

Pollen and spikelet fertility analysis in rice crosses involving WA cytosteriles

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ABSTRACT

Three cytoplasmic malesterile lines viz., IR58025A (L_1), IR 62829 A (L_2), V20 A (L_3) of wild abortive (WA) source were crossed as 'lines' with fourteen genotypes as 'testers' to get 42 hybrids. The 42 hybrids obtained were subjected to pollen and spikelet fertility analysis. Six testers viz, IR72, IR24, Duansan, ARC 11353, IR 54 742-2-22-19-3 and IET 13153 were identified as restorers for the three CMS lines.

Key words : Pollen, Spikelet, Fertility.

INTRODUCTION

The use of cytoplasmic genetic male sterility system in developing hybrids in crops is possible only when effective restorers are identified. In rice, effective restorers have been identified among cultivated varieties and elite breeding lines for various CMS systems. Pollen or spikelet fertility or both have been used as an index to fix the restoration ability of the lines (Sutaryo, 1989). Identification of new restorers is a continuous process in hybrid rice development programme in order to increase heterosis and reduce genetic vulnerability due to plasmon uniformity. The present study was undertaken to find out the fertility restoration ability of the fourteen testers on the three WA cytoplasm.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Three cytoplasmic male sterile lines viz., IR58025 A (L_1), IR 62829 A (L_2) and V20 (L_3) and fourteen testers IR 72 (T_1), IR 24 (T_2), Duansan (T_3), ARC 11353 (T_4), IR 54742-22-19-3 (T_5), IET 13153 (T_6), IR20 (T_7), IET 1444 (T_8), ADT 36 (T_9), TKM 9 (T_{10}), ASD 16 (T_{11}), ADT 39 (T_{12}), CO37 (T_{13}) and Co41 (T_{14}) were raised in a crossing block during Navarai 2000 (Jan-May). Three weekly sowings were taken to synchronize the flowering. Crosses were effected in line x tester fashion to get 42 hybrids. The one third of the tip of the spikelets in the panicle of CMS lines were clipped off using scissors during early morning hours (6.30 AM) and the immature spikelets were removed. The panicles were covered with butter paper cover. At the time of anther dehiscence, panicle from desired male parent was collected and inserted through the top of the cover and brushed over the clipped off spikelets of CMS lines to effect pollination. The F_1 generation of all the crosses were raised during kuruvai 2001 (June-July) in a test cross nursery. Each entry was planted in a single row of 20 plants with a spacing of 20 cm x 20 cm. All the plants in each entry were scored for pollen and spikelet fertility. The anthers were crushed in one per cent iodine – potassium iodide solution and observed under light microscope. The countings were taken in five fields per slide. The completely stained spherical pollens were considered fertile, while, the unstained, partially stained and shriveled pollens were taken as sterile (Young et al., 1983).

$$\text{Pollen fertility \%} = \frac{\text{Number of stained round pollen}}{\text{Total number of pollen counted}} \times 100$$

The pollen fertility status was fixed as under, following IRR1 (1986) and govindaraj and Virmani (1988) classification.

Pollen fertility per cent	Fertility status
60-100.00	Fertility
30-59.99	Partially fertile
1-29.99	Partially sterile
0-0.99	Sterile

The spikelet fertility was calculated as the proportion of fully developed grains to the total number of spikelets on selfed primary panicle of each selected plant. The range of spikelet fertility was fixed as under (Govindaraj and Virmani, 1988).

Spikelet fertility per cent	Fertility status
80-100.00	Fertile
30-79.99	Partially fertile
1-29.99	Partially sterile
0-0.99	Sterile

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The pollen fertility per cent of hybrids was found to vary from 19.7 ($L_2 \times T_{14}$) to 97.80 ($L_1 \times T_2$). The hybrids produced by using the three male sterile lines with testers T_1 to T_6 showed high fertility status (> 60 per cent) thereby classifying the male parents as restorers. The testers T_{10} , T_{12} and T_{13} showed partial restoration with the three CMS lines used, whereas T_{14} showed partial maintenance reaction. The remaining testers T_7 , T_8 , T_9 and T_{11} showed restoration / partial restoration with one line and partial maintenance with other line (Table 1). This kind of differential reaction of the same genotype in restoring the fertility of different CMS lines of same cytoplasmic source was reported by Virmani (1987), Leenakumari *et al.* (1994).

Table 1: Pollen fertility (per cent) of F_1 hybrid in test cross nursery

Lines/testers	L_1	L_2	L_3
T_1	94.67(R)	92.82(R)	91.36(R)
T_2	97.08(R)	87.65(R)	90.86(R)
T_3	84.78(R)	86.74(R)	94.52(R)
T_4	93.60(R)	87.75(R)	87.00(R)
T_5	95.60(R)	88.91(R)	87.21(R)
T_6	91.78(R)	86.53(R)	92.78(R)
T_7	45.00(PR)	32.49(PR)	26.31(PM)
T_8	51.67(PR)	58.74(PR)	70.38(R)
T_9	23.60(PM)	84.74(R)	54.89(PR)
T_{10}	54.61(PR)	59.81(PR)	50.75(PR)
T_{11}	41.43(PR)	58.16(PR)	27.71(PM)
T_{12}	41.43(PR)	58.16(PR)	44.31(PR)
T_{13}	31.52(PR)	53.86(PR)	40.71(PR)
T_{14}	21.30(PM)	19.70(PM)	24.30(PM)
PM	: Partial maintainer		
PR	: Partial restorer		
R	: Restorer		

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