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Morphological characterization of pearl millet [Pennisetum glaucum (L.) R. Br] in Southern Algeria (Tidikelt region)

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The present study was undertaken to characterize pearl millet [*Pennisetum glaucum* (L.) R. Br.] in Tidikelt region. In order to identify the characters diagnostic key of the genotypes, 13 group of pearl millet were assessed from different sites in maturation stage on the basis of pearl millet descriptors of the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR) and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropic (ICRISAT).The most widely varied variables were: Height of the plant (HP), nodes number (NN), leafs number (LN) on main tiller, panicle color (PC), stem diameter (SD) and seed endosperm texture; whereas very low variation was noted in third leave dimensions; length (LL), width (LW) and seed shape (SF). Therefore, local millet (MLT.P, MLT. Ham) appeared as the best groups based on their agro-morphological variations detected in this study, compared with domesticated (MDT.SepL, MDT.Smix) and wild millet (MlT.VN, MLT.VNP) which are often used as hay.

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High risk human papilloma virus types in HIV infected and uninfected young women in a cross sectional study in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: Implications for vaccination

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High-risk human papillomavirus (hr-HPV) infections and low-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions occur frequently in young women. The available vaccines cater for up to nine hr-HPV genotypes, which may not necessarily be the most predominant types in every region worldwide. The objective of this study was to describe the hr-HPV genotypes present among HIV uninfected and infected young women in rural areas of the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa. Cervico-vaginal lavages were obtained from sexually active young women recruited from high schools in KwaZulu-Natal (n=1223). HPV detection and genotyping were done by the polymerase chain reaction using GP5+/GP6+ primers and enzyme immunoassay. HIV testing was done on serum using rapid tests. Of the 1223 cervico-vaginal lavages, 301 (25%) were positive for hr-HPV. The HPV prevalence was higher in HIV infected (32.2%, 95% CI, 0.27-0.38) than in HIV uninfected women (22.5%%, 95% CI, 0.21-0.26), p=0.001. Similarly, multiple infections were slightly more common in HIV infected (59.3%) than in HIV uninfected women (53.5%), p=0.37. The nine most predominant genotypes in descending order were HPV types 16 (n=99, 22.1%), type 51 (n=58, 12.9%), type 18 (n=56, 12.5%), type 35 (n=50, 11.1%), type 33 (n=47, 10.8%), type 56 (n=42, 9.3%), type 45 (n=34, 7.6%), type 52 (n=32, 7.1%) and type 59 (n=31, 6.9%). Specifically, HPV 35, 51, 56 and 59 (40.6%) were among the most prevalent in the schools of KwaZulu-Natal not covered by the nine-valent vaccine.

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