

ANALYSIS OF GENETIC DIVERSITY IN OILSEED *BRASSICA* GERMPLASM THROUGH ISSR MARKERS AND ISOZYME PROFILING

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Abstract

Eleven *Brassica* germplasm were characterized through the application of 12 oligonucleotide Inter Simple Sequence Repeat (ISSR) primers. A total 1248 bands were amplified through polymorphic chain reaction and were visualized by agarose gel electrophoresis. Among the amplified marker bands 71.47% were polymorphic in nature and 352 bands were found to be monomorphic. The polymorphic bands of the amplified DNAs mostly ranged between 110 bp and 3 kb. Genetic distance among the germplasm ranged between 0.0468 and 0.7189. Moreover, three isozyme systems such as esterase, acid phosphatase and peroxidase were analyzed for allozyme variability that detected distinct 93 isozyme loci of which nearly 61.9% were polymorphic. Two dendrograms were constructed based on the ISSR profiling and isozyme data obtained through electrophoresis to find out the relatedness and phylogenetic relationship among the investigating *Brassica* germplasm. The clusters of the phylogenetic tree revealed 4 distinct groups of *Brassica* based upon their ISSR banding patterns and isozyme analysis. Nei's genetic distance analysis provided strong information about the existence of variability among the germplasm of *Brassica*. All the germplasm was found to be clustered according to their respective species. *Brassica carinata* (Ethiopian mustard) showed individuality from all the germplasm studied and made a different branch in the phylogenetic tree suggesting its diverse origin. From the clustering pattern and genetic relationship obtained with ISSR markers and isozyme analysis, breeders can successfully identify the diverse germplasm from different cluster and use them in their future breeding program.

Introduction

Brassica is one of the major crop genera in the family Brassicaceae (syn. Cruciferae). The genus is remarkable for containing a large number of important vegetables to oilseed and condiment crops than any other genus. *Brassica* is the second largest oilseed crop after soybean in the world (Raymer 2002, FAO 2010). *Brassica* oil contains many mono- and polyunsaturated fatty acids and a few harmful saturated fatty acids which make it nutritionally superior to most other edible oils (Agnihotri *et al.* 2007). Oilseed *Brassica* collectively contribute about 15% of the world's total supply of vegetable oils and became the third-leading source of edible oil in the world after soybean and palm (McVetty *et al.* 2016). Indian mustard (*Brassica juncea* L.), rapeseed (*Brassica campestris* L. syn *Brassica rapa* L.), *Brassica napus* L. are important oil yielding crops in Bangladesh. Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) and Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA) have already developed several varieties of *Brassica* in Bangladesh using efficient breeding techniques. But there are some problems associated with this crop such as unsynchronized maturity, pest and disease invasions, effect of abiotic stress like salinity and drought, etc. It may be pointed here that *Brassica carinata* constitutes an interesting alternative to diesel fuel in less-favored regions of the world (Dorado *et al.* 2004). It has been introduced into and field-tested for biofuel production in Canada (Marillia *et al.* 2014), India

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(Malik 1990), Italy (Bozzini *et al.* 2007), Pakistan (Zada *et al.* 2013) and Spain (Velasco *et al.* 2003). Acute shortage of edible oil has been prevailing in Bangladesh during last several decades. For proper improvement of *Brassica*, it is important to investigate the variability of the existing germplasm as well as to introduce some new germplasm those are superior in qualities.

Genetic variability in respect to genetic diversity is the prerequisite for the crop improvement through selection of desired progenies. Molecular markers allow the identification and characterization of plant genotypes through direct access to hereditary material (Ismail *et al.* 2016). Several genetic or phylogenetic relationships have been proposed for different taxa within *B. rapa*, based on morphology, geographical distribution, isozymes and different molecular markers (Zhao *et al.* 2005). Molecular markers are more effective to detect the variability in Indian mustard (Singh *et al.* 2013). Analysis by molecular markers help in choosing parental types for mapping populations, marker assisted selections and back crossing schemes and thus diversity studies conducted using various markers help the breeders to improve crop species.

Several types of molecular markers such as (Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP), Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD), Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP), Simple Sequence Repeat (SSR), etc. are available for evaluating the extent of genetic variation in plants. Inter Simple Sequence Repeat (ISSR) markers have been proposed as a new source of genetic markers that are inherited in Mendelian fashion and are scored as dominant markers. It is a PCR-based marker and its genomic sequence lying between adjacent microsatellites (SSRs) (Zietkiewicz *et al.* 1994). These markers have been developed since 1994 and got acceptability for its low cost and less laborious but with high reliability (Zietkiewicz *et al.* 1994). The role of ISSR as phylogenetic markers to investigate evolutionary divergence among plants has been well established (Panda *et al.* 2002, Ghariani *et al.* 2003). Available literature indicated that there is no report on using ISSR markers for the diversity analysis of *Brassica* germplasm obtained in Bangladesh.

Isozymes are also considered as biochemical markers used as a powerful tool both in characterization of cultivar and in genetic and phylogenetic studies for many crop species (Tanksley and Orton 1983). The chances of correct cultivar identification are highly possible through isozyme electrophoresis (Ivy *et al.* 2010). These techniques are efficiently used for genetics, systematics and plant breeding, particularly in *Brassica* germplasm because of their high level of polymorphism (Chevre *et al.* 1991). In this study, isozyme data have also used for validation of the ISSR information for understanding the relationship among the *Brassica* germplasm.

Therefore, in the present investigation ISSR fingerprinting and isozyme data were considered to examine the genetic variability and to find out the genetic relationship among the studied *Brassica* germplasm. The potentiality of the germplasm was evaluated for their utilization in strengthening *Brassica* breeding programs.

Materials and Methods

All the 11 germplasm (Table 1) used in this study were collected from Oil Seed Division of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Joydebpur, Gazipur and Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA), Mymensingh, except *Brassica carinata* which was obtained from Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI), Bangladesh. The materials were maintained in the Plant Breeding and Biotechnology Laboratory, Department of Botany, University of Dhaka.

Genomic DNA of all 11 *Brassica* germplasm was extracted using fresh and young leaves collected from 25 days old seedlings those were grown in the net house of the Department of Botany, University of Dhaka. Extraction of genomic DNA by CTAB (cetyltrimethylammonium

bromide) method (Doyle and Doyle 1990) was carried with little modification. For this purpose, young and fresh leaves were washed in distilled water and ethanol and dried on fresh tissue paper to remove spores of microorganisms and any other source of foreign DNA. 400 mg leaf tissue were taken in liquid nitrogen and grinded to fine powder followed by addition of 1.6 ml extraction buffer (3% CTAB; 1.4 M NaCl; 100 mM tris-HCl, pH 8.0; 20 mM EDTA, pH 8.0 and 0.2% mercaptoethanol). The homogenous paste then transferred to an Eppendorf tube (2.0 ml) and incubated at 60°C in a water bath for 30 min. The samples were centrifuged at 13,000 rpm for 10 min at 4°C then equal volume of chloroform: Isoamyl alcohol (24 : 1) was added with the supernatants and centrifuged the tubes at 13,000 rpm for 10 min. The supernatant with 2/3 volume chilled isopropanol was kept overnight at -20°C to precipitate the DNA. The supernatants were discarded carefully after centrifuged for 10 min at 13,000 rpm and DNA pellet was collected. The pellet was washed with 70% ice-cold ethanol and air dried. The dried DNA was dissolved in 50 µl of TE buffer and treated with RNase A for 30 min at 37°C and stored at -20°C.

Table 1. List of *Brassica* germplasm used for ISSR analysis and isozyme localization.

Sl. No.	Species	Variety
1	<i>Brassica napus</i>	BARI Sarisha-13
2	<i>B. juncea</i>	BARI Sarisha-11
3	<i>B. juncea</i>	BARI Sarisha-16
4	<i>B. campestris</i>	Safal
5	<i>B. campestris</i>	Agrani
6	<i>B. campestris</i>	Binasarisha-6
7	<i>B. campestris</i>	BARI Sarisha-15
8	<i>B. campestris</i>	Tori -7
9	<i>B. napus</i>	BARI Sarisha-8
10	<i>B. campestris</i>	BARI Sarisha-14
11	<i>B. carinata</i>	-

Then DNA was quantified by fluorometer (Qubit[®] 2.0, Catalog No. Q32866). Original stock solution concentration of each DNA sample was adjusted to a unique concentration (25 ng/µl) for PCR amplification reaction. A total 12 oligonucleotide ISSR primer was used for PCR amplification (Table 2).

PCR amplification was performed in a 25µl reaction mixture containing 25 ng/µl of template DNA (1 µl), 2.5 µl 10 × buffer, 100 µM dNTPs, 1 µM primer, 1U *Taq* polymerase. PCR amplifications were performed in a thermal cycler (Applied Biosystems) with initial denaturation at 94°C for 3 min followed by 35 cycles of 30 sec at 94°C, 1 min at the annealing temperature of 34 to 64°C (for different primers), 2 min elongation at 72°C and final extension at 72°C for 7 min.

The amplified products were separated electrophoretically on 1.5% agarose gel with 1 × TAE buffer and ethidium bromide. Agarose gel electrophoresis was conducted in 1 × TAE buffer at 90 V and 250 mA for 90 min. When required either 1 kb plus or 1 Kb DNA ladder (GeneRuler[™]) was electrophoresed alongside the PCR amplified products. Gel was photographed using UV Transilluminator (Cleaver Scientific Ltd.).

Genetic distances matrix (Nei 1972) was computed from frequencies of polymorphic markers to estimate genetic relationship among the studied 11 *Brassica* germplasm using UPGMA (Table 3). The dendrogram was constructed using the computer software "Popgene 32". The Nei's distance matrix (Nei 1972) was employed to estimate the genetic distances among the germplasm.

Table 2. List of ISSR primers and their nucleotide sequence with their G + C content.

Sl. No.	Primer code	Primer sequence (5' - 3')	G + C content (%)
1	HB_09	GTGTGTGTGTGTGG	57.14
2	HB_13	GACGACGACGC	72.73
3	UBC 812	GAG AGA GAG AGA GAG AA	47.059
4	UBC 816	CAC ACA CAC ACA CAC AT	47.059
5	UBC 818	CAC ACA CAC ACA CAC AG	52.94
6	UBC 835	AGAGAGAGAGAGAGAGYC	50.0
7	UBC 841	GAG AGA GAG AGA GAG AYC	50.0
8	UBC 843	CTCTCTCTCTCTCTRA	44.44
9	UBC 847	CACACACACACACARC	50.0
10	UBC 857	ACA CAC ACA CAC ACA CYG	50.0
11	UBC 878	GGA TGG ATG GAT GGA T	50.0
12	UBC 889	DBD ACA CAC ACA CAC AC	41.176

Table 3. Summary of Nei's genetic distances of 11 germplasm of *Brassica*.

<i>Brassica</i> Germ-plasm	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	0										
2	0.5019	0									
3	0.5647	0.0575	0								
4	0.5041	0.4234	0.4312	0							
5	0.5210	0.4312	0.4312	0.0628	0						
6	0.5125	0.4312	0.4234	0.0792	0.0468	0					
7	0.5558	0.4710	0.4792	0.1071	0.0958	0.1357	0				
8	0.4469	0.4629	0.4710	0.2726	0.2463	0.2270	0.2860	0			
9	0.2018	0.5210	0.5125	0.4710	0.4710	0.4157	0.5210	0.4469	0		
10	0.4957	0.4469	0.4710	0.1592	0.1241	0.1652	0.1712	0.2659	0.5470	0	
11	0.5919	0.5558	0.5647	0.6485	0.6881	0.6780	0.7085	0.7189	0.5041	0.6581	0

Apart from ISSR profiling, three isozymes, namely esterase, acid phosphatase and peroxidase were used for further characterization of the *Brassica* germplasm. Proteins isolated from the *Brassica* leaves were used for enzyme localization following gel electrophoresis. For the preparation of protein samples fresh leaves were homogenized in a mortar and pestle on ice in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.0) and centrifuged at 15,000 rpm for 12 min. The supernatant was used as samples for the vertical polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) for isozymes analysis following the techniques of Majumder *et al.* (2012). After performing the gel electrophoreses, the

gels were stained for three different isozyme systems and the staining solutions were prepared according to Johnson *et al.* (2012) for the detection of isozymes on the electrophoretic gels.

Esterase activity on the slab gel was detected according to the method of Arús and Orton (1983). At first 100 ml 0.2 M sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.0) were prepared by mixing 39.0 ml from Solution A (0.2 M NaH₂PO₄.H₂O) and 61.0 ml from Solution B (0.2 M Na₂HPO₄.7H₂O). Then 30 mg of α -naphthyl acetate dissolved in 1.0 ml absolute alcohol and 50 mg of Fast blue B salt was mixed with 100 ml 0.2 M sodium phosphate buffer. Peroxidase loci were detected by incubating the gel in 0.6 ml acetic acid, 0.1 g benzidine and 1% hydrogen peroxide in 100 ml solution. For acid phosphatase localization, the gel was incubated in 100 ml solution containing α -naphthyl acid phosphate monosodium salt (100 mg dissolved in 1 ml acetone and 1 ml H₂O), Fast Garnet GBC salt 75 mg, 10% MgCl₂ 0.5 ml and 0.2M sodium acetate.

After the electrophoresis, the gels were incubated in the respective staining solutions at room temperature in the dark until the clear bands on the gels appeared. Following proper staining the gels were fixed with 7% acetic acid solution for 30 min and then the gels were washed with distilled water and photographed using the gel documentation system. The pairing affinity was calculated among the *Brassica* germplasm accordingly. The dendrogram was constructed using the computer software "Popgene 32". Each band was considered as isozymic character and scored as '1' for presence and '0' for absence (Bimb *et al.* 2004). The presence or absence of a certain isozymic band was considered as a differentiating feature (Majumder *et al.* 2012). Zymogram was prepared and zymotypic frequencies were calculated.

Results and Discussion

ISSR analysis of the 11 germplasm of *Brassica* spp. using the 12 selected ISSR primers generated a total of 1248 bands of which 71.47% were polymorphic (Table 4). The mean number of loci per primer was 16.33. Results indicated the presence of wide genetic variability as a result of the high polymorphism among the studied germplasm of *Brassica*. In all the 11 *Brassica* germplasm, 12 primers (Table 2) produced 1248 bands. Primarily, genetic distances matrix was prepared among all the germplasm. Genetic variance among the 11 germplasm of *Brassica* ranged in between 0.0468 and 0.7189.

In all the 11 *Brassica* germplasm, 12 primers produced 1248 bands: 59 from HB_09, 216 from HB_13, 92 from UBC 812, 71 from UBC 816, 39 from UBC 818, 115 from UBC 835, 140 from UBC 841, 91 from UBC 843, 43 from UBC 847, 151 from UBC 857, 73 from UBC 878 and 158 from UBC 889 (Fig. 1). This high level of polymorphism could be attributed to the location of those germplasm in different regions and/or their pedigree information. Also, higher number of bands for each primer indicates the existence of larger genetic diversity among the germplasm under investigation (Agrama and Tuinstra 2003). Primers with higher polymorphic bands are more efficient in studying genetic diversity and discrimination of the germplasm (Moghaddam *et al.* 2009).

In the present investigation, by using ISSR primers polymorphism has been found 71.47% (Table 4) in different germplasm of *Brassica*. In different plants using ISSR markers, a diverse level of polymorphisms has been reported such as, in case of wheat 84.8% (Abou-Dief *et al.* 2013), litchi 72.7% (Long *et al.* 2015), chickpea 68% (Pakseresht *et al.* 2013), etc. Average number of bands reported was 3.0 (Ishida *et al.* 2000), 5.54 (Shiran *et al.* 2004), 8.6 (Kimura *et al.* 2000) and 9.6 (Sandip *et al.* 1999).

Knowledge of genetic similarity (distance) between germplasm and among individuals or populations is useful in a breeding program because it permits organization of germplasm and provides more efficient sampling of germplasm to cross for the development of populations (Afiah

et al. 2007). In this study, the UPGMA analysis dendrograms and distance matrix coefficients revealed good relationships between some cultivars (Table 3). Primarily, genetic distance matrix was calculated according to Nei (1972) for all the 11 *Brassica* germplasm considering ISSR banding pattern (Table 3).

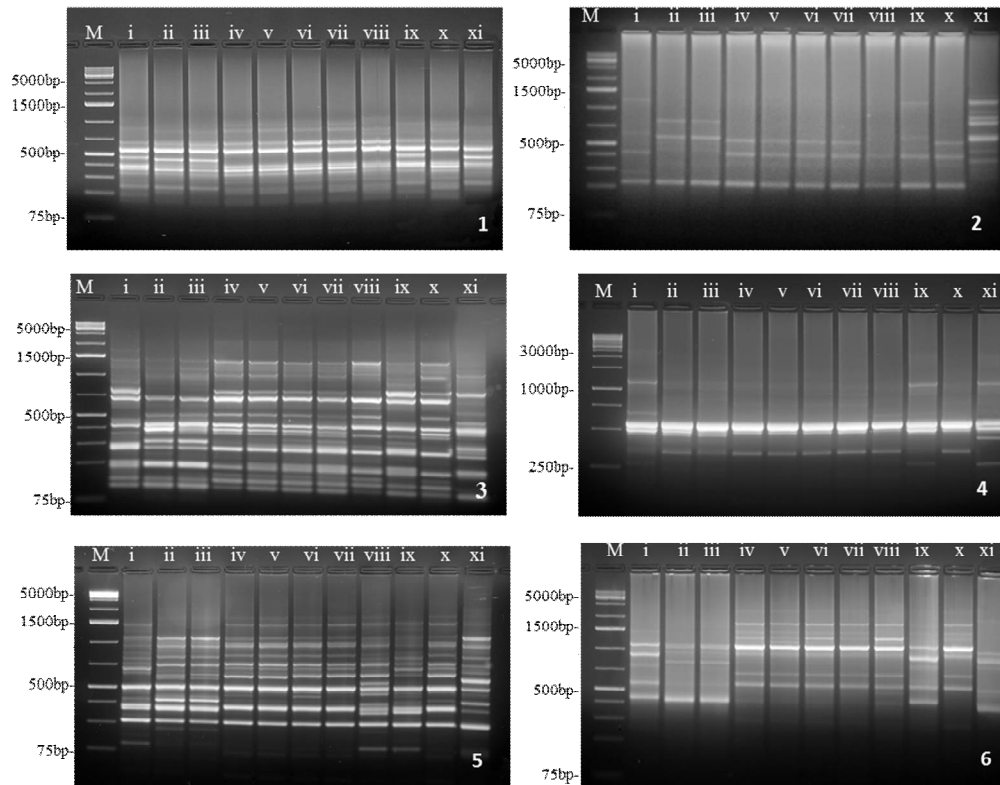


Fig. 1. ISSR profiles of the 11 *Brassica* germplasm: 1 - Amplification of bands with UBC 816 primer. Lane-M Ladder (1Kb +) and lane i - xi, amplified DNA of (i) *Brassica napus* var. BARI-13, (ii) *Brassica juncea* var. BARI-11, (iii) *Brassica juncea* var. BARI-16, (iv) *Brassica campestris* var. Safal, (v) *Brassica campestris* var. Agrani, (vi) *Brassica campestris* var. Bina-6 (vii) *Brassica campestris* var. BARI-15, (viii) *Brassica campestris* var. Tori-7, (ix) *Brassica napus* var. BARI-8 (x) *Brassica campestris* var. BARI-14 (xi) *Brassica carinata*, respectively. 2 - Same as (a) but with UBC 818 primer and 1Kb + Ladder.; 3 - Same as (a) but with UBC 841 primer and 1Kb + Ladder.; 4 - Same as (a) but with UBC 847 primer and 1Kb Ladder.; 5 - Same as (a) but with UBC 857 primer and 1Kb + Ladder; 6 - Same as (a) but with UBC 878 primer and 1Kb Ladder.

Genetic variation among the germplasm usually reveal by the genetic distances matrix. In this study, the lowest genetic distance was found between Agrani and Bina-6 (0.0468). On the other hand, the highest genetic distance was found between Tori-7 and *Brassica carinata* (0.7189). Relatively high genetic distance observed between BARI-13 and BARI-16 (0.5647), BARI-13 and Agrani (0.5210), BARI-13 and Bina-6 (0.5125), BARI-13 and BARI-15 (0.5558), BARI-8 and BARI-15 (0.5210), BARI-14 and BARI-15 (0.5470). All the modern varieties released by BARI and BINA showed moderate level of genetic distance, which ranged from 0.0468 to 0.5647. But each of them showed high level of genetic distance with *Brassica carinata* which ranged from 0.5042 to 0.7089.

The phylogenetic relationships among 11 *Brassica* germplasm were analyzed by UPGMA method (Fig. 2). The cluster result indicated that ISSR markers could distinguish all the germplasm. Grouping of the *Brassica* germplasm into each cluster or branch correlated with similarities in their ISSR DNA patterns. For example, the *Brassica* germplasm that produced the same DNA banding patterns were also recognized as being similar from phylogenetic analysis. Those germplasm belonged to the same cluster has been presented in the resulting phylogenetic tree (Fig. 2).

Table 4. Levels of polymorphism within *Brassica* germplasm.

Germplasm	No. of total bands	No. of poly-morphic bands	% of poly-morphism exists in <i>Brassica</i> germplasm	Av. % of polymorphism exists in <i>Brassica</i> germplasm
<i>Brassica napus</i> var. BARI-13	112	80	71.14	
<i>B. juncea</i> var. BARI-11	117	85	72.65	
<i>B. juncea</i> var. BARI-16	115	83	72.17	
<i>B. campestris</i> var. Safal	115	83	72.17	
<i>B. campestris</i> var. Agrani	112	80	71.43	
<i>B. campestris</i> var. Bina-6	113	81	71.68	71.47
<i>B. campestris</i> var. BARI-15	116	86	71.41	
<i>B. campestris</i> var. Tori-7	116	84	71.41	
<i>B. napus</i> var. BARI-8	114	82	71.93	
<i>B. campestris</i> var. BARI-14	110	79	71.82	
<i>B. carinata</i>	101	69	68.32	

Dendrogram produced by UPGMA method was distributed among 11 *Brassica* germplasm. There was a total of 10 clusters (1 - 10) present in the dendrogram (Fig. 2). All the germplasm was grouped into two major branches (B₁ and B₂). The germplasm *Brassica carinata* (also called Ethiopian mustard) formed a separate branch (B₂), which was totally different from other 10 *Brassica* germplasm of Bangladesh. Another 10 germplasm of *Brassica* clustered in B₁ that is divided into two sub-branches. BARI-13 and BARI-8 were clustered in cluster No.6 that was present in sub-branch-1 (SB₁). SB₂ divided into several clusters. Cluster number 8 was originated from SB₂ and these clusters contain another 6 clusters (1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7). Two germplasm of *Brassica juncea* (BARI-11 and BARI-16) formed cluster number 2 (Fig. 2). Cluster No. 7 contains six germplasm of *Brassica campestris* (Safal, Agrani, Bina-6, BARI-15, Tori-7 and BARI-14). From genetic distances matrix (Table 3), it was observed that these five germplasm showed low genetic distances among them in a ranging from 0.0468 - 0.2860. Thus, there was a clear clustering pattern of geographically closer germplasm in the present study indicating that the association between genetic similarity and geographical distance has significance.

Based on the ISSR profiling, a comparative study of acid phosphatase, peroxidase and esterase isozymes was carried in order to characterize 10 germplasm of *Brassica* spp. (Fig. 3 a,b). Along with 9 other *Brassica* germplasm, *Brassica campestris* var. Agrani was selected for isozyme analysis between *Brassica campestris* var. Agrani and *Brassica campestris* var. Binasarisha- 6 as their genetic distance was very low i.e. 0.0468. Zymogram for acid phosphatase

displayed eight distinct activity zones (Fig. 3 c,d). Zymotype 'A' occurred most frequently (28.571%) followed by other types. On the other hand, peroxidase zymogram exhibited 7 zymotypes with highest frequency on 'E' type which is 40.0% (Fig. 3). Zymotype frequency for each enzyme activity was listed in Table 5. Esterase zymotype formulated total 33 bands (Fig. 3)

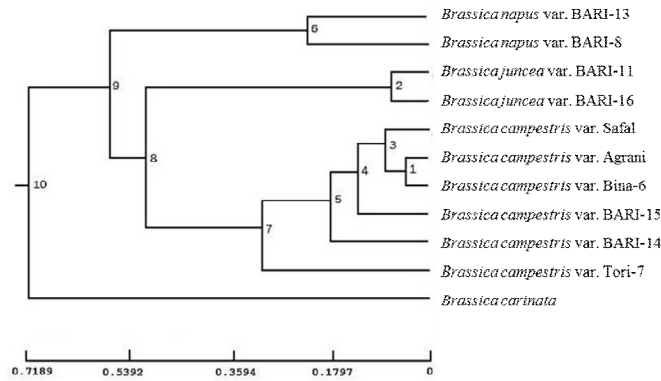


Fig. 2. UPGMA dendrogram constructed based on Nei's genetic distance summarizing the data on differentiation among *Brassica* germplasm by ISSR analysis.

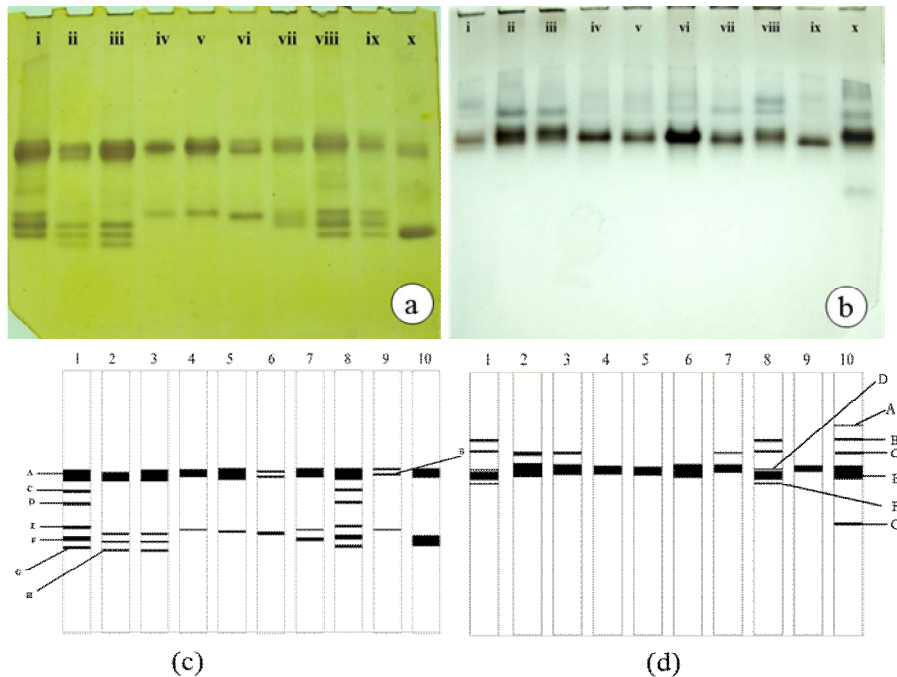


Fig. 3. Isozyme activity of 10 *Brassica* germplasm on polyacrylamide gel. (a) Activities of acid phosphatase enzyme. Lane - i - x. (i) *Brassica napus* var. BARI-13, (ii) *Brassica juncea* var. BARI-11, (iii) *Brassica juncea* var. BARI-16, (iv) *Brassica campestris* var. Safal, (v) *Brassica campestris* var. Agrani, (vi) *Brassica campestris* var. BARI-15, (vii) *Brassica campestris* var. Tori-7, (viii) *Brassica napus* var. BARI-8 (ix) *Brassica campestris* var. BARI-14, (x) *Brassica carinata*, respectively. (b) Same as (a) but for the enzyme peroxidase. (c) Zymogram for 10 germplasm of *Brassica* for acid phosphatase. (d) Zymogram for peroxidase enzyme activity. Order of the samples are same as (a) in (c) and (d).

with highest zymotype frequency of 27.27% by 'J' type band among 10 distinct zymotypes. Esterase enzyme activity produced highest number of zymotype which indicate a wide variation and could be used as genetic markers to estimate the genetic diversity according to Nakagahra (1977).

Isozyme expressions are almost exclusive of the genetic makeup of the plant and therefore, independent of environmental conditions (Schwartz 1960, Lee and Ronalds 1967). According to Ivy *et al.* (2010), zymotype of higher frequency are the representative of less variation. The lower frequency of the germplasm in different zymotypes indicated higher variation among the germplasm. In the present study, acid phosphatase, peroxidase and esterase isozymes were separated by electrophoresis to reveal the isozymatic variation among ten different germplasm of *Brassica* in relation to seed color, disease resistance and stress tolerance.

Brassica carinata or Ethiopian mustard generated exclusive bands in all the three enzyme systems. This information may help one to conclude that the germplasm of *Brassica* from Bangladesh differ in their isozymetic types from Ethiopian mustard (*Brassica carinata*) as it has several unique traits such as resistance to drought (Kumar *et al.* 1984), pod shattering, disease resistance (Alonso *et al.* 1991) and grows better under saline and late-sown conditions (Malik 1990). According to Majumder *et al.* (2012), the results generated with isoenzyme study will be helpful in improvement as well as may guide one in designing strategies that maximize the utility of genetic resources.

Table 5. Frequency (%) of zymotypes for 3 enzyme systems.

Acid phosphatase		Peroxidase		Esterase	
Zymotype	Frequency	Zymotype	Frequency	Zymotype	Frequency
A (10)	28.571	A (1)	4.0	A (1)	3.03
B (2)	5.714	B (3)	12.0	B (3)	9.09
C (2)	5.714	C (6)	24.0	C (3)	9.09
D (2)	5.714	D (2)	8.0	D (2)	6.06
E (7)	20.000	E (10)	40.0	E (5)	15.15
F (6)	17.143	F (2)	8.0	F (3)	9.09
G (4)	11.428	G (1)	4.0	G (1)	3.03
H (2)	5.714			H (3)	9.09
				I (3)	9.09
				J (9)	27.27
8 types		7 types		10 types	

A dendrogram representing 10 *Brassica* germplasm was constructed by UPGMA analysis (Fig. 4) based on three kinds of polymorphic isoenzyme activities. All the 10 germplasm were grouped into two major branches (B₁ and B₂). *Brassica carinata* formed a separate branch B₂ from all the nine BARI and BINA germplasm which are clustered in B₁. B₂ is divided into two sub-branches, SB₁ and SB₂. BARI-13 and BARI-8 were clustered in cluster number 3 that was present in sub-branch 1 (SB₁). Two germplasm of *Brassica juncea* (BARI-11 and BARI-16) formed cluster number 1 (Fig. 4). Cluster number 1 and cluster number 6 together produce cluster number 7 (SB₂). Cluster number 5 contains all the yellow seeded germplasm of *Brassica campestris* (Safal, Agrani, BARI-15 and BARI-14). *Brassica campestris* var. Tori-7 formed a separate branch from

all the yellow seeded *Brassica campestris*. This phylogenetic analysis based on the isozymetric analysis is in harmony with the ISSR analysis, which revealed the relatedness among the germplasm.

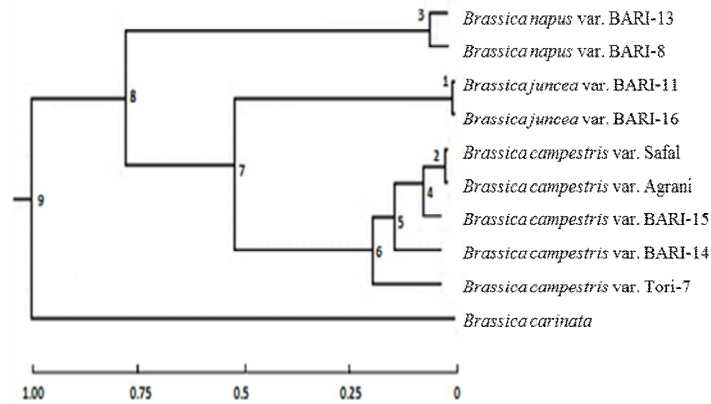


Fig. 4. Dendrogram constructed based on genetic distance summarizing the data on differentiation among *Brassica* germplasm by isozyme activity analysis.

The distribution of *Brassica* germplasm in dendrogram showed their broad genetic base for the marker assisted and isozymetic studies. Closely resembling as well as distinct *Brassica* germplasm was identified. Both the ISSR marker assisted study and isozymetic polymorphism study indicated that *Brassica carinata* was highly genetically diverse from most of the germplasm studied in this investigation. Thus, *B. carinata* may be a very important resource of genetic diversity to be maintained and utilized in future breeding programmes. Additionally, the unique bands obtained for several varieties of *Brassica* germplasm in the ISSR study signify the power of ISSR markers in fingerprinting and genetic diversity analysis. These unique bands can be further used as variety specific marker and further be exploited in future breeding programme. Successful inter varietal crossings can be performed using these variety specific markers. Isozymetic study also revealed a high degree of genetic diversity among the germplasm examined in the study, which can contribute to the improvement of oilseed *Brassica*. The results of the present investigation has opened up a possibility for developing a molecular genetic map that will lead to the application of marker assisted selection tools in genetic improvement of *Brassica* germplasm.

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