

EVALUATION OF GROUNDNUT (Arachis hypogaea L.) GENOTYPES FOR YIELD, YIELD ATTRIBUTES AND WATER USE EFFICIENCY RELATED TRAITS

S. DIVYA SREE*, B. RUPESH KUMAR REDDY, M. SHANTHI PRIYA AND A.R. NIRMAL KUMAR

Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, S.V. Agricultural College, ANGRAU, Tirupati-517502.

Date of Receipt: 23-11-2022 ABSTRACT Date of Acceptance: 18-02-2023

Thirty-six groundnut genotypes were grown during *Rabi*, 2021-2022 in order to evaluate the performance of elite genotypes of groundnut for 14 characters. The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with three replications. Analysis of variance showed that mean sum of squares due to genotypes was highly significant for all characters studied. For pod yield plant⁻¹; the genotypes TCGS-2223, TCGS-2040, TCGS-2039, TCGS-2230, TCGS-2055, TCGS-2317, TCGS-2278, TCGS-2233 and TCGS-2052 showned improved performance. TCGS-2223 exhibited better performance for all the characters studied except for the trait plant height. TCGS-2053 outperformed all the other genotypes in terms of pod yield plant⁻¹.

KEYWORDS: Genotypes, RBD, Pod yield, Plant height.

INTRODUCTION

Cultivated groundnut or peanut (Arachis hypogaea L.) is an annual self pollinated legume crop with chromosome number of 2n = 4x = 40. It is the only legume crop in which pods are formed inside the soil. It belongs to the family fabaceae. It is native to South America, grown throughout the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world between the latitudes of 40° N to 40° S.

It is an important oilseed crop known for its several purposes including edible oil production, direct human consumption as food and for animal consumption in the form of silage, hay and oilcake. It is a rich source of high quality oil (44-56%), protein (22-30%) on dry seed basis, carbohydrates (10-25%), vitamins (E and B complex), minerals (Ca, P, Mg, Zn and Fe) and fiber. Being a legume it adds nitrogen and organic matter to soil.

It is grown as a sole crop, intercrop or mixed crop (Rao *et al.* 1990; Ghosh *et al.* 2004). With its multiple uses; groundnut is now a great cash crop for both local and international trade in a number of emerging and developed nations.

Globally, it is cultivated in an area of 29.92 Mha with annual production of 55.30 Mt and productivity of 1851 kg ha⁻¹ (FAOSTAT, 2021). In India, groundnut covers an area of 6.09 Mha with a production of 10.21 Mt and productivity of 1676 kg ha⁻¹. In Andhra Pradesh, it is cultivated in an area of 0.87 Mha with a production of 0.78 Mt and productivity of 894 kg ha⁻¹ (Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 2021).

Mainly groundnut is cultivated as a rainfed crop but is also grown as irrigated crop. During *rabi* season, due to the depletion of ground water resources, water shortage is usual during the crop period. Hence, there is a need to find out Water Use Efficiency (WUE) genotypes in groundnut. WUE is an important trait which contributes to productivity when there are limited water resources. The productivity of the crop can be enhanced by identifying the genotypes that utilise the scarce resources of water more efficiently (Arunkumar *et al.*, 2017).

WUE in groundnut is correlated with the specific leaf area (SLA) and SPAD Chlorophyll Meter Reading (SCMR). SCMR and SLA can be utilised as surrogate traits to choose genotypes with high WUE (Sab *et al.* 2018). These physiological traits will greatly aid us in bringing genetic improvements for WUE in groundnut genotype improvement ultimately leading to the evolution of better genotypes adapted to drought conditions, when used as selection criteria in breeding programmes or in the selection of efficient genotypes.

Considering the above factors, the research was undertaken to study the *per-se* performance for yield, yield attributes and water use efficiency related traits in 36 genotypes of groundnut.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design (RBD) with three replications and 36 genotypes of groundnut were evaluated at dry land farm of S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati, during *rabi*, 2021-2022. The data was recorded on fourteen traits *viz.*, days to 50%

^{*}Corresponding author, E-mail: somisettydivyasree8@gmail.com

flowering, days to maturity, plant height (cm), number of primary branches plant¹, number of secondary branches plant¹, kernel yield plant¹ (g), hundred kernel weight (g), shelling per cent, sound mature kernel per cent, harvest index (%), SPAD Chlorophyll Meter Reading at 60 DAS, Specific Leaf Area at 60 DAS (cm² gm⁻¹), Relative Water Content (%) and pod yield plant¹ (g). The data was analyzed through software – INDOSTAT.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The phenotypic variation manifested by the genotype has two components namely genotypic and environmental. Analysis of variance among 14 characters revealed significant differences among the means of all the genotypes. Thus, it indicated considerable scope for selection of high yielding and genotypes with more yield and water use efficiency. The differences can be attributed to variations present in the genotypes as well as the environmental factors.

Mean performance of genotypes for different yield, yield attributes and water use efficiency related traits

1. Days to 50 % flowering

The mean number of days to 50% flowering ranged from 22.00 days (TCGS-2233) to 31.33 days (TCGS-2044). When compared to the average, nineteen genotypes reached blooming early (26.60 days). As a result, these genotypes can be used as donor parents in the hybridization programme to develop short duration genotypes.

2. Days to maturity

The mean number of days to maturity ranged from 101.67 (TCGS-2233) to 112.00 days (TCGS-2052). Twenty one genotypes reached maturity sooner than the average of 106.25 days. In order to develop short duration genotypes, these genotypes can be used in the hybridization programme as donor parents.

3. Plant height (cm)

With a general mean of 35.41 cm, the mean values for plant height ranged from 25.67 cm (TCGS-2051) to 45.97 cm (TCGS-2052). Eighteen genotypes showed better *per se* performance than the average (35.41 cm).

4. Number of primary branches plant¹

Number of primary branches plant⁻¹ count ranged from 3.87 (TCGS-2230) to 8.82 (TCGS-2053). Fifteen genotypes recorded more number of primary branches plant⁻¹ than the average of 5.26.

5. Number of secondary branches plant¹

Number of secondary branches plant⁻¹ were between 0.20 (TCGS-2068 and Narayani) and 2.73 (TCGS-2229). Nineteen genotypes recorded more secondary branches plant⁻¹ than the average of 1.50.

6. Kernel yield plant⁻¹(g)

Kernel yield plant¹ mean varied from 7.74 g (Greeshma) to 15.36 g TCGS-2053 and twenty genotypes showed higher yields than general mean of 10.93 g.

7. Hundred kernel weight (g)

The mean values for hundred kernel weight ranged from 40.67 g (TCGS-2068) to 66.40 g. (TCGS-1798). Sixteen genotypes recorded hundred kernel weights greater than the average of 50.40 g.

8. Shelling per cent

Nineteen genotypes had higher shelling per cent than the overall mean of 71.73%, with mean values for shelling per cent ranging from 57.26% (TCGS-2230) to 79.87% (TCGS-2235).

9. Sound mature kernel (%)

With an overall mean value of 51.00%, the mean values for this character ranged from 34.03% (Tirupati-4) to 72.17% (Rohini). Seventeen genotypes registered sound mature kernel percentages that were higher than the average of 51.00%.

10. Harvest index (%)

Nineteen genotypes recorded higher harvest indices than the average of 51.17%. The genotype means varied from 24.95% (TCGS-2044) to 71.45% (TCGS-2053).

11. SPAD chlorophyll meter reading (SCMR) at 60 DAS

With a general mean of 47.55, the mean values for the SPAD chlorophyll meter reading (SCMR) at 60 DAS ranged from 43.30 (K-6) to 50.77 (TCGS-2223). Eighteen genotypes obtained higher SPAD chlorophyll readings than the average of 47.55.

12. Specific leaf area at 60 DAS (SLA) (cm² g⁻¹)

The mean values of specific leaf area at 60 DAS from 119.22 cm 2 g $^{-1}$ (TCGS-1798) to 265.35 cm 2 g $^{-1}$ (TCGS-2068) and seventeen genotypes showed lower specific leaf area than their overall mean of 207.55 cm 2 g $^{-1}$.

13. Relative water content (%)

The mean percentages of relative water content ranged from 69.24% (TCGS-2060) to 92.53% (TCGS-

Table 1. Analysis of variance for yield, yield attributes and water use efficiency (WUE) related traits in 36 genotypes of groundnut

		I	Mean sum of squares	
S. No.	Characters	Replications (df: 2)	Genotypes (df: 35)	Error (df : 70)
1.	Days to 50% flowering	2.815	14.701**	2.710
2.	Days to maturity	1.861	18.198**	1.680
3.	Plant height (cm)	1.685	56.210**	4.728
4.	Number of primary branches plant ⁻¹	0.328	3.831**	0.109
5.	Number of secondary branches plant ⁻¹	0.180	1.659**	0.069
9.	Kernel yield plant-1 (g)	0.108	9.454**	0.476
7.	Hundred kernel weight (g)	39.433	73.824**	24.466
<u>«</u>	Shelling per cent (%)	1.757	157.744**	17.271
9.	Sound mature kernel (%)	112.236	270.267**	84.253
10.	Harvest index (%)	64.824	367.870**	67.886
11.	SPAD chlorophyll meter reading at 60 DAS	1.629	11.539**	4.670
12.	Specific leaf area at 60 DAS (cm ² gm ⁻¹)	259.032	3595.106**	407.379
13.	Relative water content (%)	32.903	54.532**	23.053
14.	Pod yield plant ⁻¹ (g)	0.285	19.792**	0.923

** Significant at 1% level

Cont...

Table 2. Per se performance for yield, yield attributes and water use efficiency (WUE) related traits in 36 genotypes of groundnut

23.67 105.33 38.87 6.63 2.20 8.29 56.13 58.01 52.60 57.26 29.00 107.33 35.93 5.73 0.53 8.18 66.40 69.37 38.97 32.00 26.00 105.00 34.40 4.43 2.53 11.54 42.93 77.84 54.17 55.55 30.00 111.00 29.70 4.50 2.13 9.17 52.43 49.30 55.08 26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.63 26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.63 26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 14.01 11.07 56.81 67.41 55.73 58.01 27.33 107.67 25.67 7.57 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.32 28.33 106.67 34.11	Genotypes	DFF	DM	ЬН	NPB	NSB	KYP	HKW	SP	SMK	H	SCMR	SLA	RWC	PYP
29,00 107,33 35,93 5.73 0.53 8.18 66.40 69,37 38.97 32.00 26,00 105,00 34.40 4.43 2.53 11.54 42.93 77.84 54.17 55.55 30,00 111.00 29.70 4.50 2.13 9.17 52.47 74.34 49.30 55.08 26,33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.08 26,33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.08 26,33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.91 55.73 45.03 55.08 31,33 111.00 41.40 5.00 12.0 9.64 43.47 58.76 60.93 58.83 30,00 111.67 38.83 5.03 12.21 12.01 57.31 42.43 58.93 20,00 10.67 12.21 12.21	TCGS-1694	23.67	105.33	38.87	6.63	2.20	8.29	56.13	58.01	52.60	57.26	44.47	225.78	82.06	14.28
26.00 105.00 34.40 44.3 2.53 11.54 42.93 77.84 54.17 55.55 30.00 111.00 29.70 4.50 2.13 9.17 52.47 74.34 49.30 55.08 26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.08 26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.07 56.87 71.04 60.03 45.08 26.33 107.03 33.10 6.85 1.40 11.07 56.87 77.19 60.93 55.88 30.00 111.00 41.40 5.00 1.20 96.97 56.73 49.97 56.89 49.90 58.93 49.93 56.89 28.33 107.67 25.67 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.93 24.93 58.93 24.93 58.93 24.93 58.93 24.93 58.93 59.93 59.73 58.93 59.93 </th <th>TCGS-1798</th> <th>29.00</th> <th>107.33</th> <th>35.93</th> <th>5.73</th> <th>0.53</th> <th>8.18</th> <th>66.40</th> <th>69.37</th> <th>38.97</th> <th>32.00</th> <th>47.27</th> <th>119.22</th> <th>80.08</th> <th>11.78</th>	TCGS-1798	29.00	107.33	35.93	5.73	0.53	8.18	66.40	69.37	38.97	32.00	47.27	119.22	80.08	11.78
30.00 111.00 29.70 4.50 2.13 9.17 52.47 74.34 49.30 55.08 26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.63 26.33 107.03 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.63 27.33 107.33 30.53 6.45 1.40 11.07 56.87 67.41 55.73 58.81 30.00 111.67 38.83 5.03 0.27 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.67 65.73 28.33 112.00 41.40 5.00 1.20 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.93 58.32 28.33 10.467 35.71 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 49.43 58.32 28.40 10.467 34.11 8.82 0.80 15.36 50.13 53.76 62.84 28.60 10.657 34.11 11.27	TCGS-2004	26.00	105.00	34.40	4.43	2.53	11.54	42.93	77.84	54.17	55.55	46.77	236.47	87.67	14.82
26.33 107.00 34.60 5.80 2.40 11.99 53.93 71.04 60.03 45.63 26.33 105.33 33.10 6.87 2.40 11.07 56.87 67.41 55.73 58.80 27.33 107.33 30.53 6.45 1.40 11.07 56.87 67.41 55.73 58.01 30.00 111.00 41.40 5.00 1.20 9.62 56.13 79.29 56.33 24.98 30.00 111.67 38.83 5.03 0.27 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.67 60.71 28.33 107.67 25.67 7.57 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.32 27.33 104.67 34.11 8.82 0.80 10.44 44.87 63.60 63.80 71.45 28.00 106.67 35.27 12.72 10.27 57.80 63.60 63.80 71.45 28.01 106.67 35.27	TCGS-2038	30.00	111.00	29.70	4.50	2.13	9.17	52.47	74.34	49.30	55.08	45.60	256.67	81.54	12.33
26.33 105.33 33.10 6.87 2.40 14.31 49.47 73.19 60.93 62.88 27.33 107.33 30.53 6.45 1.40 11.07 56.87 67.41 55.73 58.01 31.33 107.03 30.53 6.45 1.40 11.07 50.00 120 9.62 56.13 79.29 56.53 24.95 30.00 111.67 38.83 5.03 0.27 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.67 60.71 28.33 111.00 41.40 5.00 1.20 9.62 56.13 79.29 56.53 24.95 28.30 111.67 38.83 5.03 0.20 1.20 40.07 41.40 60.71 41.48 58.32 24.95 27.33 104.67 34.11 8.82 0.80 15.36 40.17 57.33 51.73 51.73 28.00 105.33 4.57 1.27 10.27 57.80 78.36 44.62	TCGS-2039	26.33	107.00	34.60	5.80	2.40	11.99	53.93	71.04	60.03	45.63	48.47	218.43	85.56	16.88
27.33 107.33 30.53 6.45 1.40 11.07 56.87 67.41 55.73 58.01 31.33 111.00 41.40 5.00 1.20 9.62 56.13 79.29 56.53 24.95 30.00 111.07 38.83 5.03 0.27 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.67 60.71 28.33 107.67 25.67 7.57 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.32 27.33 107.67 34.11 8.82 0.80 10.43 44.87 63.46 41.40 62.84 27.00 107.33 33.33 4.52 1.47 12.31 44.87 63.60 63.80 71.45 28.00 107.33 36.17 4.57 12.2 10.27 57.80 76.20 63.80 71.45 28.07 108.67 36.7 4.57 12.2 10.27 57.80 71.3 46.29 28.07 108.67 33.20	TCGS-2040	26.33	105.33	33.10	6.87	2.40	14.31	49.47	73.19	60.93	62.88	48.63	176.30	83.48	19.55
31.33 111.00 41.40 5.00 1.20 9.62 56.13 79.29 56.53 24.95 30.00 111.67 38.83 5.03 0.27 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.67 60.71 28.33 107.67 25.67 7.57 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.32 30.33 112.00 45.97 7.08 0.80 10.43 44.87 63.46 41.40 62.84 27.00 107.33 34.31 4.52 1.47 12.31 48.53 70.17 57.33 11.45 28.00 107.33 33.33 4.52 1.47 12.31 48.53 70.17 57.33 11.45 28.00 107.33 36.17 4.57 1.20 12.25 70.17 57.33 51.73 28.67 108.67 37.07 4.67 1.20 12.25 50.53 78.46 39.47 57.06 25.33 105.03 33.20	TCGS-2041	27.33	107.33	30.53	6.45	1.40	11.07	56.87	67.41	55.73	58.01	49.27	194.93	84.40	16.41
30.00 111.67 38.83 5.03 0.27 8.09 43.47 58.56 37.67 60.71 28.33 107.67 25.67 7.57 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.32 30.33 112.00 45.97 7.08 0.80 10.43 44.87 63.46 41.40 62.84 27.33 112.00 45.97 7.08 0.80 15.36 50.13 63.60 63.80 71.45 27.00 107.33 33.33 4.52 1.47 12.31 48.53 70.17 57.33 71.75 28.00 105.67 36.17 4.57 1.27 10.27 57.80 60.37 71.73 28.07 108.67 37.07 4.67 12.0 12.25 50.53 78.36 65.03 46.29 25.09 104.67 33.20 43.9 12.25 80.47 57.06 57.06 25.33 105.00 33.27 43.54 52.60	TCGS-2044	31.33	111.00	41.40	5.00	1.20	9.62	56.13	79.29	56.53	24.95	49.67	203.86	81.64	12.13
28.33 107.67 25.67 7.57 1.27 12.05 49.00 75.13 42.43 58.32 30.33 112.00 45.97 7.08 0.80 10.43 44.87 63.46 41.40 62.84 27.33 112.00 45.97 7.08 0.80 10.43 64.87 63.46 41.40 62.84 27.33 104.67 34.11 8.82 0.80 15.36 50.13 63.60 63.80 71.45 28.00 107.63 36.17 4.57 1.27 10.27 57.80 76.20 60.37 31.73 28.00 108.67 36.71 4.67 1.20 12.25 50.53 78.36 57.03 46.29 28.67 108.67 4.67 1.20 12.25 50.53 78.36 57.03 46.29 25.33 105.30 33.20 4.39 0.20 8.94 40.67 69.67 41.13 57.60 24.33 105.00 33.65	TCGS-2049	30.00	111.67	38.83	5.03	0.27	8.09	43.47	58.56	37.67	60.71	45.77	229.07	89.23	13.81
30.33112.0045.977.080.8010.4344.8763.4641.4062.8427.33104.6734.118.820.8015.3650.1363.6063.8071.4527.00107.3333.334.521.4712.3148.5370.1757.3351.7328.00105.6736.174.571.2710.2757.8076.2060.3733.1228.67108.6737.074.571.2012.2550.5378.3656.0346.2925.33105.3330.874.300.208.9440.6769.6741.1357.6025.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7422.00101.6736.474.071.8011.5148.9367.2269.7927.33106.6738.005.9720.7712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2051	28.33	107.67	25.67	7.57	1.27	12.05	49.00	75.13	42.43	58.32	46.43	233.62	79.55	16.04
27.33104.6734.118.820.8015.3650.1363.6063.8071.4527.00107.3333.334.521.4712.3148.5370.1757.3351.7328.00105.6736.174.571.2710.2757.8076.2060.3733.1228.67108.6737.074.6712.012.2550.5378.3655.0346.2925.33105.3330.874.300.208.9440.6769.6741.1357.6025.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.0033.274.331.5310.0252.6078.3743.9743.0924.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0425.67106.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7422.00101.6736.474.0718.011.5148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2052	30.33	112.00	45.97	7.08	0.80	10.43	44.87	63.46	41.40	62.84	50.33	241.22	78.29	16.43
27.00107.3333.334.521.4712.3148.5370.1757.3351.7328.00105.6736.174.571.2710.2757.8076.2060.3733.1228.67108.6737.074.671.2012.2550.5378.3655.0346.2925.33105.0330.874.300.208.9440.6769.6741.1357.6025.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.0033.274.3311.5310.0252.6078.4856.9366.0424.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0425.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.4710.0050.8057.2649.2069.7922.00101.6736.474.0711.8148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2053	27.33	104.67	34.11	8.82	0.80	15.36	50.13	63.60	63.80	71.45	49.50	217.65	84.25	24.14
28.00105.6736.174.571.2710.2757.8076.2060.3733.1228.67108.6737.074.671.2012.2550.5378.3655.0346.2925.33105.3330.874.300.208.9440.6769.6741.1357.6025.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.0033.274.331.5310.0252.6078.3743.9743.0924.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7425.67107.3336.404.232.4710.0050.8057.2649.2069.7922.00101.6736.474.071.8011.5148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2055	27.00	107.33	33.33	4.52	1.47	12.31	48.53	70.17	57.33	51.73	48.63	165.61	88.60	17.54
28.67108.6737.074.671.2012.2550.5378.3655.0346.2925.33105.3330.874.300.208.9440.6769.6741.1357.6025.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.0033.274.331.5310.0252.6078.4856.9366.0424.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.404.151.539.8453.8077.7538.4751.7425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7422.00101.6736.474.0718.8011.5148.9367.2550.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2057	28.00	105.67	36.17	4.57	1.27	10.27	57.80	76.20	60.37	33.12	49.80	227.47	82.04	13.48
25.33105.3330.874.300.208.9440.6769.6741.1357.6025.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.0033.274.331.5310.0252.6078.3743.9743.0924.33105.0736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7422.00101.6736.474.0718.011.5148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2060	28.67	108.67	37.07	4.67	1.20	12.25	50.53	78.36	55.03	46.29	48.73	210.58	69.24	15.63
25.00104.6733.205.332.209.9450.3364.4639.4757.0624.33105.0033.274.331.5310.0252.6078.3743.9743.0924.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7424.33103.6726.133.872.4710.0050.8057.2649.2069.7927.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2068	25.33	105.33	30.87	4.30	0.20	8.94	40.67	29.69	41.13	57.60	45.27	265.35	85.53	12.83
24.33105.0033.274.331.5310.0252.6078.4856.9366.0424.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7424.33103.6726.133.872.4710.0050.8057.2649.2069.7922.00101.6736.474.071.8011.5148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2217	25.00	104.67	33.20	5.33	2.20	9.94	50.33	64.46	39.47	57.06	50.40	242.60	92.53	15.41
24.33105.6736.206.622.0714.5452.6078.4856.9366.0426.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7424.33103.6726.133.872.4710.0050.8057.2649.2069.7922.00101.6736.474.071.8011.5148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2219	24.33	105.00	33.27	4.33	1.53	10.02	52.60	78.37	43.97	43.09	45.97	141.47	86.45	12.79
26.67106.3336.504.151.539.8453.8073.0744.3742.9425.67107.3336.404.232.738.7751.8077.7538.4751.7424.33103.6726.133.872.4710.0050.8057.2649.2069.7922.00101.6736.474.071.8011.5148.9367.2250.7751.1727.33106.6738.005.972.0712.1554.0779.8760.7034.26	TCGS-2223	24.33	105.67	36.20	6.62	2.07	14.54	52.60	78.48	56.93	66.04	50.77	167.12	86.58	18.52
25.67 107.33 36.40 4.23 2.73 8.77 51.80 77.75 38.47 51.74 1.75 38.47 51.74 51.74 1.77 38.47 51.74 1.77 38.47 51.74 1.80 11.51 48.93 67.25 49.20 69.79 69.79 1.77 1.80 11.51 48.93 67.22 50.77 51.17 4.77 1.80 12.15 54.07 79.87 60.70 34.26 4.26	TCGS-2227	26.67	106.33	36.50	4.15	1.53	9.84	53.80	73.07	44.37	42.94	49.60	198.94	84.61	13.46
24.33 103.67 26.13 3.87 2.47 10.00 50.80 57.26 49.20 69.79 40.20 69.79 40.20 60.70 51.17 40.20 50.77 51.17 40.20 51.17 40.20 51.17 40.20 51.17 40.20 51.17 40.20 51.17 40.20 51.21 51.21 51.21 51.21 51.20	TCGS-2229	25.67	107.33	36.40	4.23	2.73	8.77	51.80	77.75	38.47	51.74	43.83	202.06	90.54	11.28
22.00 101.67 36.47 4.07 1.80 11.51 48.93 67.22 50.77 51.17 27.33 106.67 38.00 5.97 2.07 12.15 54.07 79.87 60.70 34.26	TCGS-2230	24.33	103.67	26.13	3.87	2.47	10.00	50.80	57.26	49.20	66.79	48.53	226.22	85.23	17.46
27.33 106.67 38.00 5.97 2.07 12.15 54.07 79.87 60.70 34.26	TCGS-2233	22.00	101.67	36.47	4.07	1.80	11.51	48.93	67.22	50.77	51.17	46.80	217.82	86.29	17.11
	TCGS-2235	27.33	106.67	38.00	5.97	2.07	12.15	54.07	79.87	60.70	34.26	48.30	227.81	86.87	14.21
23.67 103.00 32.80 5.65 0.33 11.57 50.00 62.38 47.37 46.78	TCGS-2278	23.67	103.00	32.80	5.65	0.33	11.57	50.00	62.38	47.37	46.78	47.43	178.87	83.63	18.54

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Table 2. Cont...

Genotypes	DFF	DM	PH	NPB	NSB	KYP	HKW	SP	SMK	HI	SCMR	SLA	RWC	PYP
TCGS-2317	28.00	106.00	38.93	5.13	1.60	12.17	53.13	85.69	68.43	47.86	46.83	136.33	84.85	17.48
Dharani	24.00	105.33	33.71	4.78	2.47	11.36	49.07	71.69	52.93	47.09	47.97	192.16	86.30	15.85
Dheeraj	26.00	104.00	35.07	4.25	0.40	11.07	54.47	72.26	50.47	48.32	46.17	201.85	88.67	15.31
Greeshma	23.67	103.00	40.80	4.22	0.80	7.74	45.07	63.73	40.83	60.77	47.97	204.48	86.16	12.15
K-6	26.00	103.33	39.33	4.65	1.60	11.42	47.40	74.69	60.53	46.28	43.30	164.54	80.46	15.28
K-9	27.67	107.67	42.13	5.42	1.20	10.77	48.27	65.98	42.47	65.02	50.33	204.49	89.89	16.32
Narayani	24.67	104.00	32.78	5.27	0.20	11.56	44.53	75.39	45.67	49.98	47.30	233.02	84.24	15.33
Rohini	25.67	105.67	32.13	4.73	1.53	10.06	45.33	74.38	72.17	34.22	48.03	193.95	83.09	13.52
TAG-24	30.00	109.00	30.70	4.85	2.33	11.31	47.40	77.19	62.41	51.35	44.47	263.66	81.22	14.65
Tirupati-1	27.33	105.67	40.27	4.23	1.87	12.77	47.53	77.50	47.53	38.22	47.23	241.98	79.19	15.36
Tirupati-4	26.33	105.00	39.27	5.48	1.27	11.14	47.87	78.25	34.03	56.54	45.87	210.27	80.79	13.22
MEAN	26.60	106.25	35.41	5.26	1.50	10.93	50.40	71.73	51.00	51.17	47.55	207.55	84.19	15.32
MAX	31.33	112.00	45.97	8.87	2.73	15.36	66.40	79.87	72.17	71.45	50.77	265.35	92.53	24.14
MIN	22.00	101.67	25.67	3.87	0.20	7.74	40.67	57.26	34.03	24.95	43.30	119.22	69.24	11.28
C.V	6.19	1.22	6.14	6.29	17.55	6.31	9.81	5.79	18.00	16.10	4.55	9.72	5.70	6.27
SE(m)	0.94	0.74	1.24	0.19	0.15	0.39	2.82	2.37	5.23	4.69	1.23	11.49	2.73	0.55
SE(d)	1.34	1.06	1.78	0.27	0.21	0.56	4.04	3.40	7.49	6.73	1.76	16.47	3.92	0.78
C.D	2.68	2.11	3.54	0.54	0.45	1.12	8.05	6.77	14.95	13.42	3.52	32.87	7.82	1.56

DFF: Days to 50% flowering; DM: Days to maturity; PH: Plant height (cm); NPB: Number of primary branches plant¹; NSB: Number of secondary branches plant¹; KYP: Kernel yield plant¹ (g); HKW: Hundred kernel weight (g); SP: Shelling per cent (%); SMK: Sound mature kernel (%); HI: Harvest index (%); SCMR: SPAD chlorophyll meter reading at 60 DAS; SLA: Specific leaf area at 60 DAS (cm² gm⁻¹); RWC: Relative water content (%); PYP: Pod yield plant¹ (g)

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Table 3. List of top five genotypes based on per se performance in groundnut

$S. N_0$	S. No Characters	Genotypes
1.	Days to 50% flowering	TCGS-2233, Greeshma, TCGS-2278, TCGS-1694 and Dharani
7.	Days to maturity	TCGS-2233, Greeshma, TCGS-2278, TCGS-2230 and K6
3.	Plant height (cm)	TCGS-2051, TCGS-2230, TCGS-2038, TCGS-2041 and TAG-24
4	Number of primary branches plant ⁻¹	TCGS-2053, TCGS-2051, TCGS-2052, TCGS-1694 and TCGS-2223
5.	Number of secondary branches plant-1	TCGS-2229, TCGS-2004, TCGS-2230, Dharani and TCGS-2039
9	Kernel yield plant-1 (g)	TCGS-2053, TCGS-2223, TCGS-2040, Tirupati-1 and TCGS-2055
7.	Hundred kernel weight (g)	TCGS-1798, TCGS-2057, TCGS-2041, TCGS-2044 and TCGS-1694
%	Shelling per cent (%)	TCGS-2235, Tirupati-4, Tirupati-1, TCGS-2044 and TCGS-2223
9.	Sound mature kernel (%)	Rohini, TCGS-2317, TCGS-2053, TAG-24 and TCGS-2040
10.	Harvest index (%)	TCGS-2053, TCGS-2230, TCGS-2223, TCGS-2040 and TCGS-2052
11.	SPAD chlorophyll meter reading at 60 DAS	TCGS-2223, TCGS-2217, TCGS-2052, K9 and TCGS-2057
12.	Specific leaf area at 60 DAS (cm ² gm ⁻¹)	TCGS-1798, TCGS-2317, TCGS-2219, K6 and TCGS-2055
13.	Relative water content (%)	TCGS-2217, TCGS-2229, K9, TCGS-2049 and TCGS-2055
14.	Pod yield plant ⁻¹ (g)	TCGS-2053, TCGS-2040, TCGS-2278, TCGS-2223 and TCGS-2055

Table 4. Identification of promising genotypes for yield, yield attributes and water use efficiency (WUE) related traits in groundnut

S. No.	S. No. Genotypes	Characters
1.	TCGS-2223	DFF, DM, NPB, NSB, KYP, HKW, SP, SMK, HI, SCMR, SLA, RWC and PYP.
5.	TCGS-2040	DFF, DM, PH, NPB, NSB, KYP, SP, SMK, HI, SCMR, SLA and PYP.
3.	TCGS-2039	DFF, PH, NPB, NSB, KYP, HKW, SMK, SCMR, RWC and PYP.
4	TCGS-2230	DFF, DM, PH, NSB, HKW, HI, SCMR, RWC and PYP.
5.	TCGS-2053	PH, NPB, KYP, SMK, HI, SCMR, RWC and PYP.
.9	TCGS-2055	PH, KYP, SMK, HI, SCMR, SLA, RWC and PYP.
7.	TCGS-2317	DM, NSB, KYP, HKW, SMK, SLA, RWC and PYP.
∞.	TCGS-2278	DFF, DM, PH, NPB, KYP, SLA and PYP.
9.	TCGS-2233	DFF, DM, NSB, KYP, RWC and PYP.
10.	TCGS-2052	NPB, HI, SCMR and PYP.

DFF: Days to 50% flowering; DM: Days to maturity; PH: Plant height (cm); NPB: Number of primary branches plant-1; NSB: Number of secondary branches plant-1; KYP: Kernel yield plant-1 (g); HKW: Hundred kernel weight (g); SP: Shelling per cent (%); SMK: Sound mature kernel (%); HI: Harvest index (%); SCMR: SPAD chlorophyll meter reading at 60 DAS; SLA: Specific leaf area at 60 DAS (cm² gm¹); RWC: Relative water content (%); PYP: Pod yield plant (g) 2217). 21 genotypes revealed higher relative water content than their average (84.19%).

14. Pod yield plant⁻¹(g)

Genotypes for pod yield plant⁻¹ ranged from 11.28 g (TCGS-2229) to 24.14 g (TCGS-2053) and eighteen genotypes showed higher pod yield plant⁻¹ than the general mean of 15.32 g.

The top five genotypes for each character was determined based on per se performance, and they were listed in Table 3. Table 4 provides a list of the promising genotypes that were identified for several traits. For pod yield plant⁻¹; the genotypes TCGS-2223, TCGS-2040, TCGS-2039, TCGS-2230, TCGS-2053, TCGS-2055, TCGS-2317, TCGS-2278, TCGS-2233 and TCGS-2052 shown improved performance. These genotypes are deserving of use in the improvement of characters. Among the 36 genotypes examined, TCGS-2223 and TCGS-2040 are adjudged as promising genotypes not only for high yield and yield components, but also for water use efficiency related traits such as SPAD chlorophyll meter readings, specific leaf area and relative water content. Therefore, these genotypes may be involved in the crossing programme for by duly estimating their general and specific combining abilities in the future breeding programmes. Further, multi-location testing of these entries over years could be recommended to test their suitability and stability.

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