

## Research Article

### **Vegetative and Reproductive Phenophase Analysis of *Plantago ovata* forssk. With Particular reference to Kymore Plateau Region**

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#### **Abstract:**

Present paper deals with the study of Vegetative and Reproductive Phenophase parameters i.e. plant height, number of tiller/plant, ear length and number of ears per plant, flowering, fruit initiation and maturity of *Plantago ovata* forssk. (Isabgol). A medicinally important plant species study site is Rewa, which constitute the significant geographical area of the Kymore Plateau Region. The sampling from three sampling plots identified for the study was done after 45, 60, 75, 90 and 105 days of sowing.

The Vegetative and Reproductive Phenophase analysis done in the present investigation reveals that the growth and reproductive performance shows the suitability of the Isabgol species grown in Kymore Plateau Region. The cultivation of this important medicinal material but also helps in the conservation of biodiversity.

**Key words:** DAS (Days after showing), Vegetative Phenophase, Reproductive Phenophase.

#### **Introduction:**

The direct utilization of plant material is a feature of traditional medicines not only in the developing world but also in Europe and the USA e.g.; herbal formulation on health food shops. Preparations of decoctions, tinctures, galenicals and total extracts of plants also form apart of many pharmacopeias of the world.

The current trend of medicinal plants based drug industry is to procure standardized extracts of plants as raw material. Special attention is required on medicinal plants on which significant research leads have been obtained. Medicinal plants continue to be an important resources material for therapeutical agent both in developed and developing countries. Presently, the Indian system of medicine uses over 1100

medicinal plants and most of them are collected from the wild regularly, of which over five dozen species are said to be in great demand. The tribal belt of India is rich in these plants and local tribes mainly depend, for their livelihood, on their collection and trade. However, the supply of raw material for the industry is procured through minor forest produce contractors/dealers.

A vast majority of the world population today are finding themselves unable to afford the products of the western pharmaceutical industry, and they have to depend mainly upon the use of traditional medicines. This reality has been recognized, documented and compiled by the WHO in an inventory of medicinal plants numbering over 200000 species, the world population is expected

to touch 750 crores by the turn of the century and this will further escalate the health budget especially those of the developing countries.

The maker for herbal medicines in the developed countries is growing at a faster rate than the other pharmaceutical products. The realization that allopathic drugs have harmful side-effects. Allopathic medicines are said to be ineffective against many chronic diseases like cancer. Moreover, many people suffering from diabetes, arthritis, respiratory diseases, ailments, gastric problem, jaundice, etc. are said to be turning more and more to ayurveda and Unani for permanent cures. Herbal medicines are comparatively less expensive. The western medical profession has begun to acknowledge the value of herbal medicine. This also explains the fact that many purely allopathic units have also adopted the use of formulations which include natural herbal drugs.

The primary objective for the industrial developments of medicinal and aromatic plants species is the yield of active physiochemical compounds. The major landmark for the cultivar of medicinal plants is lack of standards and cultivation package or agro technology and unavailability of cultivars possessing superior quality parameters. The breeding programme of medicinal and aromatic plants has not received much attention as priority was given to food crops.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:**

Data for different vegetative and reproductive phenophase parameters i.e. Plant height, number of tiller/plant, ear length and number of ears per plant.

Flowering, fruit initiation and maturity of *Plantago ovata* forssk. (Isabgol) have been presented in Table 2 and Fig. 3.

### **Vegetative Analysis:**

Plant height, Number of tiller per plant, ear length and Number of ears per Plant:

An observation of plant height, Number of tiller per plant, Ear length and number of ears per plant was studied in the year 2005-06 and 2006-07. It was observed that in all the Plots A, B and C which are considered for the present experiment reveals that plant height ranges from 25 to 30.4 cm., and average of 28 cm., Number of tiller per plant varies from 7 to 9 an average of 8 tiller/plant, ear length ranges from 3.18 to 4.91 cm. an average of 75 ears per plant. (Table-2 Fig.-2).

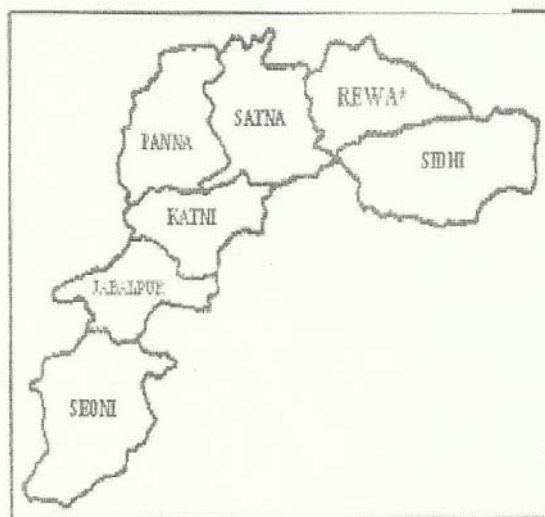
### **Reproductive Phenophase Analysis:**

Flowering, Fruit initiation and maturity: An observation of 50% flowering, Fruit initiation and plant maturity was studied in the year 2005-06 and 2006-07. It was observed that in all the plots A, B, C considered for the present experiment reveal that it takes 40 to 42 days in 50% Flowering with an average of 41 days, 50 to 52 days with 51 days an average required day for fruit initiation and 79 to 84 days for maturity with an average 81.5 days (Table 2 fig. 2.).

Phenology of Isabgol (*Plantago ovata* forssk.) shows the flowers are bisexual tetramerous, anemophilous and protogynous, favoring out crossing, Corolla is scarious, Fruit ellipsoid capsule, smooth rosy white seeds. The husk is thin, translucent, and odorless with a bland mucilaginous taste.



**Fig. 1 Showing a vegetative Plant of Isabgol**



**Fig. 2 Showing Geographical districts of Kaymore Plateau Region**

Fig.-3 Showing variation in Days to 50% Flowering, Days to Fruit Initiation, Days to Maturity, Plant height (c.m.), Number of tiller/plant, ear length and number of ears per plant.

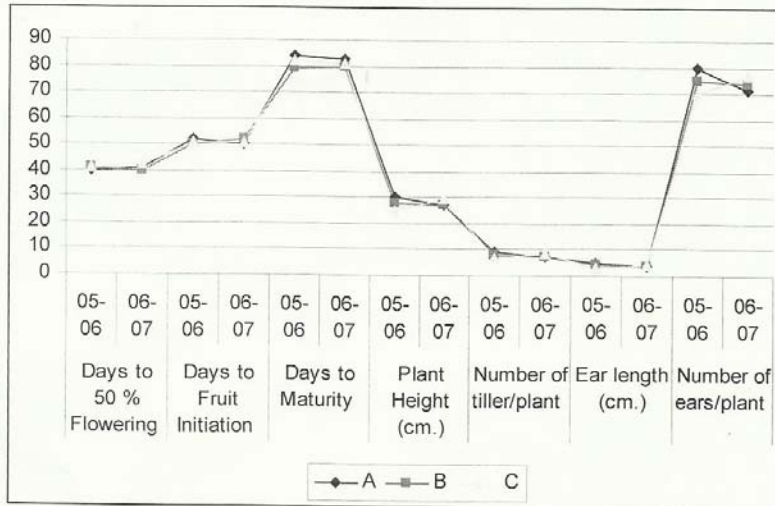
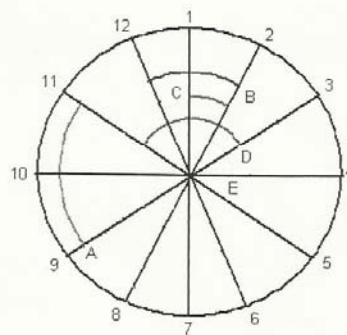


Fig. 4 Phenogram of *Plantago ovata* Forssk.



A – Sowing- October - November  
 B – Flowering – December – January  
 C – Fruiting – January  
 D – Vegetative Phase – November – February  
 E – Maturity – February – March  
 From 1 to 12 – January to December.

**Table 1- Showing General feature of Isabgol cultivation.**

S.No.	Features	Isabgol
1.	Variety	Jl-4
2.	Plot size	10m x 10 m
3.	Date of sowing for the years 2006 and 2007	15 <sup>th</sup> October (Plot B) 30 <sup>th</sup> October (Plot A) 14 <sup>th</sup> November (Plot C)
4.	Method of sowing	Line sowing
5.	Seed rate	1 Kg./hac.
6.	Manure	Cow dung @ 10 tonnes/hac. at the time of Land preparation.
7.	Irrigation	One month after sowing
8-	Cultural operation	thinning and weeding as and when required.

**Table-2 Showing variation in Days to 50% Flowering, Days to Fruit Initiation, Days to Maturity, Plant height (cm.), Number of tiller/plant, ear length and number of ears per plant.**

S.N	Plot	Days to 50% Flowering		Days to Fruit Initiation		Days to Maturity		Plant height (cm.)		Number of tiller/plant		Ear length (cm.)		Number of ears per plant	
		05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
1	A	40	41	52	50	84	83	30.40	27.45	9.33	7.33	4.91	3.83	79.83	71.00
2	B	41	40	50	52	79	80	27.95	27.05	8.00	7.50	4.28	3.88	74.66	73.83
3	C	41	42	51	51	82	81	25.00	29.50	6.83	8.16	3.18	4.33	70.33	76.50
AVERAGE		40.33	41	51	51	83	81.3	27.78	28.00	8.05	7.66	4.12	4.01	74.94	73.77

## CONCLUSIONS:

The performance of Isabgol reveals better vegetative and reproductive phenophase performance of the plant in Kymore plateau region. It can thus be recommended that based on vegetative and reproductive phenophase analysis large scale cultivation of Isabgol should be undertaken in Kymore plateau region.

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