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Short Communication**‘FAIZ KAREEM’: A NEW MANGO CULTIVAR**

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INTRODUCTION

Clonal selection is the traditional mechanism of developing new, improved mango varieties (Iyer and Dinesh, 1997; Chaikiattiyos *et al.*, 2000). However, selective breeding in the field by planting mixtures of commercially important varieties in close proximity in an orchard and planting the resultant seed for further selection is gaining popularity (Lavi *et al.*, 1997). The result of one such effort in Pakistan is Faiz Kareem (putative parentage: Anwar Ratole x Chaunsa). The aim of the present study was to evaluate Faiz Kareem, ascertain its parentage by DNA fingerprinting and assess its potential for local as well as international markets.

DESCRIPTION

‘Faiz Kareem’ is a mid season, medium sized cultivar. Young leaves are yellow, mature leaves are symmetrical and lanceolate, with acuminate tips and entire margins. The inflorescence is pyramidal with pinkish to crimson peduncle. Fruit is medium in size (with an average mass of ≈ 300g) and round ovate in shape. The skin of mature fruit is thin and smooth with a bright yellow color, occasionally with non-pathological, black angular and sunken marks of variable sizes and depths. The attractive yellow flesh is firm, juicy and fibreless with TSS of 25.54 °Brix and 0.29% acidity. The flavor is good and sweet, with a very pleasant aroma. Stone is very small (≈ 23.66g), elliptical and fibreless.

CONCLUSION

- Good mid season cultivar for the local market. However, for the export market, further evaluation is needed.
- 25 ten-mer random primers surveyed, Chaunsa is likely to be the male parent (data not given).

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