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Evaluation of genotypes of gerbera (Gerbera jamesonii Bolus ex Hooker F.) under open condition at Yercaud

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Abstract : The study was carried out to evaluate the performance of seventy gerbera genotypes (*Gerbera jamesonii* Bolus ex Hooker F.) under open condition at Horticultural Research Station, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Yercaud during 2008 and 2010. Significant differences were observed for all the characters studied. The results revealed that GJ 13 showed maximum plant height (36.30 cm) and plant spread (44.99 cm). Higher number of leaves was recorded in GJ 23 (22.97). Maximum leaf length was recorded in GJ 11 (23.40 cm) while shortest leaf width was recorded in GJ 36, GJ 53 (3.20 cm). Maximum sucker production was recorded in GJ 11 (8 nos). The highest stalk length was observed in GJ 2 (60.80 cm) while flower diameter GJ 11 (10.20 cm), cut flower production GJ 23 (70) and vase life was higher in GJ 23 (9 d). Considering correlation and path co-efficients of the characters *viz.*, plant height, leaf breadth, stalk length and flower diameter were found to be positive effect on yield. It could be concluded from the present investigation that, out of seventy genotypes evaluated, genotypes GJ 23, GJ 11, GJ 2, GJ 19 and GJ 55 were found to be the best cultivars with superior in qualities for flower production under Shevaroy condition of eastern ghat.

Key Words: Gerbera, Evaluation, Correlation, Path co-efficient

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