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## Performance of different varieties of chrysanthemum under Prayagraj agro-climatic conditions

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### Abstract

An experiment was carried out in the Department of Horticulture, Naini Agricultural Institute, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj, from November, 2023 to March, 2024. The experiment was conducted in Randomized Block Design (RBD) with fifteen varieties, replicated thrice. It was reported that it is concluded that From the present investigation, it is concluded that variety SHYMAL was found to be best in terms of plant height and plant number of leaves, number of flowers per plant, duration of flowering and vase life of the flowers days taken to first bud initiation, numbers of flowers per hectare, Gross returns, net returns and benefit-cost ratio (2.66) were found to be best in SHYMAL.

**Keywords:** Chrysanthemum, evolution Shyamal, Arka Pratham, flowering, growth

### Introduction

The name chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum*) is derived from the Greek *chryos* meaning gold and *anthon* meaning flower. Early depictions of chrysanthemums show them as small, yellow, daisy-like flowers. Chrysanthemums are herbaceous flowering plants with densely packed cluster of small individual flowers called florets. Florets are of two types; disc florets are found in the center of the flower head and are botanically perfect. They are the reproductive part of the plant that forms seeds. However, ray florets are on the perimeter of the plant and are imperfect. These are the showy parts of the plant which helps in attracting pollinators by their beautiful colours.

Chrysanthemums belong to the Asteraceae or daisy family. It is one of the largest families in the botanical world. The basic chromosome number of chrysanthemum is 9, while  $2n$  ranges from 36 to 75 though most of them are hexaploid. It is the national flower of Japan. It is commonly called as “Queen of the East”, (Koley and Sarkar, 2013) <sup>[14]</sup> “Autumn Queen”, “Guldaudi” in India and “Mum” in America. In evolutionary terms, it is considered one of the more advanced families because of its complex flower structure. Members of this family include chrysanthemums, asters (*Aster*), coneflowers (*Echinacea*) and zinnias (*Zinnia*). The Asteraceae family was formerly known as the Compositae or composite family. In many ways the old nomenclature presents us with a better visualization of the family. While members of the Asteraceae family often look like one large flower, the flower head is in fact a composite of many tiny flowers.

Chrysanthemums have a history that is as colorful as the flowers themselves. First cultivated centuries ago in China, the chrysanthemum was used primarily as a culinary herb. Its petals and young shoots found their way to the table in salads; its flowers and leaves were taken and brewed into teas. The flower is used on the Emperor’s official seal and crest, and the highest level of decoration that can be awarded to an individual for distinguished service to the nation is the Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum. The Japanese have a National Chrysanthemum Day, the Festival of Happiness, which is one of five ancient festival days in the country. Kiku is the Japanese word for chrysanthemum. The chrysanthemum was introduced into European culture in the 17th century. Some European countries gave the flower a markedly different meaning, adopting it as a symbol of death, using it for funerals and graves.

The world produced 10.4 million tonnes of chrysanthemums in 2020. Japan was the leading producer, with 3.1 million tonnes. China was the second largest producer, with 2.6 million tonnes. The Netherlands was the third largest producer, with 1.2 million tonnes. Italy was the fourth largest producer, with 0.8 million tonnes. Colombia was the fifth largest producer, with 0.7 million tonnes. India produced 40,000 tonnes of chrysanthemums in 2020. Tamil Nadu was the leading producer, with 18,000 tonnes. Karnataka was the second largest producer, with 10,000 tonnes. Maharashtra was the third largest producer, with 6,000 tonnes. Andhra Pradesh was the fourth largest producer, with 4,000 tonnes. Kerala was the fifth largest producer, with 2,000 tonnes. In different states of India, it is grown with different names, Guldaudi in Hindi belt, Chandramalika in the eastern states, Samanti in the southern states and Shevanti in the western states of India.

### Experimental Detail

The trial was laid out in a Randomized block design with fifteen varieties replicated thrice. Spacing 1 m x 1m. Fifteen different varieties used Priscilla, joska, Dhanvantari, Phule Neel Rekha, Souvik Biscuit, Pusa Suhagin, Chandni, Arka Amar, Arka Pratham, Smoky Lady, Arka Tilak, Panibica Beauty, Arka Naveen, Manhattan, Snow Board Corm are procured, DFR, Pune College of Agriculture Campus, Narveer Tanaji Wadi, Shivajinagar, Pune, Maharashtra 411005

### Observation details

Number of days to sprouting, Plant height, Chrysanthemum as cut flowers or long-stem are used for bouquets, vases, etc. (Prakash *et al.*, 2018) [21]. In North India, various hues of red, yellow, white, and purple chrysanthemums are abundant for decorating the landscape in the ground or pots. To produce cut and loose flowers is possible in high density planting which can fulfil the demand of the market. However, the research work on this aspect in chrysanthemum is lacking.

### Results and Discussions

#### Vegetative Parameter

**Plant Height:** 90 days after planting, significantly taller plants (60.04) were recorded in variety V<sub>4</sub> (SHYMAL) followed by variety V<sub>5</sub> (Kalvin Victory, 26.16 cm) whereas shorter plants were recorded in variety V<sub>2</sub> (Yellow Lillput, 10.91 cm).

Plant height is a genetic character of every species and cultivar variation in plant height of different varieties may be attributed to the fact that this genetic character varied from variety to variety. Similar findings in variation in plant height were obtained by Dorajeerao and Mokashi (2013) [7] and Mali *et al.* (2016) [17] in variety of chrysanthemum cm).

**A. Number of leaves:** 90 days after planting, significantly more no. of leaves (110.89) were recorded in variety V<sub>4</sub> (SHYMAL) followed by variety V<sub>10</sub> (PINK JEKR, 101.89) whereas less no. of leaves were recorded in variety V<sub>6</sub> (NAYAN TARA, 62.44).

Difference in number of leaves in different varieties might be due to the different genetic makeup of the varieties and their adaptability to the existing environmental conditions. The findings of the present investigation are in conformity with the reports of Treder (2008) [28] in Oriental lily;

Lalmuanpui *et al.* (2021) [29] in gerbera; Balan *et al.* (2020) [30] in tuberose; Khan *et al.* (2020) [31] in Chrysanthemum.

**Plant Spread:** 60 days after planting, significantly more plant spread (22.6) were recorded in variety V<sub>4</sub> (SHYMAL) followed by variety V<sub>5</sub> (Kalvin Victory, 13.1) whereas lesser plant spread were recorded in variety V<sub>2</sub> (Yellow Lillput, 11.1).

The different in plant spread among the different variety may be due the genetic makeup and development of primary and secondary branches under the existing environment condition giving them different plant spread. Similar results were obtained by Joshi *et al.* (2016) [10] in annual chrysanthemum and Pratibha *et al.* (2018) [22] in French marigold environmental conditions. The findings of the present investigation are in conformity with the reports of Gupta *et al.* (2018) [21, 22] in marigold; Balan *et al.* (2020) [30] in gladiolus; Singh *et al.* (2010) [16] in Chrysanthemum.

Table 1: Vegetative Parameters

Notation	Variety	Plant height (cm)	Number of leaves	Plant Spread
V <sub>1</sub>	Priscilla	11.06	72.22	18.1
V <sub>2</sub>	Joshika	10.91	81.44	14.7
V <sub>3</sub>	Dhanvantari	21.79	66.11	19.1
V <sub>4</sub>	Phule Neel Rekha	60.04	110.89	22.8
V <sub>5</sub>	Souvik Biscuits	26.16	66.00	18.2
V <sub>6</sub>	Pusa Suhagin	23.65	62.44	17.1
V <sub>7</sub>	Chandani	21.98	72.44	20.2
V <sub>8</sub>	Arka Amar	19.68	67.11	16.3
V <sub>9</sub>	Arka Pratham	21.12	68.12	17.3
V <sub>10</sub>	Smoky Lady	23.08	101.89	16.8
	F-TEST	S	S	S
	SE(d)±	4.32	6.28	1.12
	C D <sub>0.05</sub>	2.16	365.93	2.35
	C.V.	7.04	10.50	7.60

#### Floral Parameter

**Number of days taken to first flower bud appearance:** Significantly, minimum days (25 days) taken to first bud appearance was recorded in the variety V<sub>3</sub> (SHYMAL), followed by variety V<sub>2</sub> (PINK JEKR, 29 days) whereas, the maximum were recorded (Yellow Lillput, 48 days).

Earliness in the commencement of bud initiation in closer spacing might be ascribed to the fact that individual plants grown at the closer spacing produced less vegetative growth and might have entered their reproductive phase earlier due to more competition among the plants for nutrients, moisture, sunlight, etc. Similar findings were reported by Subramanyam (1991) [32] in chrysanthemum cv. Kasturi and Kale (2007) [12] and Kour (2009) [15] in chrysanthemum. On the contrary, Joshi *et al.* (2016) [10] in annual chrysanthemum recorded earliness in the commencement of flowering at wider spacing.

#### Number of days taken to first flowering after planting

Significantly, minimum days (49 days) taken to first flowering was recorded in the variety V<sub>3</sub> (SHYMAL), followed by variety V<sub>2</sub> (PINK JEKR, 51 days) whereas, the maximum were recorded (YELLOW LILLPUT, 67 days).

Earliness in the commencement of first flowering in closer spacing might be ascribed to the fact that individual plants grown at the closer spacing produced less vegetative growth and might have entered their reproductive phase earlier due to more competition among the plants for nutrients, moisture, sunlight, etc. Similar findings were reported by

Subramanyam (1991) [32] in chrysanthemum cv. Kasturi and Kale (2007) [12] and Kour (2009) [15] in chrysanthemum. On the contrary, Joshi *et al.* (2016) [10] in annual chrysanthemum recorded earliness in the commencement of flowering.

**Flower Diameter (mm):** Significantly, bigger floret diameter (43.67 mm) was recorded in the variety V6 (NAYAN TARA), followed by variety V8 (WOLVERIM, 37.7) whereas, the less number of spike recorded in V10 (WOLVERIM, 15.5).

The differences in floret diameter varieties may be attributed to the fact that this genetic character varied from variety to variety. The variation in floret diameter might be due to the retarded growth of the plants, low temperature and low light intensity in winter as reported earlier by Gill and Atwal (1976) [33].

**Stalk Length:** Significantly longer stalk (12.67 cm) was recorded in variety V4 (SHYMAL) followed by hybrid V5 (Kalvin Victory, 10.40 cm) whereas the shorter stalk length was recorded in the variety V3 (Yellow Lillput, 7.4 cm).

**Table 2:** Floral and quality parameter of different variety of gladiolus

Notation	Variety	Number of days taken to first flower bud appearance	Number of days taken to first flowering after planting	Flower Diameter (mm)	Stalk length of different cultivars of chrysanthemum
V <sub>1</sub>	Priscilla	32	50	20.36	7.8
V <sub>2</sub>	Joshika	48	67	23.26	6.23
V <sub>3</sub>	Dhanvantari	32	51	29.14	7.4
V <sub>4</sub>	Phule Neel Rekha	29	49	21.67	12.67
V <sub>5</sub>	Souvik Biscuits	30	52	27.43	10.40
V <sub>6</sub>	Pusa Suhagin	45	63	43.67	8.47
V <sub>7</sub>	Chandani	36	57	19.71	8.63
V <sub>8</sub>	Arka Amar	30	52	37.77	10.03
V <sub>9</sub>	Arka Pratham	35	55	17.8	7.9
V <sub>10</sub>	Smoky Lady	31	56	15.5	10.77
	F-TEST	S	S	S	S
	SE(d)±	2.83	0.979	0.14	0.39
	C D <sub>0.05</sub>	1.42	2.016	6.26	1.75
	C.V.	5.15	1.229	9.26	11.28

### Yield parameter

#### Number of flower per plant

Significantly, more number of flower per plant (44.93) was recorded in the variety V4 (SHYMAL), followed by variety V7 (TOUCH DOWN, 37.29) whereas, the less number of flower per plant recorded in V10 (PINK JEKR, 15.75).

The result indicated that highly significant difference among different cultivars with respect to flower produced per plant being genetically controlled factor, variation occurred due to the hereditary traits of different cultivar under prevailing environment. The result are in spikes per plant is in accordance with Dorajeeroo *et al.* (2012) [6] and Khobragade *et al.* (2012) [13] in chrysanthemum.

#### Individual Flower weight(g)

Significantly, higher flower weight (3.5 g) was recorded in the variety V4 (SHYMAL), followed by variety V7 (TOUCH DOWN, 2.5) whereas, the lesser flower weight recorded in V10 (PINK JEKR, 0.5).

**Flower yield (t/ha) -** Significantly, more number of flower yield per hectare (8.21 t) was recorded in the variety V4 (SHYMAL), followed by variety V7 (TOUCH DOWN, 7.53 t) whereas, the less number of spike per hectare recorded in V3 (King's Ramsian, 1.23).

The higher yield might be due to increased morphological characters *viz.* plant height, a greater number of leaves which help in the production of more photosynthesis resulting in greater accumulation of dry matter which related to the production of a greater number of spikes per hectare. Similar results were also found by Singh *et al.* (2010) [16]

### Conclusion

From the present investigation, it is concluded that variety

SHYMAL was found to be best in terms of plant height and plant number of leaves, number of flowers per plant, duration of flowering and vase life of the flowers days taken to first bud initiation, numbers of flowers per hectare, Gross returns, net returns and benefit-cost ratio (2.66) were found to be best in SHYMAL

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