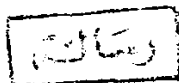


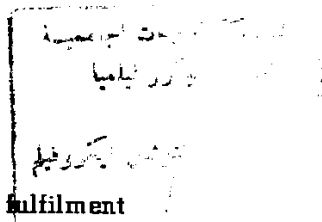
GENETIC STUDIES ON SENNA (CASSIA SP)



by

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630.28115
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A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment

of

the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

in

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE
(Genetics)

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
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52415

1996



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**Osama Ezzat El-Sayed, Genetic studies on senna (*Cassia* sp).
Unpublished Doctor of Science. Genetics Department,
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ABSTRACT

The main aim of the present study is to evaluate the genetic background of the 30 lines of the self-pollinating *Cassia obovata* species distributed in Egypt, that considered as an important resource of sennosides which mainly reliable for the strong laxative and purgative effects. The quantitative characters studied in both field and green house experiments showed that each of the 30 senna lines represented a unique combination of expressions which indicated the discrete nature of these lines with their different genetic backgrounds. Similar results were obtained from gel electrophoretic studies which revealed an isozyme polymorphisms among most of the banding patterns of ten enzymes studied. It was possible to identify each line by a unique class pattern combination. Meanwhile, these lines showed the same cytological backgrounds ($2n=28$) with some abnormalities in mitotic metaphase and most of the meiotic I and II stages, which may be attributed to occurrence of natural aneuploidy in senna species. Moreover, new potent lines of senna could be developed and recognized in their total sennoside contents (12.98%) that may be useful in pharmaceutical industry. An evidence of the background differences of the 30 lines could be obtained from the remarkable multiplicity in sennoside compounds. The study of flavonoid compounds showed a striking characteristic in the studied lines of senna with the marked qualitative variation that occurred in most of the compounds. This variation is reasonable evidence for the differences in the genetic background of each line. Moreover, two different flavonoid groups with their derivatives were identified and a branched pathway was generally suggested in flavonoids synthesis turnover under the genetic control in senna.

KEY WORDS :-

Cassia obovata lines

Leguminosae

Genetics and Breeding

Quantitative characters

Isozyme gel electrophoresis; EST, EST-D, LAP, ME,

G-6-PDH, PGDH, GOT, CAT, MPI, PGM

Cytological analysis at mitotic and meiotic divisions

Sennosides, A, B, C and D contents (%)

Flavonoid compounds; flavones and flavonols

High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)

Thin layer chromatography (TLC)

Large scale column chromatography

One and two-dimension paper chromatography

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I shall never find the words to express my sincere gratitude to my promoter Prof. Dr. Abd El-Aziz M. Omar, Professor of Genetics, Genetics Department, Ain Shams University, for his valuable supervision and useful advice, also I am very grateful to Prof. Dr. Ahmed S. El-Ballal, Professor of Genetics, Genetics and Cytology Department, National Research Centre, for his excellent guidance, suggesting the problems and revising the manuscript. I am very grateful and indebted to Dr. Eman M. Fahmy, Associate Professor of Genetics, Genetics Department, Ain Shams Univ., for her supervision, excellent cooperation and constant interest in my work.

I wish to express my gratitude to Prof. Dr. R. A. E. Tillney-Bassett, Professor of Genetics, Genetics Department, University College of Swansea, for his kindness, encouragement during my stay in Swansea and untiring support with the facilities to perform my work in his laboratory as well as Prof. Dr. J. A. Beardmore, head of the School of Biological Science for his infinite hospitality and offering the grants. I appreciate very much the friendship and the great help given by my colleagues in University College of Swansea as well as to all the members of Genetics Dept. in the University College of Swansea.

Thanks are also forwarded to all members and colleagues of Genetics and Cytology Department, National Research Centre, especially the medicinal and aromatic Genetics group and to all members of the Genetics Department, Ain Shams University.

Finally I extend my thanks to my wife Dr. Nauman A. Hassan Ali for her great support and abetting me all the time until I finished this study.

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