

Studies on relative heterosis, heterobeltiosis and standard heterosis on fruit yield and its attributes in ridge gourd (*Luffa acutangula* Roxb. L.)

P. Karthik Reddy, V. Chaitanya and R.V.S.K. Reddy

Received December 2, 2013 and Accepted January 23, 2014

ABSTRACT : Nine parental lines and their 18 F₁ hybrids of ridge gourd obtained from line x tester design were studied to investigate the extent of heterosis, heterobeltiosis and standard heterosis over two commercial checks for yield and its contributing traits. The standard heterosis was mostly positive for fruit characters and fruit yield while, it was negative for days to first pistillate flower appearance, node of first pistillate flower appearance, days to 50 % flowering in most of the hybrid combinations. The four F₁ hybrids viz., RGP-26 x Pusa Nasdar, LA-31 x Pusa Nasdar, RG-152 x Pusa Nasdar and LA-30 x Jaipur Long exhibited appreciable standard heterosis for yield, which may be exploited for commercial cultivation.

Key Words: F₁ hybrid, heterosis, ridge gourd.