

Hybrid vigour assessment for drought related traits in maize [*Zea mays* (L.)]

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SUMMARY

Experiments were carried out to identify best heterotic combination for three drought tolerant traits *viz.*, SPAD chlorophyll meter reading (SCMR), specific leaf area (SLA) and proline content and grain yield. 36 hybrids derived from crossing twelve lines and three testers have been raised along with their parents in Zonal Agricultural Research Station, V.C. Farm, Mandya under Randomized Complete Block Design with two replications. Significant heterosis over two standard checks *viz.*, NAH-2049 and NAH-1137 had been observed in cross 2422 x HKI-164-4-1-3 for SCMR and proline content, cross 1201 x HKI-164-4-1-3 for proline content and significant mid parent heterosis has observed in cross MAI-105 x CML411 for SCMR, proline content and yield.

Key Words : Heterosis, SCMR, SLA, Proline content, *Per se* performance

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