

EVALUATION OF SOME NEWLY INTRODUCED SUGAR BEET CULTIVARS UNDER EGYPTIAN NORTH-DELTA CONDITIONS:

I- YIELD AND YIELD COMPONENTS

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ABSTRACT

This work was carried out during 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons to evaluate fourteen imported sugar beet cultivars under the farm conditions of Abo Taha village, Belkas district, Dakahlia Governorate region (latitude 31°15' N) to determine their merit as possible candidates to be distributed to farmers. Seven of the evaluated cultivars, namely Henrike, BTS 899, Beretta, Lagon, Lp15, Lp16, and Avantage belonged to monogerm type while another group of seven cultivars, namely; Monte Bianco, Monte Baldo, Monte Rosa, Swallow, Top, Capel, and Floima belonged to multi-germ type.

The main findings of this work could be summarized as follows:

- 1- Root yield per feddan of mono-germ cultivars exceeded that of multigerms significantly, with an average value of 0.576 and 0.772 tons per feddan for the first and second seasons, respectively. However the differences recorded for most of the remained traits were insignificant.
- 2- The results indicated that, the monogerm cultivars Lp 16 and BTS 899 were the most promising ones under the experimental conditions with an average value of 39.081 and 37.998 tons/ feddan as the mean of both seasons, respectively. Moreover the multigerms Monte Bianco and Capel produced maximum root yield of this group with values of 38.675 and 37.940 tons/feddan as the mean of both seasons, respectively. In the two seasons. These values of Monte Bianco were statistically similar to the monogerm group .
- 3- The results indicated that, seed type of sugar beet cultivars had no significant effect on sugar recovery per feddan. While cultivars within each type significantly differed in both seasons. Moreover the three monogerm cultivars Lagon, Lp15, Lp16 and two multigerms Monte Bianco, Capel gave maximum yield from sugar recovery per feddan under the experimental conditions.
- 4- It could be recommended based on these findings that monogerm cultivars Lagon, Lp15, Lp16 and multigerms Monte Bianco as well as Capel cultivars can be distributed to farmers in the experimental site region for maximum sugar recovery per feddan.

INTRODUCTION

Sugar beet is the second major source for sugar production in Egypt. The Egyptian strategy adopts expanding beet farming and manufacturing as the main method to narrow the gap between sugar production and consumption. However, the whole farming system depends on importing

seed from abroad as the conditions prevailed in Egypt do not allow for seed production under the Egyptian condition. Thus it is essential to test and evaluate the cultivars that are imported before deciding on distributing it to farmers. One main factor is to determine whether the imported cultivars will perform well under the relatively warm weather of Egyptian terms of yield and quality. Works on evaluating beet cultivars are numerous all over the world.

Jassem (1982) reported that mono-germ sugar beet varieties had lower sugar beet content. He found that mono-germ varieties are higher yielding than multi-germ varieties.

Szklarz and wojcik (1983) evaluated some sugar beet varieties and showed that root yield was highest in Trimono (40.9 t/ha.) however leaf yield was greatest in PN Mono 2 variety (61.6 t/ha.). They added that sugar content of the roots ranged from 14.05% in PN mono 2 to 17.85% in Trimono. Similar differences were also reported by Tripathi *et al.* (1986) for root yield per hectare. Variation ranged from 39 to 70 tons in yield of root /ha.

Said (1993) noticed that Kawemira cultivar recorded the highest value of root fresh, root diameter and root length. Similar findings were reported for yield of root as compared with other cultivars.

Ahmed *et al.* (1998) concluded that Sibel cv. From Belgium and KWS Pak-492 from German origin gave almost similar and the highest average root yields (79.78 and 79.22 t/ha., respectively). Sibel, KWS Pak-492 and M9255 were superior in root yield and sugar yield, to the commercial variety Kaweterma and, thus, recommended for commercial cultivation.

Basha and gomaa (1994) stated that sugar beet cultivars differed in root weight/plant, and root yield/fed. Such variation was also reported by Hassanin (1999) as Kawemira cultivars outyielded Pleno in root and sugar yields.

Hassanin and Ramadan (1999) found that sugar beet varieties differed significantly in root length, diameter, and weight in both seasons. These findings are in harmony with the findings of Mokadem (1999) and Ramadan (1999).

Abou- salama and El-Syaid (2000) found significant differences among varieties as Gazelle produced maximum root yield (tons/fed.). However, maximum sugar yield (ton/fed.) was produced by Oscarpoly due to its high quality index values.

Saif (2000) stated four sugar beet varieties viz. Macropoly, M9680, M9681 and Mito. She found significant differences among varieties in root fresh weight, sucrose, purity and root yield.

Jarvis *et al.* (2001) tested that two sugar beet varieties (Erect and Prostrate) were used to determine potential differences in yield. Variation in growth habit was not significant and yield differences among varieties were merely attributed to their response to cultural conditions.

Ismail (2002) found that sugar beet varieties did not differ significantly in root length and diameter as well as sucrose and purity % in both seasons, while they varied significantly in root fresh weight (g/plant), root and sugar yield(ton/fed) in the 1st season only.

Abd El-Wahab *et al* (2005) showed that Top and Kawemira cvs. Recorded the highest root and sugar yields/fed. While Farida cv. in the first season and Kawemira in the second one gave the highest top yield/fed.

Ibrahim *et al.* (2005) found that Kawemira and Farida varieties used in their study produced the highest sugar yield ton/feddan (3.458 tons) for Farida and (2.899 tons) for Kawemira variety.

Osman (2005) found that sugar beet variety Kawemira surpassed the variety Pleno in leaf/root weight ratio, root diameter, root fresh weight, total soluble solids, sucrose and purity in both season.

Gaber *et al.* (2006) tested three sugar beet varieties (Samba, Gazille and Helious). The obtained data revealed that Gazelle variety surpassed the other varieties in root yield (27.75 ton/fed.) and sugar yield (4.46 ton/fed.)

Gewefel *et al.* (2006a) their results showed that Samba cv. Recorded the highest top, root and gross sugar yields/ha, while Demapoly cv. produced the highest purity .

Gewefel *et al.* (2006b) found that Baraca cv. Showed better adaptation to the prevailing environmental conditions in Egypt and gave the highest sugar yield/ha. However, Demapoly cultivar surpassed the other two cultivars in root and top yields.

Ahmed (2008) evaluated 12 sugar beet varieties for yield and its components. He found that Helma and Del 938 cultivars had the highest value of sucrose% and purity% and sugar yield (ton/fed.) without significant differences between them. However Univers, Kawemira, Monte Bianco and Del 937 varieties gave the highest values of root yield without significant differences between them.

This work was carried out to evaluate the performance of seven Mono-germ and seven Multi-germ sugar beet cultivars for their yield and its attributes under north Delta conditions. The work is part of the research thesis of the first author for PhD degree.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This work was carried out during 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons to evaluate fourteen imported sugar beet cultivar under the farm conditions of Abo Taha village, Belkas district, Dakahlia Governorate (latitude 31°15' N) to determine their merit as possible candidates to be distributed to farmers. The work is part of the research thesis of the first author for PhD degree. The tested multi-germ cultivars Monte Bianco, Monte Baldo, Monte Rosa, Swallow, and Top along with the mono-germ cultivars Henrike, BTS 899, and Beretta are imported from Germany. In addition, the multi-germ cultivars Capel, and Floima along with the mono-germ cultivars LP15, LP16, Avantage, and Lagon were imported from France. All cultivars were hand sown on October 20th and 25th in 2008 and 2009 seasons and maintained according to the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture. Harvest took place on May 22nd and 29th of 2009 and 2010 for the two seasons, respectively

The experimental design was a Randomized Completely block design with six replication in both seasons. The seed type comprising two

treatments that were then nested to contain seven cultivars within each type. Planting took place on ridges 50 cm wide and 3.5 meters long at a distance of 20 cm between hills. The cultivars were sown in six replicates experiment in plots 1/400 of feddan (10.5 m²). Soil analysis of the experimental site is shown in Table 1.

Seedlings were thinned at the four leaf stage to one plant per hill.. Calcium super phosphate was added at the rate of 15 kg P₂O₅/ feddan during soil preparation. Potassium fertilization was added in the form of potassium sulfate 48% at a rate of 24 kg K₂O / feddan after thinning. Nitrogen was applied in the form of urea at a rate of 80kg / feddan added in two equal doses after thinning and one month later. At harvest four guarded ridges for every plot were taken to determine the yield and yield attributes and then random sample of ten plants was taken from each plot to determine the following measurements.:

- 1-Root fresh weight (kg/plant).
- 2-Top fresh weight (kg/plant).
- 3-Root diameter (cm).
- 4- Root yield (ton/fed.).
- 5-Top yield(ton/fed.).

A sample of 10 kg roots was collected from each plot and shipped to the quality laboratory of the Dakahlia Sugar Company to determine the quality parameters. Quality traits; i.e. Pol % (sucrose %), Potassium, Sodium and Alpha amino nitrogen (meq/100g) were measured according to Reinfield *et al.* (1974). These traits were used to calculate the following parameters that were used to estimate gross and recoverable sugar yield (ton/ feddan) as follows:

$$\text{Quality index} = 100 [100 - (D/\text{Pol})]$$

Where, D = 0.343 (k+Na) + 0.094 (α -amino N) + 0.29

Sugar loss % = 0.343 (K +Na) + 0.094 (α -amino N) - 0.31

Theoretical sugar recovery % = Pol – (0.029 + 0.343 (K + Na) + 0.094 α -amino N).

Where, pol, K and Na refer to sucrose %, potassium and sodium in(meq/100 g beet), respectively.

Table 1: Mean values of some physical and chemical properties of the experimental site.

Variable	Value
Physical analysis	
Sand %	24.8
Silt %	32.8
Clay %	42.4
Texture class	Clay
Chemical analysis	
Soil reaction pH	7.8
EC (mmohs/cm)	4
Available N ppm	182.0
Available P ppm	6.79
Available K ppm	358.0
Na+ (meq/L)	27.21
K+ (meq/L)	0.19

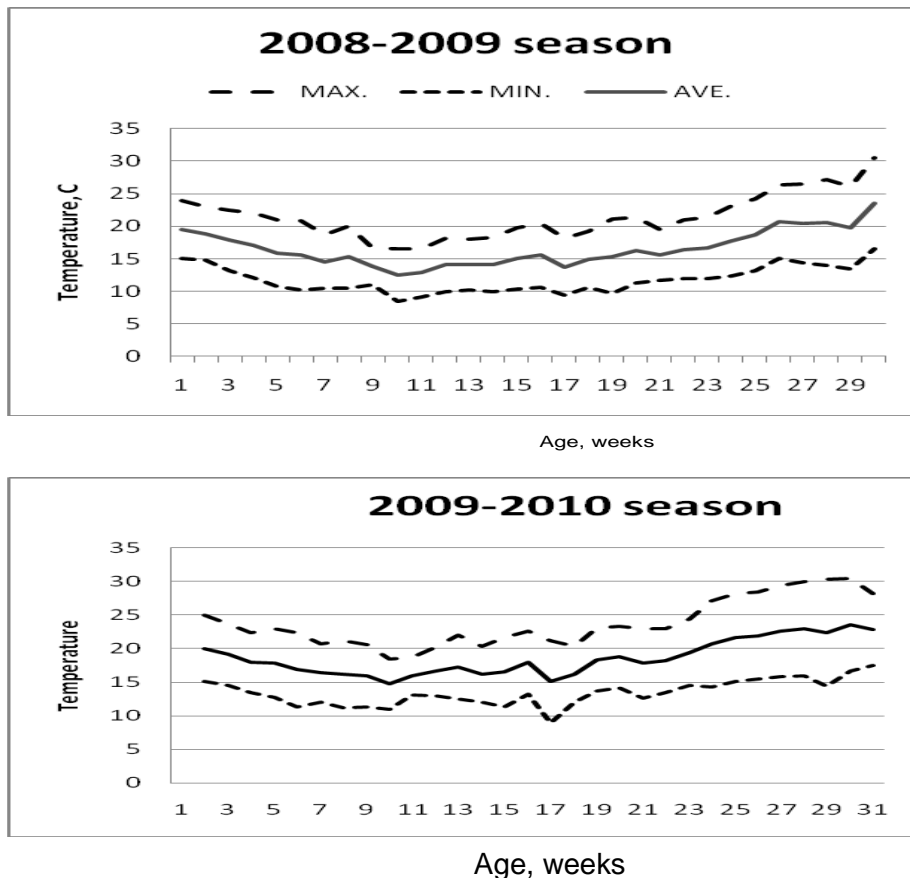


Fig. 1: Minimum, maximum and average weekly temperature recorded during the two experimental seasons.

The collected data were subjected to statistical analysis. The model used separated the SS of the fourteen cultivars into contrasts of seed type, the tested each seed type to calculate the SS of mono- or multi- cultivars within its group. Significant means were compared using LSD at 5% probability level according to Gomez and Gomez (1984).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data in Table 2 represent the means of major plant characteristics for the two seasons. It indicates that cultivars' differences were highly significant in both seasons, for all traits except for top fresh weight in the first season. However, seed type showed insignificant response in terms of all traits in both seasons except for root fresh weight (first season) and root/top ratio in the second season.

In addition, cultivars differences within multigerm type were significant except for top fresh weight in the first season. Similar trend was observed within the mono-germ group with the exception for top fresh weight of both seasons. Similar conclusions were reported by Mokadem (1999), Abou-Salama and El-Said (2000), Saif (2000), Ismail (2002), Osman (2005), and Geweifel *et al.* (2006a)

Over the two experimental seasons, the first season recorded values were less than that of second season in terms of root and top weights. This could be attributed to the differences recorded in temperature of both season. The early growth stage in the first season temperature was relatively lower than that of the second season. Warm temperature is known to enhance root and top growth particularly in the early stage of seedling establishment. Means comparisons indicates that, over all cultivars, the cultivar Lp16 (monogerm) recorded the highest root fresh weight in both seasons. These findings are similar to those of Ramadan (1999), Abou-Salama and El-Said (2000), Saif (2000), Ismail (2002), Osman (2005), Abd El-wahab *et al.* (2005), Gaber *et al.* (2006) and Ahmed (2008). Several other cultivars showed statistically similar weights. However, the ones with high stability for both seasons from the mono-germ group were Lp15 and BTS 899. In addition, Monte Bianco and Capel showed stable response in the multi-germ group. When root diameter is taken into account, it is clear that the cultivars that recorded the highest root weight maintained their superiority by attaining maximum values of root diameter as found in table 2. As for top weight, it is evident that the cool first season had similar effect on all cultivar as the response was insignificant. However, the warm temperature of the second season induced top growth for several cultivars in the second season with Bretta (mono-germ) recording the highest top weight.

Table 3 represents the yield parameters of the two experimental seasons in addition to the quality index calculated from all quality traits. As root yield is mainly controlled by individual root weight, the data indicated that the maximum values recorded were obtained from Lp16 and BTS 899 (both Mono-germ) in addition to Monte Bianco and Capel cultivars (multigerm) in both season. These pre-mentioned cultivars also produced high values of top yield per feddan. However, several other cultivars also produced statistically similar values of top yield but failed to produce high root yield per feddan such as Lp15 cultivars (monogerm) and Top cultivar (multigerm). These differences in response could be attributed to the genetic makeup of the cultivars that controls assimilate distribution within the plants.

Results in Table 3 showed that Quality index data shown in table 3 reveal that the cool weather in first season could be accounted for high values of quality index for all cultivars.

As for the gross and recoverable sugar yields, it is clear that the cool weather in the first season affected the overall response of all cultivars. The values recorded in the first season for these traits were higher than the next one. This is logic since cool weather tends to reduce growth and enhance sugar accumulation at the end of the season. Most of the examined cultivars produced statistically similar high values for gross and recoverable sugar yield in the first season with only three cultivars falling behind.

However, in the second season, only Lp16 and Monte Bianco maintained such superiority for gross sugar yield. Furthermore, the most stable cultivars in term of recoverable sugar yield that maintain its high values in the two seasons were the mono-germ cultivars namely; Lagon, Lp15 and Lp 16. The cultivar Lp16 in particular, maintained its high recoverable sugar yield as a result of its high root yield rather than quality index. On the other hand, the cultivar Monte Bianco lost its superiority in the second season mainly due to its low quality index value. Such findings were also found by Abou-Salama and El-Said (2000), Saif (2000), Osman (2005), Geweifel *et al.* (2006a), and Ahmed (2008).

This work suggests that the three cultivars Lagon, Lp15 and Lp 16(monogerm) and Monte bianco, Capel (multigerm) could be evaluated under different environments for stability before recommending them for cultivation.

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تقييم بعض اصناف بنجر السسكر المستوردة حديثا تحت ظروف شمال الدلتا المصرية:

1- المحصول و مكوناته

توفيق نصر القماش¹ ، محمد محمد عبد القادر¹ ، مصطفى عبدالجواد فرج² ، المهدي عبد المطلب طعيمة³ ، و عادل مصطفى ابوسلامه³

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نفذ هذا البحث لتقييم اربعة عشر صنف بنجر سكر مستورد تحت الظروف الحقلية لمنطقة بلقاس لتحديد جدواها من حيث احتمالات التوسع في زراعتها بالمنطقة. نفذ البحث خلال موسمي 2009-2008 و 2009-2010 بقرية أبو طه مركز بلقاس محافظة الدقهلية (خط عرض 31 درجة 15 دقيقة شمالا). قيمت سبعة اصناف من مجموعته وحيدة الاجنة هي Henrike, BTS (خط عرض 31 درجة 15 دقيقة شمالا). قيمت سبعة اصناف من مجموعته وحيدة الاجنة هي Henrike, BTS, 899, Beretta, Lagon, LP15, LP16, and Avantage Monte Bianco, Monte Baldo, Monte Rosa , هي تنتمي للمجموعة متعددة الاجنة و هي Swallow, Top, Capel, and Floima. زرعت جميع الاصناف يدويا في 20 و 25 اكتوبر 2008 و 2009 على التوالي واستخدم تصميم القطاعات الكاملة العشوائية في ست. و كانت اهم النتائج كما يلي:

- 1- تفوق محصول الجذور للفدان لمجموعة الأصناف وحيدة الأجنة عن مجموعة الأصناف عديدة الاجنة بفارق متوسط قدره 0.576 و 0.772 طن للفدان للموسمين الاول و الثاني على التوالي. ولم تسجل فروق معنوية بين لمجموعتي البذور للصفات الأخرى.
- 2- اختلفت الأصناف فيما بينها بالنسبة لمحصول الجذور داخل كل مجموعة. وكان أفضل الأصناف بالنسبة للمجموعة وحيدة الجنين هما الصنفين LP16 و 899 BTS فقد أعطت 39.081 و 37.998 طن/فدان من الجذور كمتوسط موسمين على التوالي. بينما تفوق الصنفين Monte Bianco و Capel عن مجموعة الأصناف عديدة الجنين وقد أعطت 38.675 و 37.940 طن/فدان كمتوسط للموسمين على التوالي .
- 3- فيما يخص السكر المستخلص للفدان فقد تماثل أداء معظم الاصناف في الموسم الاول. الا أن ثلاثة أصناف وحيدة الاجنة وهي Lagon, Lp15, Lp16 تفوقت في الموسم الثاني بناتج سكر قابل للاستخلاص يتراوح من 5.688 إلى 5.303 طن سكر للفدان.
- 4- يمكن التوصية بناء على النتائج و تحت ظروف منطقة الاختبار بتوزيع الاصناف وحيدة الأجنة Lagon و Lp15 و Lp16 و الأصناف Monte bianco و Capel من مجموعة الأصناف عديدة الجنين على الزراع للحصول على أفضل ناتج من الجذور والسكر القابل للاستخلاص من الفدان.

قام بتحكيم البحث

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Table 2: Means of plant characteristics at harvest (gm/plant) of fourteen sugar beet cultivars during both 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons.

Seed type	Cultivars	Root fresh wt., kg			Top fresh wt., kg			Root/ top ratio			Root diameter, cm		
		2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean
Multi-germ	M.bianco	1.192	1.220	1.206	0.400	0.421	0.411	3.00	2.91	2.96	11.95	12.15	12.05
	M.baldo	1.151	1.186	1.169	0.387	0.408	0.398	2.98	2.75	2.87	11.52	11.78	11.65
	M.rosa	0.998	1.110	1.054	0.384	0.395	0.390	2.62	3.03	2.83	10.72	11.09	10.91
	Swallow	1.112	1.156	1.134	0.366	0.422	0.394	3.05	2.67	2.86	11.46	11.64	11.55
	Top	1.143	1.171	1.157	0.410	0.440	0.425	2.81	2.67	2.74	11.76	11.83	11.80
	Capel	1.188	1.213	1.201	0.393	0.426	0.410	3.03	2.85	2.94	11.82	12.02	11.92
	Floima	1.160	1.189	1.175	0.371	0.394	0.383	3.16	3.02	3.09	11.60	11.75	11.68
	Mean	1.135	1.178	1.156	0.387	0.415	0.401	2.950	2.843	2.896	11.547	11.751	11.65
Mono-germ	Henrike	1.103	1.121	1.112	0.415	0.354	0.385	2.67	3.28	2.98	11.12	11.26	11.19
	BTS 899	1.190	1.201	1.196	0.403	0.423	0.413	2.96	2.96	2.96	11.72	11.82	11.77
	Beretta	1.162	1.174	1.168	0.380	0.451	0.416	3.08	2.62	2.85	11.57	11.67	11.62
	Lagon	1.156	1.172	1.164	0.375	0.375	0.375	3.09	3.13	3.11	11.50	11.68	11.59
	Lp15	1.181	1.198	1.190	0.392	0.410	0.401	3.02	2.95	2.99	11.62	11.95	11.79
	Lp16	1.204	1.237	1.221	0.402	0.435	0.419	3.00	2.76	2.88	12.11	12.34	12.23
	Avantage	1.170	1.189	1.180	0.392	0.376	0.384	2.98	3.20	3.09	11.66	11.93	11.80
	Mean	1.167	1.185	1.176	0.394	0.403	0.399	2.971	2.986	2.979	11.614	11.807	11.71
Grand mean		1.151	1.181	1.166	0.391	0.409	0.400	2.961	2.914	2.938	11.581	11.779	11.68

LSD. 0.05

Seed type

Cultivars within multi

Cultivars within mono

Among cultivars

**

Ns

Ns

Ns

Ns

**

Ns

Ns

**0.049

**0.374

Ns

**0.038

*0.247

**0.271

*0.550

**0.483

**0.049

**0.374

Ns

Ns

**0.247

*0.271

**0.550

**0.483

**0.049

**0.374

Ns

**0.038

**0.247

**0.271

**0.550

**0.483

Table 3: Yield parameters of fourteen sugar beet cultivars (ton/fed.) in 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons.

Seed type	Cultivars	Root yield			Top yield			Gross sugar yield			Quality index			Recoverable sugar yield		
		2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean	2008 -2009	2009-2010	Mean
Multi-germ	M.bianco	37.936	39.414	38.675	12.696	12.984	12.840	6.247	6.080	6.164	80.522	78.569	79.546	5.442	5.219	5.331
	M.baldo	35.609	36.686	36.148	11.972	12.212	12.092	6.163	5.932	6.048	83.285	81.434	82.360	5.514	5.234	5.374
	M.rosa	28.459	30.588	29.524	10.964	11.145	11.055	5.156	5.014	5.085	84.918	82.627	83.773	4.662	4.466	4.564
	Swallow	33.764	34.786	34.275	11.122	11.500	11.311	6.246	5.632	5.939	84.695	81.758	83.227	5.632	4.987	5.310
	Top	34.895	35.663	35.279	12.507	12.449	12.478	6.183	5.936	6.060	83.405	81.865	82.635	5.530	5.245	5.388
	Capel	37.618	38.262	37.940	12.444	12.619	12.532	6.487	5.983	6.235	81.882	79.879	80.881	5.721	5.194	5.458
	Floima	36.025	37.001	36.513	11.509	12.128	11.819	5.979	5.840	5.910	82.124	80.842	81.483	5.288	5.118	5.203
	Mean	34.901	36.057	35.479	11.888	12.148	12.018	6.066	5.774	5.920	82.976	80.996	81.986	5.398	5.066	5.232
Mono-germ	Henrike	29.521	30.416	29.969	11.102	11.314	11.208	5.187	4.998	5.093	84.829	82.061	83.445	4.695	4.429	4.562
	BTS 899	37.351	38.644	37.998	12.639	12.848	12.744	6.080	6.049	6.065	80.558	79.419	79.989	5.303	5.229	5.266
	Beretta	35.716	37.415	36.566	11.662	11.921	11.792	6.177	5.886	6.032	82.924	80.909	81.917	5.492	5.167	5.330
	Lagon	35.800	37.184	36.492	11.609	11.903	11.756	6.203	6.005	6.104	83.433	81.768	82.601	5.551	5.303	5.427
	Lp15	36.180	37.439	36.810	12.013	12.533	12.273	6.278	6.051	6.165	83.637	81.988	82.813	5.634	5.363	5.499
	Lp16	38.443	39.719	39.081	12.834	13.128	12.981	6.461	6.448	6.455	81.732	80.812	81.272	5.688	5.633	5.661
	Avantage	35.326	36.988	36.157	11.854	12.104	11.979	6.158	5.897	6.028	84.346	81.962	83.154	5.549	5.221	5.385
	Mean	35.477	36.829	36.153	11.959	12.250	12.105	6.078	5.905	5.991	83.066	81.274	82.170	5.416	5.192	5.304
Grand mean		35.189	36.443	35.816	11.923	12.199	12.061	6.072	5.839	5.956	83.021	81.135	82.078	5.416	5.129	5.268

LSD. 0.05

Seed type

Cultivars within multi

Cultivars within mono

Among cultivars

*	*	Ns	Ns	Ns	Ns	Ns	Ns	Ns	Ns
**1.258	**1.1764	*0.994	**0.814	**0.425	**0.357	**1.1688	*1.658	**0.427	**0.346
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