

Table 2 Analysis of variance for combining ability for different physiological traits in parents and hybrids

Source of variation	df	Mean squares								
		Proline	SPAD	Chlorophyll	Relative	Biomass	Dry root	Dry shoot	Root:	Root
		content	chlorophyll	stability	water	yield	weight	weight	Shoot	length
			meter reading	index	content				ratio	
Replication	1	0.59	1.23	1.15	0.01	15.15	0.01	2.89	0.001	0.001
Hybrids	89	95.78**	31.41**	339.80**	144.13**	51.48**	1.68**	9.06**	0.007**	0.002**
Lines	5	22.34**	54.21**	877.14**	496.14**	26.66**	15.88**	28.09**	0.04**	0.005**
Testers	14	191.09**	38.85**	285.14**	71.35**	71.35**	0.78**	7.21**	0.005**	0.002**
Line ×Tester interaction	70	81.97**	28.29**	312.35**	133.54**	49.28**	0.85**	8.07**	0.004**	0.002**
Error	89	0.620	0.527	0.634	0.530	5.400	0.260	5.840	0.003	0.001

Note: ** Significant at 1% level