

HERITABILITY AND GENETIC ADVANCE STUDIES FOR BIOCHEMICAL TRAITS IN F₂₋₃ INTROGRESSED FAMILIES OF BRASSICA

NADIA KHAN, FARHATULLAH, IFTIKHAR HUSSAIN KHALIL, HAFSA NAHEED AND SANA ABID*

Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, The University of Agriculture Peshawar, Pakistan

*Corresponding author's e-mail: drfarhat@aup.edu.pk

Abstract

Higher heritability estimates along with high genetic advance values are effective in envisaging gain under selection in developing genotypes. The objective of the present study was to evaluate variability, heritability and genetic advance in 10 interspecific F₂₋₃ families of *Brassica* species (*B. napus* × *B. juncea*, *B. napus* × *B. rapa*). These families were studied for heterospecific introgression of biochemical traits. Low to high heritability estimates were recorded for seed quality traits. Considerable variations within F₂₋₃ families were observed for biochemical traits. Most of the F₂₋₃ families for oil content and erucic showed moderate to high heritability indicating the slightest influence of environment thus modification of trait by selection would be more effective. Among F₂₋₃ introgressed families *Bn-510* × *Bj-109* produced high oil i.e., 49.5% while *Bn-532* × *Br-118* (24.4%), *Bn-533* × *Bj-109* (24.1%) and high protein percentage in terms of mean performance. In the present research, individual segregating progenies of interspecific cross populations i.e., which possessed combination of desirable traits, were identified which could be incorporated in the future Breeding programs and it may facilitate varietal development.

Key words: Heterospecific introgression, Biochemical traits, Inter-specific hybridization, Brassica.

Introduction

Interspecific hybridization among different species of Brassica provides the breeder with new genetic combinations and more variability which is due to infiltration of genes from one species to another within the genus, the phenomenon is called introgression. "Genetic introgression" or "introgressive hybridization" is "introduction of alleles from one species into another species through hybridization" (Anderson & Hubricht, 1938). Introgression results in a complex mixture of genes from both parental lines which might be supported by selection and as a result it contributes to adaptive evolution within populations (Rieseberg & Carney, 1998). Inter-specific hybridization has been widely used in *Brassica* species to increase genetic diversity and to introgress desirable traits from one gene pool to another genetic background. Thus, interspecific hybridization is a source of speciation in crop sciences. Plant Breeder designs a planned hybridization to combine desirable genes found in two or more different species, through carefully selected plants within or among species (Saleem *et al.*, 2013; Sidra *et al.*, 2014). *Brassica* oil seed species have high economic value and are vital source of vegetable oil. *Brassica* oil seed species stand third important oilseed crop globally after palm oil and soybean (Haq *et al.*, 2014; Zang & Zhou, 2006).

Heritability estimation predicts the effects of phenotypic variation in the population that arise from two sources i.e., average differences between the genotypes and the phenotypic variance that each genotype reveals due to environmental variation. Heritability findings help in the proper selection criteria and assessment of genetic improvement in the succeeding population. Heritability estimates could be used to predict gain from selection. Higher heritability estimates along with better genetic advance values are useful in predicting the gain under selection in developing genotypes (Ghimiray & Sarkar, 2000).

In brassica high oil and yield and low levels of detrimental compounds (as GSL, erucic acid) is an ultimate objective of oilseed breeder. In order to improve the production of edible oil, analysing heritability and genetic advance using biochemical parameters is core goal of a plant breeder in Breeding programs (Laila *et al.*, 2014). The presence of substantial amount of genetic variability and heritability is key to successful crop improvement program (Sidra *et al.*, 2014; Laila *et al.*, 2014; Adnan and Farhatullah, 2013; Khan *et al.*, 2008) because the ultimate goal is to develop hybrid cultivars that can potentially use the total amount of heterosis available.

Keeping in view these perspectives, the current research was conducted to determine evaluate the range of genetic variability, estimate Broad sense heritability and determine genetic advance in introgressed F₂₋₃ families for various quality traits.

Materials and Methods

Plant materials: In the year 2009, two male parental lines of *B. juncea* (foreign accession from USA) and *B. rapa* (an accession from NARC) were crossed with eight local *B. napus* accessions collected from different sites of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab provinces. Twelve out of 16 crosses showed introgression in F₁ and were advanced to F₂. On the basis of results of F₂ populations, some of the introgressed crosses were found to be exceedingly promising for seed quality traits such as oil and protein content (%) and were categorized as "specialized introgressed crosses" (Sidra *et al.*, 2014).

In the current research, 10 out of 12 F₂ "specialized introgressed" populations (Table 1) were advanced to F₂₋₃ to further study the inheritance pattern and to estimate heritability for quality traits.

Table 1. List of experimental material comprised parental lines and their F₂₋₃ introgressed families.

Brassica species	Site of collection	Origin	F ₂₋₃ introgressed families
Female lines			
<i>Bn-510</i>	Okara		<i>Bn-510</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>
<i>Bn-514</i>	Rajanpur		<i>Bn-514</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>
<i>Bn-532</i>	Rawalpindi	Pakistan	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>
<i>Bn-533</i>	Swabi		<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>
<i>Bn-547</i>	Haripur		<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>
<i>Bn-525</i>	Khairabad		
<i>Bn-531</i>	Diamer		
Male lines			
<i>Bj-109</i>		USA	<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>
<i>Br-118</i>	UC Davis Islamabad	Pakistan	<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i> <i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i> <i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Br-118</i> <i>Bn-531</i> × <i>Br-118</i>

Brassica napus (*Bn*), *Brassica juncea* (*Bj*), *Brassica rapa* (*Br*)

Field trials: The F₂₋₃ interspecific families and their parents were planted in field trials as ten different populations. The experimental unit had four rows, each consisting of F₂₋₃ family with their respective parental lines. The spacing between rows was 60 cm. Single plant sowing was done having 30 cm space between plants within a row. Row length was 5 meters. Data was taken on every single plant of each family of F₂₋₃ progenies from the interspecific cross combinations.

Broad sense heritability was calculated for each population and each trait by using the following formula in analogy with Mehmood & Kramer (1951):

$$h^2 = VF_3 - \sqrt{Vp1 \times Vp2} / VF_3$$

Genetic advance was calculated according to Allard (1964):

$$GA = i h^2 \sqrt{VP}$$

where *i*= selection intensity, *Vp*= phenotypic variances, *h*²= heritability

Results and Discussion

Estimation of heritability, genetic variability and genetic advance contribute in devising efficient selection criteria in crop improvement programs (Aytaç & Kinaci, 2009).

Oil concentration (%): High oil concentration in Brassica species is of immense value since it is largely consumed as edible oil as well as for industrial purposes. Oil content ranged from 45.5% (*Br-118*) to 51% (*Bn-531*) trailed by 50.6% (*Bn-525*) among the parental genotypes. The highest oil content (49.5%) was recorded for F₂₋₃ family *Bn-510* × *Bj-109*, while the minimum (43.9%) for *Bn-532* × *Br-118*. Genotype number 260 within F₂₋₃ family *Bn-532* × *Br-118* had the highest (55.3%) oil concentration followed by the individual introgressed genotype number 208 (55.1%) within F₂₋₃ family *Bn-547* × *Bj-109* (Table 6). Fayyaz *et al.* (2014) also reported 47.07% oil content in F₂ interspecific populations of Brassica. F₂₋₃ family *Bn-510* × *Bj-109* carried plants with the highest oil content (55.3%) while plants with the minimum oil content (22.9%) were produced by the cross

Bn-547 × *Br-118*. Results of Ali *et al.* (2013) and Iqbal *et al.* (2014) are nearly alike to the present finding are nearly alike to the present findings. They reported 44 to 43.1% oil contents in *B. carinata* and *B. rapa* genotypes respectively. In comparison to the current results, Tuncurk & Ciftci (2007) found lower percentage of oil (34-38%) in rapeseed genotypes. Among the F₂₋₃ families, the highest variance (23.05) was obtained for *Bn-532* × *Br-118* population (Table 4).

Protein concentration (%): Mean performance for parental lines ranged from 24.3% (*Br-118*) to 17.9% (*Bn-525*). For F₂₋₃ families, mean values spelled out that F₂₋₃ families *Bn-532* × *Bj-109* and *Bn-533* × *Bj-118* had the maximum protein contents with the percentages 24.4 and 24.3, respectively. The lowest (21.7) protein content was present in seeds of group *Bn-510* × *Bj-109*. Mean values established no major shift in protein contents of F₂₋₃ families from parental genotypes (Table 2). The results are in agreement with Laila *et al.* (2014) who reported 21.27% protein content in interspecific hybrids of Brassica, whereas Mahasi & Kamundia (2007) got lower protein content (18%) in rapeseed genotypes. Genotype number 135 within the family *Bn-532* × *Bj-109* had maximum (31.3%) protein content among all and thus selected among superior genotypes for high protein content (Table 6).

Glucosinolate content (μ mol g⁻¹): Glucosinolates (GSL) are organic compounds containing sulphur and nitrogen. High content of GSL have damaging effects on human and animal nutrition, also it adds to the pungent flavour of Brassica, therefore; low GSL content is desirable in Brassica species (Agnihotri & Kaushik, 1999). *Bn-514* produced the lowest GSL content (70.4 μ mol g⁻¹), followed by *Bn-547* (87.34 μ mol g⁻¹) and *Bn-532* (87.48 μ mol g⁻¹). Among F₂₋₃ introgressed populations, *Bn-532* × *Bj-109* exhibited the lowest content GSL i.e. 84.34 μ mol g⁻¹ followed by *Bn-510* × *Bj-109* (88.2 μ mol g⁻¹) while the highest GSL of 101.5 μ mol g⁻¹ were extracted from seed of *Bn-525* × *Br-118* (Table 2). In compliance to the recent findings, Zhang & Zhou (2006) and Laila *et al.* (2014) also reported high levels of GSL in Brassica. Ranges for all F₂₋₃ families shows that the lowest GSL is observed for the individual genotypes within two families *Bn-532* × *Br-118* (18.3 μ mol g⁻¹ for genotype number 190) and *Bn-525* × *Br-118* (28.6 μ mol g⁻¹ for genotype number 32).

Table 2. Mean performance and ranges for various seed quality traits of parental lines and F₂₋₃ families.

Genotypes	Oil content (%)		Protein content (%)		Glucosinolate content (μ mol g ⁻¹)	
	Range	Mean	Range	Mean	Range	
					Mean	Mean
Parents						
<i>Bn-525</i>	50.1 – 51.1	50.6	17.6 – 18.3	17.9	79.6 – 82.1	80.86
<i>Br-118</i>	41.4 – 49.9	45.5	20.3 – 27.4	24.7	90.1 – 110.3	97.04
<i>Bn-547</i>	49.6 – 50.6	50.2	19.1– 20.1	19.8	79.1 – 106.2	87.34
<i>Bn-532</i>	40.3 - 50.1	44.2	20.2 – 26.9	22.9	76.5 – 100.1	87.48
<i>Bj-109</i>	43.5 – 49.8	47.2	22.7 – 27.8	24.3	82.1 – 118.8	98.76
<i>Bn-533</i>	45.2 – 50.9	48.5	17.6 – 22.6	18.8	92.6 – 103.2	97.64
<i>Bn-510</i>	50.3 – 50.7	50.5	18.9 – 19.7	19.3	93.8 – 97.1	95.92
<i>Bn-514</i>	47 – 51.3	49	17.1– 20.5	18.9	70.4 – 87.4	70.4
<i>Bn-531</i>	49.8 – 54.1	51.1	17.5 – 18.7	18.1	87.5 – 90.9	89.1
F₂₋₃ families						
<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	33.7 – 54.4	47.2	18.7 – 29.8	22.9	28.6 – 192	101.5
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	22.9 – 53.1	46.4	16.9 – 29.9	22.8	60.2 – 122.1	91.31
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	34.6 – 51.6	46	18.7 – 31.3	23.3	103.5 – 123.9	84.34
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	33.8 – 55.3	43.9	17.1 – 30	24.4	18.3 – 123.8	88.79
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	39.8 – 55.1	47	17.8 – 27.8	23.3	46.8 – 115.5	89.17
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	39.6 – 52.7	46.8	19.9 – 28.9	23	72.8 – 89.4	110
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	36.7 – 51.1	45.2	20.1 – 28.1	24.1	60.7 – 123.2	91.75
<i>Bn-510</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	44.7 – 52.9	49.5	19.6 – 24.3	21.7	73.1 – 104	88.2
<i>Bn-514</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	40 – 54.3	47.8	17.4 – 27.2	22.5	70.5 – 108	91.1
<i>Bn-531</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	41.6 – 53.4	46.7	20.75 – 26.6	22.2	80.8 – 118.3	99.9

Oleic acid (per-cent of fatty acids): Oleic acid belongs to the class of monosaturated omega-9 fatty acids. High oleic acid content in Brassica is desirable for nutritional purpose (Iqbal *et al.*, 2014). Range of means for oleic acid among parental lines varied from 32 (*Bn-533*) to 50.2% (*Br-118*). According to the mean performance of all F₂₋₃ families, *Bn-510* × *Bj-109* possessed the highest (48.9%) oleic acid. F₂₋₃ families *Bn-547* × *Bj-109* (43.9%) and *Bn-514* × *Bj-109* (43.9%) contained the minimum oleic acid content (Table 3). These results are supported by the earlier findings of Iqbal *et al.* (2014) who found 43.7 and 48.7% oleic acid in F₂ interspecific populations *Bn-510* × *Bj-109* and 531 × 118 respectively. Khan *et al.* (2008) observed comparatively high levels of oleic acid (52.7%) in F_{3,4} interspecific populations of Brassica.

Linolenic acid (per-cent of fatty acids): Linolenic acid is nutritionally essential omega-3 fatty acid. It has potential benefits for health and thus high percentage of this fatty acid is advantageous (Simopoulos, 1991). Mean values for linolenic acid varied from 7.7 (*Bn-525*) to 10.24% (*Bj-109*) among the parental genotypes. F₂₋₃ family *Bn-514* × *Bj-109* had the highest (10.38%) linolenic acid content. The minimum linolenic acid percentage was recorded for two populations *Bn-510* × *Bj-109* (8.91%) and *Bn-533* × *Bj-118* (8.93%) (Table 3). Khan *et al.* (2008) represented 9.9% linolenic acid in interspecific populations of Brassica which is nearly comparable to our findings. In contrast to the present observations, Laila *et al.* (2014) reported high linolenic acid content in F₂ Brassica populations.

Erucic acid (per-cent of fatty acids): Erucic acid is a crystalline monosaturated omega-9 fatty acid which is present in the form of glycerides in Brassica species (Davis, 2011). Low erucic acid content is desirable in Brassica varieties due to its harmful effects (Khan *et al.*, 2008). Erucic acid percentage for parental lines was in the

range of 52.3 (*Bj-109*) to 57.9% (*Bn-531*). Among F₂₋₃ families, the lowest (44.8%) levels of erucic acid was detected in two populations *Bn-532* × *Bj-109* and *Bn-532* × *Br-118* whereas the highest (57.7%) in *Bn-514* × *Bj-109*. Over all, F₂₋₃ families exhibited high levels of erucic acid. Nasim & Farhatullah (2013) and Iqbal *et al.* (2014) also reported high erucic acid in rapeseed (37.73-57.50%) and F₂ interspecific progenies (33.7-44.4%) respectively. Introgressed genotypes within the F₂₋₃ families *Bn-532* × *Bj-109* (24% for genotype number 165) and *Bn-525* × *Br-118* (29.1% for genotype number 32) exhibited the lowest erucic acid content among all (Table 3).

Heritability and genetic advance: High heritability estimates along with the high genetic advance indicates that there are more chances that a character is controlled by additive genes and selection for improvement is more successful. Oil content was affirmed as most heritable trait in F₂₋₃ family *Bn-547* × *Br-118* with the highest genetic advance (6.19). All the other families exhibited medium to low heritability values. Singh *et al.* (2013) observed high heritability and comparatively lower genetic advance values in their experiment on association of yield components in Indian mustard, which is almost similar to the findings of the present project. Gosh & Gulati (2001) also reported high heritability for oil content in Indian mustard.

The highest genetic advance results in high gain from selection in breeding programs. Marjanovic *et al.* (2011) and Khan *et al.* (2006) also quantified high genetic advance values in rapeseeds. Iqbal *et al.* (2014) found in their experiment with F₂ introgressed population of *Bn-533* × *Br-118* having highest heritability for protein content. These results are in agreement with Khan *et al.* (2008) who reported low heritability in F₂₋₃ Brassica interspecific populations for protein oil. Iqbal *et al.* (2014) and Aytac & Kinaci (2009) observed moderate to high heritability values for protein.

Table 3. Mean performance and ranges for various seed quality traits of parental lines and F₂₋₃ families.

Genotypes	Oleic acid (% of fatty acid)		Linolenic acid (% of fatty acid)		Erucic acid (% of fatty acid) ($\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)	
	Range	Mean	Range	Mean	Range	Mean
	Parents					
<i>Bn-525</i>	43.7 – 46.1	44.4	7.3 – 8.1	7.7	48.1 – 49.3	48.7
<i>Br-118</i>	48 – 54.1	50.2	8.1 – 10.3	9.44	40.1 – 52.4	46.4
<i>Bn-547</i>	47.2 – 48.6	47.8	8.8 – 9.7	9.34	46.3 – 50.1	44.8
<i>Bn-532</i>	35.3 – 50	44.2	7.8 – 10.2	9.18	42.1 – 56.9	49.8
<i>Bj-109</i>	41.4 – 43.6	42.5	9.5 – 11.4	10.24	44.3 – 55.8	52.3
<i>Bn-533</i>	28.9 – 35.8	32	7.3 – 8.5	7.82	44.1 – 55.3	50
<i>Bn-510</i>	46.1 – 47.3	46.7	7.6 – 8.1	7.88	54.8 – 57.5	55.6
<i>Bn-514</i>	43.5 – 49.3	46.1	6.3 – 8.3	7.14	41.6 – 56.1	26.7
<i>Bn-531</i>	36.5 – 39.5	38.1	8.5 – 9.8	9.13	56.2 – 59.4	57.9
F₂₋₃ families						
<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	32.5 – 51.1	45.2	2.3 – 12.9	9	29.1 – 66.4	50.7
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	40.4 – 59.5	47	7.7 – 12.1	9.71	37.7 – 59.9	49.1
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	40.1 – 68.9	47.6	4.8 – 12.7	9.77	24.8 – 51.6	44.8
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	33.6 – 57.1	45.5	0.4 – 12	9.44	31.9 – 56.3	44.8
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	39.6 – 52.2	43.6	7.9 – 12.8	10.5	46.4 – 60.8	52.5
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	44 – 52	48.2	7.7 – 10.8	9.42	49.2 – 59.5	48.5
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	38.9 – 53.9	46	3.4 – 11	8.93	31.3 – 56.6	47.9
<i>Bn-510</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	41.4 – 54.6	48.9	7.4 – 11.4	8.91	46.4 – 58.8	52.2
<i>Bn-514</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	40 – 50.1	43.9	8.2 – 11.5	10.38	49 – 64.8	57.7
<i>Bn-531</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	38.1 – 52.5	45.7	9.1 – 11.5	10.36	49 – 60	52.2

Table 4. Variance, heritability estimates and genetic advance for various seed quality traits of parental lines and F₂₋₃ families.

Genotypes	Oil Content (%)			Protein content (%)			Glucosinolate content ($\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$)		
	Variance	h^2	GA	Variance	h^2	GA	Variance	h^2	GA
Parents									
<i>Bn-525</i>	0.16	--	--	0.08	--	--	1.13	--	--
<i>Br-118</i>	9.58	--	--	8.39	--	--	213.65	--	--
<i>Bn-547</i>	0.15	--	--	0.16	--	--	136.33	--	--
<i>Bn-532</i>	25.7	--	--	8.17	--	--	130.04	--	--
<i>Bj-109</i>	5.92	--	--	4.28	--	--	236.86	--	--
<i>Bn-533</i>	6.2	--	--	4.51	--	--	17.4	--	--
<i>Bn-510</i>	0.02	--	--	2.08	--	--	1.75	--	--
<i>Bn-514</i>	2.87	--	--	2.01	--	--	49.32	--	--
<i>Bn-531</i>	2.89	--	--	0.23	--	--	2.02	--	--
F₂₋₃ families									
<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	13.96	0.91	4.76	6.35	0.86	3.06	409.76	0.97	27.68
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	21.91	0.94	6.19	6.99	0.83	3.09	125.04	0.16	2.65
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	14.46	0.14	0.78	7.8	0.24	0.94	322.7	0.45	11.47
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	23.05	0.31	2.14	14.83	0.44	2.38	396	0.74	20.73
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	14.43	0.93	4.96	8.63	0.9	3.71	210.02	0.14	2.92
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	14.62	0.77	2.53	8.14	0.24	0.97	146.13	0.74	12.62
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	12.42	0.51	2.52	5.16	0.14	0.47	290.81	0.77	18.6
<i>Bn-510</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	6.33	0.93	3.3	3.1	0.8	1.99	74.2	0.72	8.74
<i>Bn-514</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	9.71	0.57	2.51	5.95	0.5	1.73	87.19	0.24	3.26
<i>Bn-531</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	11.5	0.54	2.57	2.69	0.48	1.1	73.36	0.82	9.92

h^2 = Heritability (BS), GA = Genetic Advance (% of mean)

Very low to high heritability estimates were observed for glucosinolate content among F₂₋₃ introgressed families. Zhang & Zhou (2006) and Fayyaz *et al.* (2014) also reported high levels of GSL in Brassica. High heritability estimates were recorded for *Bn-525* × *Br-118* and *Bn-531* × *Br-118* with heritability values 0.97 and 0.82 respectively (Table 4). Population *Bn-525* × *Br-118* also demonstrated the maximum genetic advance value i.e.

27.68. Iqbal *et al.* (2014) also reported high heritability for all F₂₋₃ introgressed population of Brassica. Similar results were reported by Khan *et al.* (2008) and Bradshaw & Wilson (1998) who found high heritability values for GSL content in inter specific Brassica populations and *B. napus* genotypes respectively whereas Schierholt & Becker (2001) observed low heritability for GSL in winter oil seed rape.

Most of the F_{2-3} populations under study exhibited high heritability estimates for oleic acid content. The highest heritability for oleic acid was displayed by F_{2-3} family $Bn-514 \times Bj-109$ (0.97), followed by $Bn-510 \times Bj-109$ (0.96). In contrast to these results, Iqbal *et al.* (2014) reported moderate to low heritability values for same populations in two F_2 families i.e. $Bn-514 \times Bj-109$ (0.62) and $Bn-510 \times Bj-109$ (0.34). Moderate heritability was evinced for F_{2-3} family $Bn-532 \times Bj-109$ (0.68) while the lowest for $Bn-533 \times Br-118$ (Table 5). The lowest Broad sense heritability shows that this character is highly influenced by environment and selection for this trait may not be more beneficial. In comparison to the present study, Khan *et al.* (2008) and Schierlot & Becker (2001) also realized high heritability for this trait. F_{2-3} family $Bn-533 \times Br-118$ gave the highest (4.93) genetic advance value in comparison to other families. High genetic advance shows that character is governed by additive genes and selection for improvement is more effective for such characters.

Most of the F_{2-3} families showed high heritability assessments for linolenic acid composition, however medium and low heritability values were also observed. Among F_{2-3} families heritability values ranged from 0.90 ($Bn-547 \times Br-118$, $Bn-510 \times Bj-109$) to 0.12 ($Bn-525 \times Br-118$) (Table 5). In consistency to the results of high heritability in this study, Schierholt & Becker (2001) and Khan *et al.* (2008) reported high heritability estimates while Sidra *et al.* (2014) found low to medium values for linolenic acid percentage in F_2 populations. The highest genetic gain was observed for $Bn-532 \times Br-118$ and $Bn-547 \times Br-118$ with values of 2.67 and 2.27, respectively.

Heritability estimates for erucic acid varied from 0.97 ($Bn-547 \times Br-118$) to 0.31 ($Bn-532 \times Bj-109$). The maximum genetic gain (23.03) for erucic acid was also recorded for F_{2-3} family $Bn-547 \times Br-118$ (Table 5). Khan *et al.* (2008), Chauhan & Tyagi (2002) and Iqbal *et al.* (2014) reported high heritability estimates for erucic acid. High heritability with high genetic gain reveals rewarding selection for improvement.

Table 5. Variance, heritability estimates and genetic advance for various seed quality traits of parental lines and F_{2-3} families.

Genotypes	Oleic acid (% of fatty acid)			Linolenic acid (% of fatty acid)			Erucic acid (% of fatty acid)		
	Variance	h^2	GA	Variance	h^2	GA	Variance	h^2	GA
Parents									
<i>Bn-525</i>	0.93	--	--	0.8	--	--	0.28	--	--
<i>Br-118</i>	6.03	--	--	0.08	--	--	27.36	--	--
<i>Bn-547</i>	0.42	--	--	0.12	--	--	2.35	--	--
<i>Bn-532</i>	44.3	--	--	1.48	--	--	39.92	--	--
<i>Bj-109</i>	0.63	--	--	0.56	--	--	21.57	--	--
<i>Bn-533</i>	8.09	--	--	0.34	--	--	24.32	--	--
<i>Bn-510</i>	0.36	--	--	0.03	--	--	1.13	--	--
<i>Bn-514</i>	7.63	--	--	0.68	--	--	26.71	--	--
<i>Bn-531</i>	1.46	--	--	0.23	--	--	1.9	--	--
F_{2-3} families									
<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	16.83	0.85	4.93	2.26	0.88	1.86	34.7	0.91	7.58
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	12.69	0.87	4.35	3.25	0.9	2.27	286.56	0.97	23.03
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	16.65	0.68	3.89	1.71	0.46	0.85	33.95	0.13	1.1
<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	21.43	0.23	1.53	5.62	0.8	2.67	40.98	0.19	1.73
<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	9.83	0.94	4.15	1.13	0.76	1.13	15.47	0.54	2.97
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	8.19	0.14	0.58	0.73	0.28	0.34	220.9	0.88	18.38
<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	11.49	0.8	3.8	3.37	0.86	2.23	44.7	0.48	4.56
<i>Bn-510</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	12.16	0.96	4.68	1.4	0.9	1.5	18.124	0.72	4.33
<i>Bn-514</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	8.11	0.72	2.9	0.83	0.25	0.32	15.9	0.17	0.96
<i>Bn-531</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	19.12	0.84	5.17	0.49	0.12	0.12	15.39	0.53	2.91

h^2 = Heritability (BS), GA = Genetic Advance (% of mean)

Conclusions and recommendations

On the basis of results, F_{2-3} families $Bn-510 \times Bj-109$, $Bn-532 \times Br-118$ and $Bn-533 \times Bj-109$ are recommended to be used in further Breeding programs for progressing genotypes with high oil and high protein contents. Some of the genotypes within the F_{2-3} families $Bn-525 \times Br-118$ and $Bn-532 \times Br-118$ had low levels of GSL (as 28.6, 18.3 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1}$); F_{2-3} families $Bn-532 \times Bj-109$ and $Bn-525 \times Br-118$ had

genotypes with the lowest erucic acid percentage (as 24.8%, 29.1%). These individual genotypes may help in advancement of lines with low GSL and erucic acid. It is observed that on the basis of mean performance parental species are high in oil, protein content, erucic acid, glucosinolates and some other yield related traits in comparison to the successive generation but in the F_{2-3} families, such genotypes are present on the individual level that showed supreme performance than their parental lines.

Table 6. Introgressed segregates within F₂₋₃ families selected on the basis of superior performance for various seed quality traits.

Traits	F ₂₋₃ Families	F ₂₋₃ introgressed segregates
High Oil %	<i>Bn-252</i> × <i>Br-18</i>	34, 17, 19, 27, 16, 46, 48, 58
	<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	123, 130, 336, 335
	<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	208, 210, 209, 296, 299, 295
	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	260, 262, 265
High Protein %	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	135, 172, 151, 139, 150, 132, 133, 131, 165
	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	191, 192, 193, 189, 194
	<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	109, 90, 108, 77
Low GSL content (μ mol g ⁻¹)	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	178, 153, 187, 155, 183
	<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	206, 221, 209
	<i>Bn-533</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	250, 270
	<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	32, 34
	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	190, 264
Low Erucic acid %	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Bj-109</i>	153, 172, 187, 170, 165, 172
	<i>Bn-532</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	258, 251, 263, 198, 250
	<i>Bn-547</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	86
	<i>Bn-525</i> × <i>Br-118</i>	1, 32

Acknowledgments

The authors gratefully acknowledge the contribution of HEC project “Collection and characterization of indigenous *Brassica* of Pakistan” for providing plant materials to carry out this research.

References

- Agnihotri, A. and N. Kaushik. 1999. Genetic enhancement for double low characteristics in India rapeseed mustard. Proc. X Int'l. Rapeseed Congress. Canberra, Australia. pp. 26-29.
- Ali, I, H.M. Ahmed and S.A. Shah. 2013. Evaluation and selection of rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.) mutant lines for yield performance using augmented design. *J. Anim. Plant Sci.*, 23(4): 2013.
- Allard, R. 1964. Principles of plant Breeding. John Wiley and Sons. Inc. New York, London.
- Anderson, E. and L. HuBricht. 1938. The evidence for introgressive hybridization. *Am. J. Bot.* 25: 396-402.
- Aytac, Z. and G. Kinaci. 2009. Genetic variability and association studies of some quantitative characters in winter rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.). *Afric. J. Biotech.*, 8(15): 3547-3554.
- Bradshaw, J.E. and R.N. Wilson. 1998. In bred line versus F1 hybrid breeding in sweeds (*Brassica napus* L. var. *Napo brassica* Peterm). *Plant Breed.*, 113(3): 206-216.
- Chauhan, J.S. and M.K. Tyagi. 2002. Inheritance of erucic acid content in two crosses of Indian mustard (*B. juncea* L.). *SABRAO. J. Breed. Genet.*, 34(1): 19-26.
- Davis, J. 2011. Plant-based omega chewable supplement [Online]. Available: <http://www.google.com/patents/US20110044964>
- Laila, F., Farhatullah, S. Shah, S. Iqbal, M. Kanwal, and S. Ali. 2014. Genetic variability studies in *Brassica* F₂ populations developed through inter and intra-specific hybridization. *Pak. J. Bot.*, 46(1): 265-269.
- Ghimirary, T.S. and K.K. Sarkar. 2000. Estimations of genetic parameters for some quantitative traits in wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) grown in Terai soils of West Bengal. *Env. Eco.*, 18: 338-340.
- Ghosh, S.K. and S.C. Gulati. 2001. Genetic variability and association of yield components in Indian mustard. *Crop Res.*, 21(3): 345-349.
- Haq, T., J. Akhtar, A. Ali, M.M. Maqbool and M. Ibrahim. 2014. Evaluating the response of some canola (*Brassica napus* L.) cultivars to salinity stress at seedling stage. *Pak. J. Agri. Sci.*, 51: 571-579.
- Khan, F.A., S. Ali, A. Shakeel, A. Saeed and G. Abbas. 2006. Genetic variability and genetic advance analysis for some morphological traits in *Brassica napus* L. *J. Agric. Res.*, 44(2): 83-88.
- Khan, S., Farhatullah, I.H. Khalil, M.Y. Khan and N. Ali. 2008. Genetic variability, heritability and correlation for some quality traits in F₃₋₄ *Brassica* populations. *Sarhad J. Agri.*, 24(2): 223-231.
- Mahasi, M.J. and J.W. Kamundia. 2007. Cluster analysis in rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.). *Afr. J. Agric. Res.*, 2(9): 409-411.
- Mahmud, I. and H.H. Kramer. 1951. Segregation for yield, height and maturity, following a soybean cross. *Agron. J.*, 43: 605-609.
- Marjanovic, J.A., R. Marinkovic, S. Ivanovska, M. Jankulovska, A. Mijic and N. Hristov. 2011. Variability of yield determining components in winter rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.) and their correlation with seed yield. *Genetika.*, 43(1): 51-66.
- Adnan, N. and Farhatullah. 2013. Combining ability studies for biochemical traits in *Brassica rapa* (L.) ssp. *Dichotoma* (roxb.) Hanelt. *Pak. J. Bot.*, 45(6): 2125-2130.
- Rieseberg, L.H. and S.E. Carney. 1998. Plant Hybridisation. *Tansley Review* 102. *New Phytologist*, 140: 599-624.
- Saleem, M.Y., Q. Iqbal and M. Asghar. 2013. Genetic variability, character association and path analysis in F1 hybrids of tomato. *Pak. J. Agri. Sci.*, 50: 649-653.
- Schierholt, A. and H.C. Becker. 2001. Environmental variability and heritability of high oleic acid content in winter oilseed rape. *Plant Breed.*, 120(1): 63-66.
- Sidra, I., Farhatullah, A. Nasim, M. Kanwal and L. Fayyaz. 2014. Heritability studies for seed quality traits in introgressed segregating populations of *Brassica*. *Pak. J. Bot.*, 46(1): 239-243.
- Sidra, I., Farhatullah, S. Shah, M. Kanwal, L. Fayyaz and M. Afzal. 2014. Genetic variability and heritability studies in indigenous *Brassica rapa* accessions. *Pak. J. Bot.*, 46(2): 609-612.
- Simopoulos, A.P. 1991. Omega-3 fatty acids in health and disease and in growth and development¹⁻⁴. *Am. J. Clin. Nutr.*, 54: 483-59.
- Singh, A., R. Avtar, D. Singh, O. Sangwan and P. Balyan. 2013. Genetic variability, character association and path analysis for seed yield and component traits under two environments in Indian mustard. *J. Oilseeds Brassica*, 4(1): 43-48.
- Tunçtürk, M. and V. Çiftçi. 2007. Relationships between yield and some yield components in rapeseed (*Brassica napus* ssp. *Oleifera* L.) cultivars by using correlation and path analysis. *Pak. J. Bot.*, 39(1): 81-84.
- Zhang, G. and W. Zhou 2006. Genetic analysis of agronomic and seed quality traits in synthetic oilseed *Brassica napus* produced from interspecific Hybridization of *Brassica campestris* and *Brassica oleracea*. *J. Genet.*, 85: 45-51.