

## Original Research Article

### CLUSTER ANALYSIS OF RICE (*Oryza sativa* L.) MUTANT LINES OF USING MORPHOLOGICAL PARAMETERS

**Comment [L1]:** This "OF" should be deleted to make the title better. The title can be better read as follows: "CLUSTER ANALYSIS OF RICE (*Oryza sativa* L.) MUTANT LINES USING MORPHOLOGICAL PARAMETERS"

#### Abstract

Mutation breeding has been used to develop numerous crop varieties in recent decades. This study describes the scope for using gamma irradiation to create genetic variation in indicarice cultivar, Rajendra Mahsuri 1, using analysis of morphological traits to identify candidate mutants. The M<sub>3</sub> mutant lines were screened using 11 morphological traits. Morphological analyses showed that maturation time ranged between 105 and 135 days and height ranged from 45 to 160 cm which showed that there was enough variation to create promising mutant lines for breeding programs. The results were obtained using morphological analysis and have considerable potential for detecting useful mutants.

**Comment [L2]:** The word "were" should be added to make the sentence more sensible; to read as follows: "The results were obtained using morphological analysis and have considerable potential for detecting useful mutants"

Keywords: Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.), Mutation breeding, morphological analysis

#### Introduction

**Comment [L3]:** Excellent introduction

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) belongs to the family Graminae and is the staple food source for one third of the world's population. After wheat, rice is the second largest source of calories in the human diet and provides approximately 20% of the total calories consumed worldwide. It is a particularly important food source in Asia and provides more than two billion people with 60-70% of their daily energy requirements (FAO, 2021). Since the 1960s, several collections of mutant lines from different species have been isolated and successfully used in many different areas of plant biology and crop breeding (Domingo et al., 2007; Fu et al., 2008). Of the more than 2700 mutant varieties that have been released worldwide, 64% were created through exposure to gamma rays, 22% through exposure to x-rays and the rest by other mutagenic treatments (Ahloowalia et al., 2004; Shu and Lagoda, 2007). Gamma ( $\gamma$ ) rays are physical mutagens; gamma irradiation has proven to be a useful method for introducing new trait variations that may result in crop improvement and can be used as a complementary tool in plant breeding (Babaei et al., 2010). Induced rice mutants have been useful research tools for genetic and physiological assessments of yield-limiting factors in rice. Mutants have made it possible to identify critical elements for developing high yield potential varieties exhibiting desirable traits such as semi-dwarfism, early maturity, a greater number of panicles/plant and increased fertility. By 2003, 440 mutant rice varieties had been developed. Of these, 264 were produced by the direct application of mutagens and 176 were created by cross-breeding with induced mutants

**Comment [L4]:** Maintain space to read " gamma rays"

(Shehata et al., 2009). Mutants were traditionally identified on the basis of their morphological properties. Breeders therefore often adopt germplasm selection criteria that emphasize the importance of genetic diversity (Agrama and Eizenga 2008; Kiula et al., 2008; Agrama et al., 2009).

The main objective of the study described in this paper was to use morphological trait analysis to evaluate the level of genetic variation induced by gamma irradiation in the M3 populations of ten mutant lines.}}

**Comment [L5]:** This section has been generally well explained

## Materials and methods

### Plant material and mutagenic treatment

Rice seeds (*Oryza sativa* L.) were exposed to dose of  $\gamma$  radiation of 450 Gy at 13% moisture using a Co60 source at the Department of Bhaba AtomicNuclear Research Institute, Mumbai. The duration of the gamma irradiation treatment was between 0.5 and 2 hours, depending on the  $\gamma$ ray dose. The radiated seeds were grown through to the M1, M2 and M3 generations during 2014, 2015 and 2016.

**Comment [L6]:** This should better be split into two separate parts  
a.Plant material  
b.Mutagenic Treatment of the Seeds  
As suggested below the highlighted text

#### Plant material

Rice seeds (*Oryza sativa* L.) of ten mutant lines obtained from Mumbai were used in this study. These plant materials were collected from Mumbai before exposing them to radiation. {Talk about how many mutant lines were there, few description of those lines, source of such lines, any other information related to the lines }

#### Mutagenic Treatment of the Seeds

The rice seedswere exposed to dose of  $\gamma$  radiation of 450 Gy at 13% moisture using a Co60 source at the Department of Bhaba AtomicNuclear Research Institute, Mumbai. The duration of the gamma irradiation treatment was between 0.5 and 2 hours, depending on the  $\gamma$ ray dose. The radiated seeds were grown through to the M1, M2 and M3 generations during 2014, 2015 and 2016.

#### Morphological study}}

**Comment [L7]:** This section is okay..

Treated seeds, were planted in a seed nursery and then transferred to a paddy field after 28 days. The morphological characteristics of the M3 generation plants were measured and recorded; the specific traits measured were the plants' heights (cm), Total number tiller per plant, Spikelt fertility, number of grain per panicle, yield per plant,number of fertile tillers, percentage of sterile panicles, panicle length (cm), number of spikelets per panicle, 1000 grain weight (gr), yield per plant (gr), stem color and the condition of the seed awn.

**Comment [L8]:** Observe the spelling

**Comment [L9]:** 1000 gwt

#### Data analysis

Variation in the morphological traits of the M3 population was analyzed using a randomized complete block design (RCBD) with three replicates and mean separation by the least significant difference (LSD) method (Yazdi Samadi et al., 2008). Results obtained by Analysis clustering using the NTSyPc ver.17 software package.

**Comment [L10]:** Use capital letters "Randomised Complete Block Design"

**Comment [L11]:** The word "were" should be added to read as follows: "Results were obtained by Analysis clustering using the NTS y Pc ver.17 software package"

## Results and Discussion

### Morphological analysis

Cluster analysis of the M3 cultivar indicated significant differences in plant height between the different  $\gamma$ ray doses relative to the control. A similar result was obtained for the proportion of unfilled seeds in the panicle and the yield per plant at the and also for total number of tillers, 1000-grain weight and the number of fertile tillers. No significant differences were found in the panicle length or the number of filled seeds per panicle between any of the gamma doses. (Cheema and Atta, 2003; Domingo et al., 2007; Shereen et al., 2009)

**Comment [L12]:** Although the study is focussing on Cluster Analysis, an ANOVA Table of results of these traits with a small discussion would make the paper even better. Readers would appreciate to see grain yield of these mutant rice lines; e.t.c. Anyhow this is just a suggestion.

**Comment [L13]:** These words "At the and" make the sentence not clear somehow

### Divergence analysis

The divergence study revealed significant differences among genotypes for eleven characters indicating presence of an acceptable amount of genetic variability. Assessment of clusters revealed that clusters were heterogeneous within themselves and between each other based on major character relations. The results cleared that the inter cluster distance in most treatments were larger than intra cluster distance suggesting wider diversity among the mutant of different groups (Shereen et al., 2009; Babaei 2010; Shehata et al. 2009). These genotypes were grouped into five clusters, displaying cluster V with maximum number of genotypes (6 genotypes) accounting for 60.00 per cent of total genotypes followed by cluster I, II, III and IV (1 genotypes) offering 10 per cent of total genotypes monogenic as given in Figure 1. The inter cluster distances were more than intra cluster distance stating wide genetic diversity among lentil genotypes. The highest intra-cluster distance among genotypes from these clusters could be exploited as parental mutant lines in rice breeding programmes owing to their mean performance within their group (Luzi-Kihupi et al. 2009).



## Conclusion and Recommendations

**Comment [L16]:** Kindly guide the readers that they have reached the end of the paper by writing the conclusion. Also, indicate recommendations made after conducting this study, any gaps that can be filled from a follow-up study to this one (if any). How fundamental was this study; e.t.c.

## Reference

**Comment [L17]:** This section is okay, especially appreciating the fact that recent publications have been quoted

Shereen A, Ansari R, Mumtaz S, Bughio HR, Mujtaba SM, Shirazi MU, Khan MA (2009) Impact of gamma irradiation induced changes on growth and physiological responses of rice under saline conditions. *Pak J Bot* 41(5): 2487-2495.

Luzi-Kihupi A, Zakayo JA, Tusekelege H, Mkuya M, Kibanda N, Khatib KJ, Maerere A (2009) Mutation breeding for rice improvement in Tanzania. *FAO, Rome Book*.

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Yazdi Samadi B, Rezaei A, Valyzadeh M (2008) Statistical designs in agricultural research, University of Tehran Press

Rohlf FJ (1998) *NTSYSpc: Numerical taxonomy and multivariate analysis system, Version 2.02*. Exeter Software, NY, USA.

**Comment [L18]:** More recent publication is better

Fu HW, Li YF, Shu QY (2008) A revisit of mutation induction by gamma rays in rice: implications of microsatellite markers for quality control. *Mol Breeding J* 22(2): 281-288

Ahloowalia, BS, Maluszynski M, Nichterlein K (2004) Global impact of mutation-derived varieties. *Euphytica* 135: 187-204

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Kiula BA, Lyimo NG, Botha AM (2008) Association between AFLP-based genetic distance and hybrid performance in tropical maize. *Plant Breeding J* 127: 140144

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