

Table 6

*The activity of the catalase enzyme  
in sprayed alfalfa leaves*

Data of samples	O <sub>2</sub> , mm <sup>3</sup> /minute	
<i>1st cutting</i>		
Control	438.00	SD <sub>5%</sub> = 26.13
Treatment 1	486.67	F <sub>value</sub> = 140.28*
Treatment 2	626.57	
<i>2nd cutting</i>		
Control	421.22	SD <sub>5%</sub> = 38.81
Treatment 1	500.42	F <sub>value</sub> = 81.55*
Treatment 2	640.68	
<i>3rd cutting</i>		
Control	395.07	SD <sub>5%</sub> = 57.44
Treatment 1	639.29	F <sub>value</sub> = 45.86*
Treatment 2	547.95	

\* Significant at  $P < 0.1\%$ .

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## THE EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE ON GROWTH HABIT IN HOMOELOGOUS GROUP 5 OF TRITICUM AESTIVUM

The method of aneuploid analysis has been used for studying the genetics of growth habit in common wheat for nearly a quarter of a century (UNRAU 1950, SEARS 1953, KUSPIRA—UNRAU 1957, KNOTT 1959, MORRISON 1960, TSUNEWAKI—JENKINS 1961, TSUNEWAKI 1966, HALLORAN—BOYDELL 1967, RAJKI—RAJKI 1969, LAW 1971, 1972, LAW—WORLAND 1973). It is unanimously agreed, that the chromosomes of homoeologous group 5 are essentially responsible for spring versus winter habit.

This paper reports on the effect of different temperature treatments on the growth habit of monosomics for homoeologous group 5 of Chinese Spring (CS), and the  $F_1$  monosomics produced by crossing these with the winter wheat varieties Rannaya 12 (Ran 12) and Mironovskaya 808 (Mir 808).

The materials used in this experiment were CS 5A, 5B and 5D monosomics and disomics, together with the  $F_1$  hybrids formed by crossing them with Ran 12 and Mir 808. In the crosses, which were carried out in the nursery, the female parents were CS monosomic and disomic lines, the seed samples of which had been obtained from the Plant Breeding Institute, Cambridge in 1966. The vernalisation requirement of the winter variety Ran 12 is fairly short, whereas that of Mir 808 is long.

The chromosome number of the parents and the  $F_1$  hybrids was determined from root-tip mitosis, and was checked at first metaphase meiosis. Spike morphology also helped to distinguish monosomics.

Seed germination and the pretreatment of the seedlings were carried out in a phytotron chamber, with an 8-hour night temperature of 5°C and a 16-hour day temperature of 10°C. After the 14-day pretreatment, the seedlings were transferred to three phytotron chambers maintained at different temperatures. The night/day temperatures in the three chambers were 5°/10°C, 10°/15°C and 15°/20°C respectively. In all three chambers the daylength was 16 hours, the illumination intensity 10,000 lux, and the relative humidity 65% by day and 80% at night.

The pots were distributed at random in the chambers. For each treatment 5 plants were available. The number of days required for shooting and heading served as a criterion of growth habit. The day on which the growth rate changed from linear to logistic was taken as the shooting date. The day on which approximately half the spike had emerged from the covering leaves was recorded as the heading date. Two-factor analysis of variance was used to evaluate the data collected (SVÁB 1973).

After the 14 day pretreatment at 5—10°C, under artificial conditions, the CS plants headed completely at all temperatures, while at 15—20°C 50% of the Ran 12 plants and 60% of the Mir 808 plants failed to head (Table 1). The number of days required for heading in CS and  $F_1$  disomics increased as the temperature fell. CS 5A and 5D monosomics at 5—10°C and 15—20°C, and  $F_1$  5A and 5D monosomics at all temperatures deviated significantly from the disomics. This difference was greatest at 15—20°C. In the  $F_1$  generation, the 5D monosomics headed later than the 5A at all temperatures; the 5B monosomics did not differ significantly from the corresponding disomics.

Table 1

*The effect of temperature on the number of days required for heading  
in homoelogenous group 5*

Temperature (°C)	Monosomic lines	Days required for heading		
		CS	F <sub>1</sub> CS × Ran 12	F <sub>1</sub> CS × Mir 808
14 days pretreatment at 5—10	5—10			
	5A	+ 6.8***	+13.8***	+18.0***
	5B	+ 1.6	+ 2.2	— 2.4
	5D	+ 4.0*	+24.2***	+23.4***
	Disomics	110.2	121.2	129.4
	♂		141.5	181.2
	10—15			
	5A	+ 3.2	+11.4***	+15.2***
	5B	— 3.0	— 2.2	+ 1.6
	5D	+ 2.8	+20.8	+25.6***
	Disomics	88.4	97.0	99.6
	♂		131.6	174.8
	15—20			
	5A	+11.6***	+13.2***	+23.0***
	5B	+ 1.2	+ 5.4*	— 1.2
	5D	+14.0***	+42.2***	+39.4***
	Disomics	74.4	87.0	96.8
	♂		124.5 <sup>+</sup>	178.5 <sup>++</sup>

(+) later or (—) earlier heading of monosomics as compared to the corresponding disomics.

\*  $P < 0.05$       + = 50% of plants not headed

\*\*\*  $P < 0.001$     ++ = 60% of plants not headed

Table 1 also demonstrates that the number of days required for heading in the F<sub>1</sub> disomic hybrids CS × Ran 12 and CS × Mir 808 were closer to the corresponding data for CS than to those of the winter varieties, but dominance could not be considered as complete.

The number of days required for shooting was calculated as a percentage of that required for heading (Table 2). The data indicate that for the CS disomic this ratio remained constant at 5—10°C and 10—15°C, but increased at 15—20°C. In the case of both the F<sub>1</sub> disomics and the winter varieties this value increased with the rise in temperature. On comparing the F<sub>1</sub> monosomics, the lowest value was found for 5B and the highest for 5D.

Thus the number of days required for shooting and heading is influenced by both the genotype and the temperature. Nor can the interaction of these two factors be ignored, since it gave rise to a mean square deviation, significant on the basis of the F-test.

\*

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Table 2

*The effect of temperature on the relationship between days for shooting and days for heading (%)*

14 days pretreatment at 5–10	Temperature (°C)	Monosomic lines	CS	F <sub>1</sub> CS × Ran 12	F <sub>1</sub> CS × Mir 808
	5–10	5A	56.9	65.9	63.8
		5B	56.7	58.5	57.9
		5D	58.3	65.1	65.6
		Disomics	57.9	58.4	62.3
		♂		53.0	64.6
	10–15	5A	63.5	67.9	70.2
		5B	61.6	65.8	70.0
		5D	66.9	69.6	71.1
		Disomics	57.9	68.7	69.7
				65.3	70.9
	15–20	5A	70.9	76.3	78.5
		5B	62.2	69.1	77.0
		5D	70.6	78.6	83.0
		Disomics	65.0	73.3	76.0
		♂		71.5	77.3

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