

Association of physio-morphic characters with powdery mildew resistance in okra

Jitendar kumar Sharma*

ABSTRACT:

To investigate physio-morphic characters in resistant and susceptible cultivars of okra. 12 okra varieties were screened for powdery mildew resistance in field condition for two year. Among 12 different varieties Sonakshi and Taj-042 showed moderately susceptible reaction. While, the varieties viz., R.K.-523, Okra-OH-102, Siri-19, Arka Anamika, Venus, GO-2 and Rani exhibited susceptible, whereas Gitanjali, GAO-5 and Pusa Sawani categorized highly susceptible reaction against powdery mildew of okra. None of the variety was found resistant during both the years. Among the physio-morphic characters of different varieties hair-length on midrib of middle and lower leaves, lamina of upper & lower leaves, hair density on the midrib of upper and lower leaves, veins of lower leaves and lamina of upper and middle leaves exhibited significantly negative correlation with the per cent disease intensity on okra. Similarly, stomatal area of upper, middle and lower leaf and leaf lamina thickness of lower leaves were also found significantly negative correlation with disease intensity. While, stomatal density on upper, middle and lower leaf and stomatal index of upper, middle and lower leaf showed significantly positive correlation with the disease intensity.

KEY WORDS: physio-morphic characters, okra and powdery mildew

CONCLUSION

Our study provides, for the first time in okra, a characterization of the variability of leaf micro-morphological parameters in relation to powdery mildew infection. So from this study we concluded that prevalence of okra powdery mildew was strongly correlated with physio-morphological parameters among 12 varieties of okra. Among the physio-morphological parameters of different varieties Leaf Lamina Thickness, Length of the Trichome, Trichome density and stomatal area exhibited significantly negative correlation with the per cent disease intensity of okra powdery mildew. While, stomatal density and stomatal index showed significantly positive correlation with the disease intensity. So these leaf physio-morphological parameters are thus of potential value when selecting for powdery mildew resistance from progeny or from collected material used in okra breeding programmes.

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