



Evaluation of Brinjal Genotypes (*Solanum melongena* L.) for Growth, Yield and Quality Characters in Bundelkhand Region of U.P, India

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

The experiment was conducted at Vegetable Research Farm, Banda University of Agriculture and Technology, Banda, UP, India during the *Rabi* season in 2021 and 2022 to assess the performance of thirty-four genotypes of brinjal. The investigation was carried out in a Randomised Complete Block Design with three replications. The genotype BUB-18-27 exhibited the best yield potential of all the genotypes evaluated based on mean performance, followed by BUB-18-12, BUB-18-4, BUB-18-24, BUB-18-20, BUB-18-22, BUB-18-25, Kashi Taru, BUB-18-25 and BUB-18-17. From the earliness point of view, the genotypes BUB-18-20 recorded lowest value for days to 50% flowering and days to first fruit harvest among the recognized high yielding genotypes. The genotype BUB-

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18-27 was also found positively best with respect to average fruit weight, total soluble solids, fruit diameter, fruit circumference, number of primary branches and leaf area index. Other genotypes showing better performance for fruit yield per plant were also better for most of fruit yield contributing traits. As a result, these genotypes can be utilized for further improvement of fruit yield and its contributing traits in brinjal.

Keywords: *Solanum melongena* L.; brinjal; genotypes; evaluation; Bundelkhand.

1. INTRODUCTION

The brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.), often known as eggplant and aubergine, is a member of the Solanaceae family and possesses the chromosomal number ($2n=24$). It is a non-tuberiferous solanum species and generally day-neutral plant. It was first domesticated from the wild nightshade species thorn or bitter apple, *Solanum incanum*. South East Asia (India) is its original home. The delicate, tropical perennial plant known as the eggplant is additionally grown as a tender or semi-hardy annual in temperate conditions [1]. It is the cheapest and most profitable vegetable, has a highly nutritious content, and is in high demand on the market. Due to its numerous uses in Indian food, it is often known as the "king of vegetables" [2]. It has high levels of calcium (0.02%), phosphorous (0.02%), iron (0.0013%), and other mineral matter [3]. It also has high levels of carbohydrates (6.4%), protein (1.3%), and fat (0.3%). It is useful for decreasing blood cholesterol as well as treating diabetes, asthma, cholera, bronchitis, and diarrhea [4]. With an annual production of 13.55 million tonnes and an average yield of 19.5 tonnes per hectare, brinjal is grown on 0.72 million hectares of land in India [5]. Brinjal is often self-pollinated crop [6]. The ideal growth and fruit set range is between 20 and 30 °C. However, the high night and day temperature range of 22-24°C to 33-35°C, greatly affects fruit set and production [7]. Increased production and productivity of brinjal are required to meet the demands of a growing population [8].

While brinjal is grown throughout India, its productivity is very poor (17.5 t ha⁻¹) compared to the global average of 26.1 t ha⁻¹ [9]. It has still appeared that 17.8% of hybrid brinjal, 50.0 percent of OP/HYV brinjal, and 32.2% of local types of brinjal are grown in India [10]. Due to the use of low-yielding cultivars suitable for local needs, a lack of adoption of effective management practices and difficulties of diseases and pests. It is important to focus the breeding programs using regional varieties of

brinjal to address these issues. It is more accurate information than any other statistic to choose superior genotypes for a crop improvement programme based on mean performance. In order to examine the growth and fruit yield characteristics, a determination was undertaken and evaluate local brinjal landraces.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present experiment consisted 34 genotypes of brinjal including released varieties from IIVR, Varanasi and IARI, New Delhi and advanced breeding lines developed by the Department of Vegetable Science, Banda University of Agriculture and Technology, Banda (U.P.). The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design (RBD) with three replications at Vegetable Research Farm of the University (24° 53'-25° 55' N latitudes, 80° 07'-81° 34' E longitudes and 150 m above the mean sea level altitude) during the *Rabi* 2021 and 2022. Seeds of all the thirty-four brinjal genotypes were sown in nursery beds on 7th September in 2021 and 10th September in 2022. All the recommended practices were adopted to raise healthy seedlings. The healthy seedlings with uniform height were selected for transplanting at 75 x 60 cm spacing. Five random plants were tagged in each genotype and replication to record data on sixteen characters *viz.* days to 50% flowering, number of flowers per cluster, fruit setting percentage, days to first fruit picking, leaf area index (cm²), number of primary branches per plant, Fruit length (cm), fruit circumference (cm), fruit diameter (cm), specific gravity of fruits (g/cm³), total soluble solid (°Brix), plant height at last picking (cm), number of fruits per plant, average weight of the fruit (g) and fruit yield per plant (kg).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data recorded on sixteen traits from the two-year experiments were subjected to statistical analysis individually as well as pooled over two years. Analysis of variance indicated that there were significant differences between 34

genotypes included in experiments for all the traits studies (Table 1).

In the pooled two years of data, the days to 50% flowering ranged from (50.00) to (69.67) days with an overall average value of (28.25) days. Among 34 genotypes, six genotypes were found statistically significant viz., BUB-18-14 (50.00), Pusa Shyamal (50.00), BUB-18-16 (50.67), BUB-18-2 (50.86), BUB-18-20 (51.83), BUB-18-9 (52.00) for the earliness of this trait (days to 50% flower) over the rest genotypes. Similar results were cited by Nikitha et al., [11] and Nazir et al. [12].

Two years of pooled data ranged value 28.08 to 45.73 cm with an average value of 38.73 cm. After analysis revealed that nine genotypes viz., BUB-18-2 (28.08), BUB-18-14 (31.38) BUB-18-21(31.61) Kashi Taru (32.06), Kashi Himani (33.47), BUB-18-17 (33.62), BUB-18-16 (34.38), BUB-18-17 (34.41) and Kashi Uttam (34.42) had been found positively significant for plant height at 50% flowering over the rest of genotypes among the 34 genotypes of brinjal for the earliness of this character. Similar results were also reported by Sharma and Singh [13] and Madhavi et al. [14].

In the two years of pooled data, among the 34 genotypes maximum number of flowers per cluster was found in BUB-18-15 (24.09) followed by BUB-18-25 (8.24), Kashi Himani (5.67), BUB-18-28 (5.30), BUB-18-16 (4.72), BUB-18-11 (4.27) and Pusa Ankur (4.11) for this trait. Similar results were found by Balsubramaniyam et al. [15] and Patel et al. [16].

Two-year pooled data analysis showed that thirteen viz., BUB-18-15 (92.41), Pusa Ankur (87.82), BUB-18-25 (87.36), BUB-18-21 (81.02), BUB-18-19 (79.82), Pusa Shyamal (79.10), BUB-18-14 (71.82), Pusa Upkar (71.64), Kashi Uttam (69.77), Kashi Prakash (69.05), BUB-18-17 (66.86), CHBR-2 (62.26), and BUB-18-4 (61.04) were found statistically significant for fruit setting percentage over rest of the genotypes for this trait. These results are in confirmation by Kumar et al. [17] and Vidhya et al. [18].

In the pooled data the mean was (73.14) days and ranged from (62.49) to (90.00) days, BUB-18-2 (62.49) days was found minimum positively significant to days to first fruit picking followed by BUB-18-14 (63.16) days, BUB-18-20 (64.83)

days, BUB-18-18 (64.83) days, Pusa Shyamal (64.33) days, and BUB-18-15 (67.17) days for earliness among the rest of genotypes. Significant variations for days to first picking were observed among the genotypes under study. Similar results of earliness in the first harvest were reported by Nirmala et al. [19].

Two-year pooled data showed that the mean was (1.85) and the range was (0.53) to (4.22). The highest leaf area index was found in CHBR-2 (4.22) followed by Kashi Green Round (3.10), BUB-18-20-1 (3.00), BUB-18-4 (2.98), Kashi Taru (2.89), BUB-18-22 (2.79), BUB-18-14 (2.43), Pusha Shyamal (2.38), BUB-18-19 (2.32), BUB-18-6 (2.30), and BUB-18-9 (2.12) among the genotypes for this character. Similar results are also reported by Resmika et al. [20].

Pooled analysis revealed that ten genotypes BUB-18-10 (11.86), Kashi Taru (11.64), BUB-18-27 (11.55), Kashi Prakash (11.46), BUB-18-21 (11.34), BUB-18-28 (10.54), Kashi Green Round (9.72), Pusa Upkar (9.62), Pusa Ankur (9.46), and BUB-18-26 (9.37) were found higher number of primary branches per plant out of 34 genotypes for this trait. This was in accordance with the results of Vidhya & Kumar [21], Reshmika et al. [20] and Nazir et al. [12].

Pooled data showed that the mean was (11.48 cm) and the range was (6.49 to 22.32 cm). The highest fruit length observed in Kashi Taru (22.32 cm), followed by BUB-18-20-1 (18.06 cm), Pusha Shyamal (17.12 cm), Kashi Prakash (16.36 cm), BUB-18-25 (16.54 cm), BUB-18-24 (15.99 cm), BUB-18-14 (15.20 cm), Kashi Himani (13.81 cm), BUB-18-21 (13.32 cm), BUB-18-22 (13.05 cm), Kashi Uttam (12.86 cm), and BUB-18-4 (12.68 cm) for this trait over rest genotypes of brinjal. Fruit length was also reported by Tripathy et al. [10] Yadav, et al. Nikitha et al., [11] and Nazir et al. [12].

Pooled data showed that the mean was (16.92 cm) and the range was (10.73 to 28.53 cm). Fruit circumference was maximum found in Kashi Uttam (28.53 cm) followed by Kashi Green Round (26.04 cm), BUB-18-12 (25.57 cm), BUB-18-27 (25.55 cm), CHBR-2 (25.29 cm), BUB-18-2 (24.99 cm), Pusa Upkar (20.86 cm), and BUB-18-22 (20.74 cm) for this trait among 34 genotypes. Similar results were obtained by Yadav, et al. [21] and Balsubramniyam et al. [15].

Table 1. Analysis of variance for different characters of brinjal of brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.)

S.N.	Characteristics	Mean sum squares					
		Rabi 2021-22		Rabi 2022-23		Pooled	
		Treatment	error	Treatment	error	Treatment	error
1.	Days to 50% flowering	75.96**	16.60	104.73**	11.25	87.33**	8.09
2.	Plant height at 50 % flowering (cm)	72.60**	9.68	59.50**	16.40	63.53**	6.51
3.	Number of flowers per cluster	52.19**	0.07	39.39**	0.18	45.62**	0.05
4.	Fruit Setting Percentage	1262.76**	22.68	1332.39**	35.76	1265.07**	13.00
5.	Days to first fruit picking	96.22**	20.20	129.52**	14.03	110.60**	9.22
6.	Leaf Area Index (cm ²)	1.993**	0.016	2.04**	0.02	1.982**	0.010
7.	Number of primary branches per plant	9.12**	0.41	9.00**	0.87	8.94**	0.31
8.	Fruit length (cm)	42.32**	0.62	41.11**	0.65	41.53**	0.30
9.	Fruit circumference (cm)	80.73**	1.50	81.62**	3.08	74.03**	1.14
10.	Fruit diameter (cm)	7.92**	0.18	8.09**	0.25	7.97**	0.10
11.	Specific gravity of fruits (g/cm ³)	0.076**	0.002	0.081**	0.002	0.077**	0.001
12.	Total soluble solids (TSS) ^o Brix	2.233**	0.045	1.855**	0.038	1.984**	0.019
13.	Plant height at last picking (cm)	217.42**	25.05	236.96**	15.01	217.28**	11.76
14.	Number of fruits per plant	1314.48**	4.46	1330.13**	4.97	1322.01**	1.63
15.	Average fruit weight (g)	10869.83**	69.79	11101.64**	138.92	10961.84**	66.03
16.	Fruit yield per plant (kg)	1.509**	0.037	1.229**	0.066	1.347**	0.026

Table 2. Mean performance of thirty- four genotypes of brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) for sixteen characters during the first year 2021-22

Var	Genotypes	Days to 50% flowering (DAT)	Plant height at 50 % flowering (cm)	Number of flowers per cluster	Fruit Setting Percentage	Days to first fruit picking	Leaf Area Index (cm ²)	Number of primary branches per plant	Fruit length (cm)	Fruit circumference (cm)	Fruit diameter (cm)	Specific gravity of fruits (g/cm ³)	Total soluble solids (TSS) ^a Brix	Plant height at last picking (cm)	Number of fruits per plant	Average fruit weight (g)	Fruit yield per plant (kg)
1	Kashi Himani	59.33	33.65	5.68	33.90	75.33	1.89	8.40	13.48	11.81	3.76	0.87	3.35	69.97	18.18	103.40	1.95
2	Kashi Prakash	54.33	42.55	2.29	67.64	72.66	1.47	11.38	16.39	14.28	4.63	0.89	3.62	72.06	33.10	94.68	3.19
3	Kashi Uttam	56.00	34.78	1.54	65.10	72.33	1.75	8.34	12.93	28.75	9.15	0.71	4.12	68.38	12.51	251.52	3.26
4	Kashi Taru	56.33	33.12	3.06	56.54	71.66	2.94	11.88	23.31	12.60	4.01	0.98	3.12	91.27	30.97	107.35	3.35
5	Kashi Green Round	69.39	41.72	3.23	31.11	85.33	3.14	9.98	10.11	25.32	8.06	0.92	4.64	77.27	11.11	210.00	2.70
6	Pusa Ankur	55.33	45.68	4.19	88.54	74.00	1.67	9.58	9.92	17.70		0.99	3.85	68.72	21.69	120.48	2.39
7	Pusa Upkar	62.78	43.65	2.54	71.26	76.66	1.82	9.56	11.32	20.65	6.35	0.84	3.35	70.68	15.96	169.59	2.58
8	CHBR-2	65.66	41.69	1.53	65.57	82.66	4.25	8.40	9.98	23.94	7.62	0.86	4.94	75.29	14.74	220.50	2.82
9	BUB-18-20-1	58.33	41.05	2.57	39.10	72.33	2.99	9.11	17.66	16.85	5.28	0.92	5.15	69.86	26.58	105.27	2.71
10	BUB-18-6	68.33	43.77	1.68	59.65	89.00	2.34	8.84	10.12	16.09	5.12	0.86	3.27	76.66	18.66	92.37	1.67
11	BUB-18-12	63.33	42.18	2.41	41.60	75.66	1.56	8.46	10.67	25.76	7.84	0.81	5.73	60.23	14.28	245.37	3.68
12	BUB-18-2	51.38	28.37	1.84	55.08	63.66	1.35	6.66	11.23	30.55	9.60	0.74	4.83	62.01	33.33	85.99	2.87
13	BUB-18-3	60.31	44.21	3.58	43.58	76.00	1.78	8.85	8.45	17.85	5.68	1.06	4.59	75.71	25.64	82.49	1.93
14	BUB-18-11	63.33	40.12	4.35	40.92	76.33	1.89	7.89	7.30	17.88	5.86	1.23	4.81	74.86	25.67	124.55	2.99
15	BUB-18-4	55.33	43.25	1.52	66.06	73.33	3.01	6.51	12.67	14.86	4.86	1.29	4.24	81.52	17.95	186.25	3.59
16	BUB-18-5	56.66	35.71	3.35	30.02	70.00	0.69	7.38	8.25	14.56	4.57	0.89	5.64	95.20	29.04	62.14	1.63
17	BUB-18-10	59.88	40.17	3.36	42.78	75.66	0.91	12.32	7.03	15.66	4.86	0.92	5.24	78.81	28.94	64.12	1.89
18	BUB-18-9	52.33	41.37	2.01	49.81	69.66	2.22	5.97	12.09	14.50	4.76	0.69	3.71	86.27	32.14	82.33	2.59
19	Pusa Shyamal	50.33	37.67	1.64	73.23	65.66	2.34	8.22	16.81	11.87	3.78	0.86	4.19	74.20	28.67	98.88	2.57
20	BUB-18-14	50.00	30.20	1.59	64.28	63.30	2.49	6.10	14.95	13.63	4.34	0.73	3.17	71.65	30.56	94.26	2.98
21	BUB-18-15	56.88	39.16	25.77	94.85	66.33	0.94	7.53	7.28	13.29	4.23	0.53	5.14	80.92	138.25	15.34	2.25
22	BUB-18-16	50.00	32.89	4.67	21.55	67.66	1.32	7.77	9.53	11.97	3.96	1.03	5.95	84.92	22.69	66.65	1.56
23	BUB-18-17	55.66	33.67	2.24	61.61	71.33	1.06	7.13	11.23	16.43	5.21	1.22	5.10	67.82	22.15	155.13	3.34
24	BUB-18-18	54.33	42.86	2.71	37.02	65.66	0.88	7.86	7.69	14.42	4.89	0.95	4.27	90.53	21.93	54.00	1.37
25	BUB-18-19	55.96	39.04	3.42	74.94	73.66	2.37	7.92	8.25	15.88	4.87	0.84	5.44	65.19	19.24	97.21	1.93
26	BUB-18-20	52.66	34.69	2.27	44.39	65.33	1.29	7.58	9.99	14.73	4.93	0.86	5.11	81.20	40.97	83.41	3.56
27	BUB-18-21	54.33	30.48	1.17	85.69	70.66	0.87	11.34	13.14	14.70	4.68	1.01	4.68	78.25	29.67	95.29	2.99
28	BUB-18-22	57.66	38.97	3.88	25.82	70.33	2.72	6.83	13.14	20.17	6.42	0.99	3.67	79.04	18.53	172.06	3.46
29	BUB-18-23	57.50	43.61	3.59	41.08	74.66	1.63	6.16	8.18	18.15	5.48	0.67	5.22	82.63	33.59	75.24	2.51
31	BUB-18-24	62.66	35.11	2.37	42.34	75.33	1.49	7.50	16.05	12.94	4.12	0.84	3.26	74.78	40.15	87.35	3.57
32	BUB-18-25	60.33	44.44	8.27	90.08	71.66	1.97	9.55	16.37	11.06	3.81	0.96	5.64	83.71	39.52	80.47	3.37
33	BUB-18-26	64.80	37.94	3.73	26.94	77.66	1.74	9.53	8.27	18.35	5.84	0.94	4.98	80.87	28.00	87.58	2.59
34	BUB-18-27	60.33	46.79	1.68	59.81	76.00	1.58	11.84	10.17	26.20	8.81	0.72	5.29	69.20	17.89	230.11	3.67
34	BUB-18-28	60.32	44.58	5.36	18.70	74.66	0.57	10.65	6.28	10.67	3.43	0.83	5.68	91.94	30.52	42.31	1.42
	Mean	58.00	39.09	3.68	53.25	73.00	1.85	8.62	11.48	17.18	5.49	0.90	4.56	76.81	28.61	115.99	2.67
	Min	50.00	28.37	1.17	18.70	63.30	0.57	5.97	6.28	10.67	3.43	0.53	3.12	60.23	11.11	15.34	1.37
	Max	69.39	46.79	25.77	94.85	89.00	4.25	12.32	23.31	30.55	9.60	1.29	5.95	95.20	138.25	251.52	3.68
	SE(d) ±	3.33	2.54	0.22	3.89	3.67	0.10	0.53	0.64	1.00	0.35	0.03	0.17	4.09	1.73	6.82	0.16
	C.D. at 5%	6.66	5.08	0.44	7.78	7.34	0.21	1.05	1.28	2.00	0.69	0.07	0.35	8.18	3.45	13.65	0.31
	C.V. (%)	7.02	7.96	7.34	8.94	6.16	6.89	7.46	6.85	7.12	7.70	4.57	4.63	6.52	7.38	7.20	7.19

Table 3. Mean performance of thirty- four genotypes of brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) for sixteen characters during second year 2022-23

Var	Genotypes	Days to 50% flowering (DAT)	Plant height at 50 % flowering(cm)	Number of flowers per cluster	Fruit Setting Percentage	Days to first fruit picking	Leaf Area Index (cm ²)	Number of primary branches per plant	Fruit length (cm)	Fruit circumference (cm)	Fruit diameter (cm)	Specific gravity of fruits (g/cm ³)	Total soluble solids (TSS) ^o Brix	Plant height at last picking (cm)	Number of fruits per plant	Average fruit weight (g)	Fruit yield per plant (kg)
1	Kashi Himani	61.33	33.30	5.67	28.86	76.67	1.86	7.67	14.13	12.07	3.80	0.91	3.24	64.52	19.99	102.33	1.97
2	Kashi Prakash	53.67	40.37	2.00	70.47	71.00	1.53	11.53	16.33	13.18	4.64	0.90	3.85	75.56	32.62	93.67	3.03
3	Kashi Uttam	57.00	34.07	1.40	74.44	74.00	1.69	7.93	12.80	28.31	9.26	0.69	4.08	70.13	12.53	250.67	3.21
4	Kashi Taru	55.67	31.00	3.03	54.02	70.67	2.84	11.40	21.33	12.07	4.05	0.96	3.26	86.93	31.67	107.00	3.40
5	Kashi Green Round	69.00	41.93	3.77	27.26	86.33	3.07	9.47	9.77	26.75	8.11	0.95	4.65	77.67	10.93	216.00	2.41
6	Pusa Ankur	56.67	44.17	4.03	87.08	73.33	1.72	9.33	10.04	18.45	5.89	1.07	3.21	68.07	23.53	123.67	2.84
7	Pusa Upkar	65.00	40.83	2.43	72.03	77.67	1.77	9.67	10.87	21.07	6.83	0.83	3.22	66.13	15.40	176.67	2.44
8	CHBR-2	67.33	40.33	1.70	58.96	84.33	4.18	8.20	10.11	26.64	7.71	0.89	5.18	78.67	12.93	227.67	2.95
9	BUB-18-20-1	57.67	42.23	2.23	45.51	70.00	3.02	7.80	18.45	11.64	5.02	0.96	5.07	69.47	28.47	101.67	2.88
10	BUB-18-6	71.00	40.53	1.90	52.91	91.00	2.26	8.33	9.57	16.94	5.09	0.71	3.49	75.20	18.29	91.33	1.67
11	BUB-18-12	65.33	38.70	2.40	42.20	78.00	1.38	7.87	10.83	25.39	8.05	0.80	5.28	57.72	15.67	247.67	3.37
12	BUB-18-2	50.33	27.80	1.80	56.02	61.33	1.25	6.40	11.08	19.43	9.65	0.79	4.36	57.44	35.79	82.67	2.96
13	BUB-18-3	62.00	45.00	3.33	56.13	78.67	1.84	7.80	8.84	12.59	5.73	1.08	4.33	75.69	24.53	85.33	1.89
14	BUB-18-11	62.67	38.07	4.20	38.58	75.00	1.77	7.47	7.20	11.88	5.87	1.15	4.97	69.07	23.27	125.33	2.92
15	BUB-18-4	58.67	43.97	1.80	56.02	75.33	2.95	6.73	12.70	16.12	4.94	1.31	4.50	76.61	18.60	186.33	3.48
16	BUB-18-5	55.33	33.10	3.70	27.26	68.67	0.79	7.27	8.37	13.27	4.85	0.88	5.31	94.53	30.60	61.67	1.66
17	BUB-18-10	66.00	42.67	3.60	46.24	78.00	0.84	11.40	6.86	14.29	4.96	0.96	5.32	81.33	29.00	64.67	1.88
18	BUB-18-9	51.67	38.60	1.97	51.42	68.67	2.02	6.07	12.23	14.14	4.87	0.73	3.88	82.53	34.10	82.33	2.74
19	Pusa Shyamal	49.67	34.73	1.87	84.96	64.33	2.41	7.73	17.43	11.13	3.60	0.85	4.08	67.67	29.93	97.33	2.53
20	BUB-18-14	50.00	32.27	1.27	79.36	63.00	2.36	5.87	15.45	12.79	4.56	0.74	3.20	74.75	31.87	92.33	2.95
21	BUB-18-15	57.33	37.27	22.35	89.98	68.00	0.82	6.60	7.11	10.96	4.11	0.46	5.18	80.47	138.53	16.00	2.26
22	BUB-18-16	51.33	35.87	4.77	21.01	69.67	1.29	7.47	9.84	10.89	3.91	1.08	5.23	82.57	24.00	65.33	1.58
23	BUB-18-17	53.00	33.57	2.23	72.11	69.33	1.17	6.87	10.65	17.34	5.05	1.16	5.20	60.33	22.13	153.67	3.28
24	BUB-18-18	54.00	40.07	2.70	37.26	64.00	0.83	7.47	7.11	22.26	4.62	0.94	4.79	88.53	21.80	83.00	1.83
25	BUB-18-19	52.67	38.88	3.47	84.71	71.00	2.28	7.13	8.67	17.29	5.88	0.86	5.35	68.00	19.88	96.00	1.91
26	BUB-18-20	51.00	35.60	2.00	50.34	64.33	1.23	7.40	10.12	12.39	4.55	0.88	5.00	77.18	39.40	82.67	3.27
27	BUB-18-21	55.33	32.73	1.24	76.35	71.67	0.77	11.37	13.50	14.70	4.61	1.04	4.99	79.26	30.47	98.33	3.00
28	BUB-18-22	59.33	37.97	3.80	26.37	72.33	2.86	6.73	12.97	21.31	6.32	1.01	3.83	82.67	18.67	169.67	3.37
29	BUB-18-23	61.33	41.67	3.53	35.57	76.67	1.66	5.97	7.55	19.07	5.64	0.67	5.32	72.40	32.20	76.00	2.45
30	BUB-18-24	64.00	37.57	2.57	39.79	77.33	1.57	6.20	15.93	15.37	4.02	0.86	3.74	72.87	40.13	86.67	3.50
31	BUB-18-25	61.33	43.50	8.20	84.64	72.67	1.93	9.07	16.70	13.11	3.84	0.96	5.51	78.27	41.13	78.33	3.27
32	BUB-18-26	66.33	36.77	3.00	33.43	80.33	1.83	9.20	8.49	18.03	5.91	0.95	5.17	74.73	27.96	86.33	2.40
33	BUB-18-27	58.33	44.67	1.93	52.19	75.00	2.67	11.27	10.35	24.89	8.44	0.75	5.16	71.40	14.93	236.33	3.47
34	BUB-18-28	57.33	44.60	5.23	19.19	73.00	0.48	10.43	6.70	10.79	3.59	0.82	5.38	93.00	33.44	44.00	1.50
	Mean	58.49	38.36	3.56	53.90	73.27	1.85	8.21	11.47	16.66	5.53	0.90	4.54	75.04	28.95	117.31	2.65
	Min	49.67	27.80	1.24	19.19	61.33	0.48	5.87	6.70	10.79	3.59	0.46	3.20	57.44	10.93	16.00	1.50
	Max	71.00	45.00	22.35	89.98	91.00	4.18	11.53	21.33	28.31	9.65	1.31	5.51	94.53	138.53	250.67	3.50
	SE(d) ±	2.74	3.31	0.35	4.88	3.06	0.12	0.76	0.66	1.43	0.41	0.03	0.16	3.16	1.82	9.62	0.21
	C.D. at 5%	5.48	6.62	0.69	9.77	6.12	0.24	1.52	1.32	2.87	0.82	0.06	0.32	6.33	3.64	19.26	0.42
	C.V. (%)	5.73	10.56	11.90	11.09	5.11	7.95	11.35	7.04	10.53	9.11	4.36	4.32	5.16	7.70	10.05	9.67

Table 4. Mean performance of thirty- four genotypes of brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) for sixteen characters (pooled)

Genotypes	Days to 50% flowering (DAT)	Plant height at 50 % flowering(cm)	Number of flowers per cluster	Fruit Setting Percentage	Days to first fruit picking	Leaf Area Index (cm ²)	Number of primary branches per plant	Fruit length (cm)	Fruit circumference (cm)	Fruit diameter (cm)	Specific gravity of fruits (g/cm ³)	Total soluble solids (TSS) ^a Brix	Plant height at last picking (cm)	Number of fruits per plant	Average fruit weight (g)	Fruit yield per plant (kg)	
1	Kashi Himani	60.33	33.47	5.67	31.38	76.00	1.88	8.04	13.81	11.94	3.78	0.89	3.30	67.25	19.09	102.87	1.96
2	Kashi Prakash	54.00	41.46	2.14	69.05	71.83	1.50	11.46	16.36	13.73	4.64	0.90	3.74	73.81	32.86	94.17	3.11
3	Kashi Uttam	56.50	34.42	1.47	69.77	73.16	1.72	8.14	12.86	28.53	9.20	0.70	4.10	69.25	12.52	251.09	3.24
4	Kashi Taru	56.00	32.06	3.05	55.28	71.16	2.89	11.64	22.32	12.33	4.03	0.97	3.19	89.10	31.32	107.18	3.38
5	Kashi Green Round	69.20	41.83	3.50	29.18	85.83	3.10	9.72	9.94	26.04	8.09	0.94	4.64	77.47	11.02	213.00	2.55
6	Pusa Ankur	56.00	44.92	4.11	87.82	73.67	1.69	9.46	9.98	18.07	5.83	1.03	3.53	68.40	22.61	122.07	2.61
7	Pusa Upkar	63.89	42.24	2.49	71.64	77.17	1.79	9.62	11.09	20.86	6.59	0.84	3.29	68.41	15.68	173.13	2.51
8	CHBR-2	66.50	41.01	1.62	62.26	83.50	4.22	8.30	10.04	25.29	7.67	0.88	5.06	76.98	13.84	224.08	2.89
9	BUB-18-20-1	58.00	41.64	2.40	42.31	71.17	3.00	8.46	18.06	14.24	5.15	0.95	5.11	69.67	27.53	103.47	2.80
10	BUB-18-6	69.67	42.15	1.79	56.28	90.00	2.30	8.58	9.84	16.51	5.11	0.79	3.38	75.93	18.47	91.85	1.67
11	BUB-18-12	64.33	40.45	2.40	41.91	76.83	1.47	8.16	10.75	25.57	7.95	0.81	5.51	58.98	14.97	246.52	3.53
12	BUB-18-2	50.86	28.08	1.82	55.54	62.49	1.30	6.53	11.15	24.99	9.63	0.77	4.59	59.73	34.56	84.33	2.92
13	BUB-18-3	61.15	44.61	3.46	49.85	77.33	1.81	8.33	8.65	15.21	5.71	1.07	4.46	75.70	25.09	83.91	1.91
14	BUB-18-11	63.00	39.09	4.27	39.75	75.67	1.83	7.68	7.25	14.88	5.87	1.19	4.89	71.96	24.47	124.94	2.96
15	BUB-18-4	57.00	43.61	1.66	61.04	74.33	2.98	6.62	12.68	15.49	4.90	1.30	4.37	79.07	18.28	186.29	3.53
16	BUB-18-5	56.00	34.41	3.52	28.64	69.33	0.74	7.33	8.31	13.91	4.71	0.88	5.48	94.87	29.82	61.91	1.64
17	BUB-18-10	62.94	41.42	3.48	44.51	76.83	0.88	11.86	6.94	14.97	4.91	0.94	5.28	80.07	28.97	64.39	1.89
18	BUB-18-9	52.00	39.98	1.99	50.62	69.16	2.12	6.02	12.16	14.32	4.82	0.71	3.79	84.40	33.12	82.33	2.67
19	Pusa Shyamal	50.00	36.20	1.75	79.10	64.99	2.38	7.98	17.12	11.50	3.69	0.86	4.14	70.93	29.30	98.11	2.55
20	BUB-18-14	50.00	31.23	1.43	71.82	63.16	2.43	5.98	15.20	13.21	4.45	0.74	3.18	73.20	31.21	93.30	2.96
21	BUB-18-15	57.11	38.21	24.09	92.41	67.17	0.88	7.07	7.20	12.12	4.17	0.50	5.17	80.69	138.45	15.67	2.25
22	BUB-18-16	50.67	34.38	4.72	21.28	68.66	1.31	7.62	9.68	11.43	3.94	1.06	5.60	83.74	23.35	65.99	1.57
23	BUB-18-17	54.33	33.62	2.24	66.86	70.33	1.11	7.00	10.94	16.89	5.13	1.19	5.15	64.08	22.14	154.40	3.31
24	BUB-18-18	54.17	41.46	2.70	37.14	64.83	0.86	7.66	7.40	18.34	4.76	0.95	4.53	89.53	21.87	68.50	1.60
25	BUB-18-19	54.31	38.96	3.44	79.82	72.33	2.32	7.53	8.46	16.59	5.38	0.85	5.40	66.59	19.56	96.60	1.92
26	BUB-18-20	51.83	35.14	2.13	47.36	64.83	1.26	7.49	10.06	13.56	4.74	0.87	5.06	79.19	40.19	83.04	3.41
27	BUB-18-21	54.83	31.61	1.20	81.02	71.16	0.82	11.35	13.32	14.70	4.64	1.03	4.83	78.76	30.07	96.81	2.99
28	BUB-18-22	58.50	38.47	3.84	26.09	71.33	2.79	6.78	13.05	20.74	6.37	1.00	3.75	80.85	18.60	170.86	3.42
29	BUB-18-23	59.42	42.64	3.56	38.32	75.66	1.65	6.07	7.86	18.61	5.56	0.67	5.27	77.52	32.89	75.62	2.48
30	BUB-18-24	63.33	36.34	2.47	41.07	76.33	1.53	6.85	15.99	14.16	4.07	0.86	3.50	73.82	40.14	87.01	3.53
31	BUB-18-25	60.83	43.97	8.24	87.36	72.17	1.95	9.31	16.54	12.08	3.82	0.97	5.58	80.99	40.33	79.40	3.32
32	BUB-18-26	65.57	37.35	3.37	30.19	79.00	1.78	9.37	8.38	18.18	5.87	0.95	5.07	77.80	27.98	86.96	2.50
33	BUB-18-27	59.33	45.73	1.81	56.00	75.50	2.12	11.55	10.26	25.55	8.63	0.74	5.22	70.30	16.41	233.22	3.57
34	BUB-18-28	58.83	44.59	5.30	18.94	73.83	0.53	10.54	6.49	10.73	3.51	0.82	5.53	92.47	31.98	43.16	1.46
	Mean	58.25	38.73	3.62	53.58	73.14	1.85	8.41	11.48	16.92	5.51	0.90	4.55	75.93	28.78	116.65	2.66
	Min	50.00	28.08	1.20	18.94	62.49	0.53	5.98	6.49	10.73	3.51	0.50	3.18	58.98	11.02	15.67	1.46
	Max	69.67	45.73	24.09	92.41	90.00	4.22	11.86	22.32	28.53	9.63	1.30	5.60	94.87	138.45	251.09	3.57
	SE(d) ±	2.32	2.08	0.19	2.94	2.48	0.08	0.45	0.44	0.87	0.25	0.03	0.11	2.80	1.04	6.64	0.13
	C.D. at 5%	4.65	4.17	0.38	5.89	4.96	0.16	0.91	0.89	1.75	0.50	0.05	0.23	5.60	2.09	13.28	0.27
	C.V. (%)	4.88	6.59	6.39	6.73	4.15	5.35	6.58	4.73	6.32	5.60	3.36	3.05	4.52	4.44	6.97	6.09

Pooled data showed that the mean was (5.51 cm) and the range was (3.51 to 9.63 cm). Seven genotypes were found positively significant viz. BUB-18-2 (9.63), Kashi Uttam (9.20), BUB-18-27 (8.63), Kashi Green Round (8.09), BUB-18-12 (7.95), CHBR-2 (7.67), and BUB-18-22 (6.37) for fruit diameter over the rest genotypes. A similar trend of fruit diameter was observed in the genotypes studied by Nikitha et al., [11] and Nazir et al. [12].

Pooled data showed that the mean was (0.90 g/cm³) and the range mean value was (0.50 to 1.30 g/cm³). Among the 34 genotypes, thirteen genotypes were found significant viz. BUB-18-4 (1.30 g/cm³), BUB-18-11 (1.19 g/cm³), BUB-18-3 (1.07 g/cm³), Pusa Ankur (1.03 g/cm³), BUB-18-21 (1.03 g/cm³), BUB-18-22 (1.00 g/cm³), Kashi Taru (0.97 g/cm³), BUB-18-25 (0.95 g/cm³), BUB-18-18 (0.95 g/cm³), and BUB-18-20-1 (0.95 g/cm³) overall its rest genotypes of brinjal for specific gravity of fruits. A similar result was also reported by Manjit Kuma et al. [21].

Pooled data showed that the mean was (4.55) and the range was (3.18 to 5.60). The highest total soluble solids were noticed for genotypes BUB-18-16 (5.60) followed by BUB-18-12 (5.51), BUB-18-5 (5.48), BUB-18-25 (5.58), BUB-18-28 (5.53), BUB-18-19 (5.40), BUB-18-10 (5.31), BUB-18-23 (5.27), BUB-18-27 (5.22), BUB-18-15 (5.17), BUB-18-20-1 (5.11), BUB-18-17 (5.15), BUB-18-26 (5.07), BUB-18-20 (5.06), BUB-18-11 (4.89), BUB-18-21 (4.83), and CHBR-2 (5.06) among 34 genotypes to this trait. Similar results were recorded by Tripathy et al. [22]

Pooled data showed that the mean was 75.93 cm and the range was 58.98 to 84.87 cm. Maximum plant height at last picking was recorded in BUB-18-5 (94.87 cm) followed by BUB-18-28 (92.47 cm), BUB-18-18 (89.53 cm), Kashi Taru (89.10 cm), BUB-18-16 (83.74 cm), and BUB-18-9 (84.40 cm) over the rest genotypes for this trait. Similar results were reported by Sivakumar et al. [23], Nirmala et al. [19] and Vidhya et al. [18].

The number of fruits per plant is one of the most important component traits which is directly increased fruit yield per plant. Pooled data showed that the mean was (28.78) and the range was (11.02 to 138.45). Eleven genotypes were found statistically significant viz. BUB-18-16 (138.45), BUB-18-25 (40.33), BUB-18-20 (40.19), BUB-18-24 (40.14), BUB-18-2 (34.56), BUB-18-9 (33.12), BUB-18-23 (32.89), Kashi

Prakash (32.86), BUB-18-28 (31.98), Kashi Taru (31.32), and BUB-18-14 (31.21) for this trait over the rest genotypes. Similar results were reported by Tripathy et al. [22], Yadav, et al. [21] and Nikitha et al. [11].

Pooled data showed that the mean was (116.65 g) and the range was (15.67 to 251.09g). Average fruit weight (g) was recorded maximum in Kashi Uttam (251.09) followed by BUB-18-12 (246.52 g), BUB-18-27 (233.22 g), CHBR-2 (224.08 g), Kashi Green Round (213.00 g), BUB-18- 4 (186.29 g), BUB-18-22 (170.86 g), Pusa Upkar (173.13 g), and BUB-18-17 (154.40 g) for this trait among 34 genotypes. Similar results were recorded by Yadav, et al. [21], Nikitha et al., [11] and Nazir et al. [12].

The data on the mean performance of genotypes are indicated in Table 2 for the first year, Table 3 for the second year and Table 4 for pooled two years. Fruit yield per plant over two years of pooled data ranged from (1.45 kg) to (3.57 kg) with a population mean of 2.66 kg. In individual years as well as pooled over two years, maximum fruit yield per plant was recorded in BUB-18-27 (3.57 kg) followed by BUB-18-12 (3.53 kg), BUB-18- 4 (3.53 kg), BUB-18-24 (3.53 kg), BUB-18-20 (3.41 kg), BUB-18-22(3.42 kg), BUB-18-25 (3.32 kg) Kashi Taru (3.38 kg) and BUB-18-17 (3.31 kg) with statistically *at par* values among all 34 genotypes. Comparable results on fruit yield per plant in brinjal have also been reported by Nirmala et al. [19], Tripathy et al. [22] and Nikitha et al., [11].

Among the thirty-four genotypes evaluated, the genotypes Pusa Shyamal (50.00 and BUB-18-14 (50.00) recorded to days to 50% flowering for earliness, the genotype BUB-18-2 (28.08 cm) recorded minimum for plant height at 50% flowering, the genotype BUB-18-15 (24.09) recorded maximum for number of flowers per cluster, the genotype BUB-18-15 (92.41) recorded maximum for fruit setting percentage, the genotype BUB-18-2 (62.49) recorded minimum for days to first fruit picking, the genotype CHBR-2 (4.22 cm²) recorded maximum for leaf area index, the genotype BUB-18-10 (11.86) recorded maximum for number of primary branches per plant, the genotype Kashi Taru (22.32 cm) recorded maximum for fruit length, the genotype Kashi Uttam (28.53 cm) recorded maximum for fruit circumference, the genotype Kashi Uttam [24] (9.20) recorded maximum for fruit diameter, the genotype BUB-18-4 (1.30 g/cm³) recorded maximum for specific gravity of

fruits, the genotype BUB-18-16 (5.60) recorded maximum for total soluble solid, the genotype BUB-18-5 (94.87 cm) recorded maximum for plant height at last picking, the genotype BUB-18-15 (138.45) recorded maximum for number of fruits per plant, the genotype BUB-18-27 (233.22 g) recorded maximum for average fruit weight and the genotype BUB-18-27 (3.57) recorded maximum for fruit yield per plant.

4. CONCLUSION

From the current investigation, we conclude that BUB-18-27 had the highest yield potential compared to over rest genotypes followed by BUB-18-12 BUB-18-4, BUB-18-24, BUB-18-20, BUB-18-22, BUB-18-25, Kashi Taru, and BUB-18-17. The genotypes BUB-18-20 had the earliest values among the recognized high yielding genotypes for days to 50% flowering and days to the first fruit harvest. The genotype BUB-18-27 was also found positively best with respect to average fruit weight, total soluble solids, fruit diameter, fruit circumference, number of primary branches and leaf area index. These genotypes can be recommended for commercial cultivation in the Bundelkhand region after critically evaluating their stability, also based on some suitable parameters these lines can be used in various types of breeding programmes of brinjal for developing new varieties.

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COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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