seed increased with increase in size and the difference due to seed size were significant. The seed retained on 2.9 mm, 2.8 mm exhibited higher emergence potential, whereas the effect of genotype and seed size was non significant over the recommended screen size. These results are in conformity with the findings of Singh (1972) and Hanumantharaya (1991).

EC of seed leachate decreased with increase in seed size were significant. Seed retained on 2.70 mm showed higher EC as compared to recommended screen size and it was significant in summer (Table 2). Similar influence of seed size on EC of seed leachate was reported by Jagadish and Shambulingappa (1983) in sunflower.

Vigour index differed significantly based on the average of two seasons. However the seed retained on (S_1) 2.90 mm showed maximum vigour. 1509 followed by (S_2) 2.80 mm 1312 and lowest in (S_3) 2.70 mm 1123. 1000 seed weight also differed significantly and the seed retained over 2.90 mm showed maximum mean seed weight of 64.74 g (Table 2) and it was significant during summer whereas it was not significant due to poor quality of seed produced during kharif.

Considering the relative high seed recovery, germination field emergence, 1000 seed weight, vigour index, normal EC of seed leachate, less seed rejection from the seed retained on 2.70 mm screen without significant loss in seed quality may be recommended for grading of A, B and hybrid seeds of sunflower.

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Table 1: Seed recovery, seed rejection, germination, field emergence percentage of Sunflower hybrids and their parents as influenced by screen size and seasons

Treatments Seasons	Seed recovery (%)		Seed rejection (%)		Germination (%)		Field emergence (%)	
	Kharif	Summer	Kharif	Summer	Kharif	Summer	Kharif	Summer
notified								
BSS-1	87.15	88.50	12.85	11.50	91.78	92.50	93.11	95.99
KBSI-1	89.85	89.06	10.45	10.94	91.33	95.33	93.67	86.17
APSI-11	89.61	89.42	10.78	10.39	91.56	93.44	94.00	85.47
JMS 234A	87.73	87.39	12.27	12.44	89.88	91.28	92.22	92.50
234-B	87.05	87.44	12.95	12.56	89.88	90.91	92.44	93.56
CYS 7-1A	89.16	89.06	10.84	10.95	90.00	90.28	92.11	92.93
7-1B	89.92	89.04	11.08	10.96	87.44	90.67	91.67	93.33
SEmt	0.30	0.42	0.29	0.40	0.45	0.35	0.38	0.35
CD at (0.05P)	0.93	1.17	0.81	2.15	1.25	1.04	1.05	0.98
screen size								
1 2.90 mm	85.95	85.26	16.05	14.74	93.24	95.13	94.19	96.89
2 2.90 mm*	88.03	88.20	12.00	11.62	90.67	92.86	91.78	83.86
3 2.70 mm	91.21	93.74	8.79	6.26	96.90	85.19	91.55	92.24
SEmt	0.10	0.29	0.29	0.26	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.23
CD at (0.05P)	0.54	0.77	0.81	0.78	0.82	0.69	0.68	0.64
terrace								
S1 V1	82.78	84.83	17.22	15.17	95.00	95.83	95.41	89.00
S1 V2	84.23	85.53	15.77	14.98	94.67	97.67	96.17	89.17
S1 V3	85.73	86.83	14.27	13.71	94.33	96.03	95.17	88.00
S1 V4	81.40	82.00	15.06	15.00	92.33	95.33	94.16	85.07
S1 V5	81.33	81.73	15.67	18.47	92.67	95.40	94.04	86.00
S1 V6	84.70	85.50	15.30	14.90	92.33	92.50	92.51	85.00
S1 V7	84.20	84.70	15.80	15.55	90.57	93.17	90.92	86.00
S2 V1	87.33	87.33	12.63	12.67	92.67	93.17	92.92	85.67
S2 V2	88.27	89.58	11.73	11.10	91.67	95.50	93.59	85.00
S2 V3	88.00	88.83	12.00	11.89	92.00	94.50	93.25	86.00
S2 V4	87.77	87.97	12.53	12.42	90.00	92.00	91.00	82.50
S2 V5	87.75	87.98	12.24	12.22	89.67	92.83	91.25	82.32
S2 V6	87.64	87.70	12.36	12.35	90.32	90.32	91.24	82.67
S2 V7	87.77	87.07	12.23	12.53	87.00	91.67	89.34	82.67
S3 V1	91.34	91.73	8.66	8.47	87.68	88.50	88.09	83.00
S3 V2	91.67	91.75	8.33	8.25	87.66	92.83	90.25	84.33
S3 V3	91.83	91.67	8.17	8.33	89.83	89.83	90.08	82.17
S3 V4	90.50	90.23	9.70	9.78	86.50	86.50	86.59	81.00
S3 V5	90.67	90.57	9.33	9.48	87.33	84.50	85.92	80.67
S3 V6	90.93	91.20	9.07	8.87	86.00	87.50	86.75	80.00
S3 V7	91.10	91.18	8.90	8.80	84.67	87.67	86.17	80.50
Mean	87.46	87.90	12.57	12.24	90.27	92.08	92.76	84.32
F-test	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
SEmt	0.52	0.73	0.50	0.50	0.78	0.66	0.67	0.61
D at (0.05P)	1.20	1.20	0.50	0.50	0.78	2.39	0.67	0.61

*Not recommended screen size: 2.80 mm

Table 2: 1000 seed weight(g.), Vigour index and electrical conductivity (µmhos/cm) of sunflower hybrids, A and B lines as influenced by screen sizes and seasons

Treatments Seasons	1000 seed weight (g)		Vigour index		Electrical conductivity (µmhos/cm)	
	Kharif	Summer	Mean	Kharif	Summer	Mean
GENOTYPES						
V1 BSH-1	56.35	57.85	57.10	1166	1308	1237
V2 KSH-1	62.45	63.06	62.76	1543	1533	1538
V3 KSH-11	65.48	66.38	65.93	1590	1615	1602
V4 CMS 234-A	56.02	56.35	56.19	1097	1241	1169
V5 234-B	55.92	56.71	56.32	1181	1213	1227
V6 CMS 7-1A	63.19	65.59	64.39	1176	1255	1230
V7 7-1B	62.72	63.76	63.24	1231	1304	1267
Mean	60.30	61.39	60.84	1293	1369	1331
SE ₁	0.50	0.59	0.54	17.85	21.21	19.53
CD at (0.05P)	1.38	1.64	1.51	49.47	58.77	54.12
Screen size						
S1 2.90 mm	64.08	65.39	64.74	1456	1563	1509
S2 2.80 mm*	60.91	61.57	61.24	1256	1368	1312
S3 2.70 mm	55.50	56.90	56.20	1072	1175	1123
Mean	61.16	61.30	61.23	1261	1370	1315
SE ₁	0.33	0.39	0.36	11.69	13.82	12.75
CD at (0.05P)	0.90	1.07	0.98	32.38	36.47	34.42
Inter-cultion						
S1 V1	60.37	64.70	62.54	1396	1511	1454
S1 V2	66.97	68.40	67.69	2041	2194	2117
S1 V3	69.03	70.17	69.60	2124	2230	2177
S1 V4	59.50	60.13	59.82	1178	1366	1272
S1 V5	58.87	59.50	59.19	1318	1405	1362
S1 V6	66.97	67.83	67.40	1286	1365	1326
S1 V7	65.83	66.97	66.40	1349	1396	1372
S2 V1	58.34	59.23	58.64	1108	1307	1207
S2 V2	63.37	64.00	63.69	1353	1419	1386
S2 V3	66.63	66.90	66.71	1499	1700	1599
S2 V4	58.44	59.72	59.08	1113	1259	1186
S2 V5	57.27	57.17	57.22	1153	1298	1225
S2 V6	63.10	64.77	63.94	1264	1417	1341
S2 V7	63.20	64.47	63.85	1302	1391	1347
S3 V1	48.33	49.33	48.83	1095	1106	1100
S3 V2	57.70	56.77	57.24	1183	1241	1212
S3 V3	60.77	62.17	61.47	1232	1251	1241
S3 V4	53.15	54.27	53.71	1000	1067	1033
S3 V5	53.85	54.50	54.18	1071	1117	1094
S3 V6	59.50	61.84	60.67	1184	1216	1200
S3 V7	55.15	59.85	57.50	1042	1223	1132
Mean	60.97	61.47	61.22	1280	1391	1335
SE ₁	0.86	1.02	0.94	30.92	36.73	33.82
CD at (0.05P)	2.83	3.41	3.12	85.68	101.79	93.73
Electrical conductivity (µmhos/cm)						
Kharif						
V1	361	352	356	372	353	363
V2	332	322	327	407	300	354
V3	423	434	429	433	413	423
V4	399	370	379	404	375	392
V5	377	342	359	375	370	372
V6	430	435	433	404	370	387
V7	436	414	425	404	370	387
Mean	392	381	386	372	353	363
SE ₁	5.65	5.00	5.32	15.65	15.00	15.32
CD at (0.05P)	15.65	15.00	15.32	40.4	37.0	38.7
Summer						
V1	352	322	337	372	353	363
V2	322	322	322	407	300	354
V3	434	434	434	433	413	423
V4	370	370	370	404	375	392
V5	342	342	342	375	370	372
V6	435	435	435	404	370	387
V7	414	414	414	404	370	387
Mean	381	350	365	372	353	363
SE ₁	5.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
CD at (0.05P)	15.00	15.00	15.00	40.4	37.0	38.7