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Flowering and seeding variability in neelayamari (*Indigofera tinctoria* L.) accessions

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ABSTRACT : Growth and yield analysis of thirty different accessions of *Indigofera tinctoria*, collected from inside and outside the state, was conducted and the comparative performance in open and partial shade ecosystem was evaluated. Selected ten accessions were raised in replicated trial in open and under shade in coconut garden. Observations on flowering and seeding were taken. Flowering in *I. tinctoria* was observed about 111 days after sowing (DAS) to 116 DAS in open condition and 117 DAS to 126 DAS under shade. *I. tinctoria* accessions IT-101 and IT-96, which dominated in shoot and leaf yield, produced more number of flowers under open condition. Early flowering and more number of flowers was obtained in IT-96 under open condition. Pod setting percentage was 20.86 and 17.58 per cent, respectively under open and shaded condition. Average number of days for pod set was 138.4 days in open and 149.0 days under shade. Average number of days for seed maturation was 239.4 DAS in open condition and 253.5 DAS under shade. Under open condition early seed set and seed maturation was observed in IT-97. Less pod setting percentage and delay in pod set and seed maturation was observed in shaded condition compared to open. *I. tinctoria* plants grown in open condition exhibited early flowering, more number of flowers, increased pod setting percentage, early seedset and early seed maturation when compared to those under shade.

KEY WORDS : Neelayamari, *Indigofera tinctoria* L., Floral characters, Seeding behaviour

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