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Genetic divergence studies in clusterbean [*Cyamopsis tetragonoloba* (L.) Taub]

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ABSTRACT : Thirty one genotypes of clusterbean collected from various sources were assessed for genetic divergence using Mahalanobis D^2 technique. The genetic material exhibited wide range of genetic diversity for all the characters investigated and grouped into 3 different clusters. The maximum intra cluster distance was observed in cluster I indicated that genotypes are having diverse genetic architecture. The intercluster distance was high between cluster II and cluster III, this indicated wide range of variability among clusters. The per cent contribution towards genetic diversity was high for pod yield per hectare (26.02) followed by pod length (18.06) and plant height (14.62). On the basis of intercluster distance and per se performance observed in the present study a hybridization programme involving genotypes for a specific character has been chosen using cluster mean.

KEY WORDS : Genetic diversity, Clusterbean, Tocher's method, Cluster distance

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