This is a list with ~statements which are wrong. It is meant as motivation to ponder about 'what is wrong here'. <u>wlink@gwdg.de</u> Juni 2019



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HETEROSIS IN DIPLOID CULTIVARS

In a diploid species with two alleles at a locus, the average heterosis of a cross is greatest for a single-cross hybrid due to the occurrence of the greatest possible

118On the heterosis of single-cross, three-way
cross and four-way cross hybridsWALTER R. FEHR

number of loci with a dominant allele. For example, the mating of the inbreds $AABBccdd \times aabbCCDD$ results in single-cross individuals with a dominant allele at each locus, AaBbCcDd. Dominant alleles at each of the four loci for all single-cross individuals provide the highest average performance for the cross.

A three-way hybrid is produced by the mating of a single-cross hybrid to a third inbred parent. The average heterosis expressed by the three-way hybrid

Walter R. Fehr, Principles of Cultivar Development, Volume 1. Theory and Technique. 1991. Page 148.

the three-way than in the single cross. Consider the mating of the single cross AaBbCcDd with the inbred AABBccdd. The genotypes of the hybrid progeny are A_B_CcDd , A_B_Ccdd , A_B_ccDd , A_B_ccdd . Because of the occurrence of homozygous recessive loci in some of the progeny, the frequency of loci with dominant alleles and the average heterosis in the three-way cross is less than in the single cross.

In a double-cross hybrid formed by mating two single crosses, the average frequency of loci with a dominant allele and average heterosis would be less than in a three-way hybrid. Consider the mating of two single crosses with identical genotypes, $AaBbCcDd \times AaBbCcDd$. Homozygous recessive alleles at one or more loci in some of the progeny of this mating would reduce the average heterosis of the cross.



- 4. Heterosis in F₂ is half as large as heterosis in F1
- 5. F₂ is 50% heterozygous and 50% homozygous
- 6. The more the parents were inbred, the higher is heterosis of their hybrid
- 7. 4way crosses yield less than 2way crosses
- 8. The advantage of hybrid cultivars is their heterosis
- 9. Interspecific hybrids are sterile if parents differ in chromosome number
- 10. Backcrossing is mainly a strategy to introduce monogenic features (such as resistance). It can be applied in line, clone, hybrid, population breeding.
- 11. After transforming (GMO) a fair number of different genotypes and making them homozygous for the trans-gene (e.g. sunflower lines, herbicide resistance), one can create from them a diverse (synthetic) population which is stable and homogenous for this feature.
- 12. Triticale (such as the cultivar 'Tulus') is a cross between wheat (*T. aestivum*) and rye (*S. cereale*)
- 13. If a chromosome does not show recombination at 25% of its length (e.g. near centromere), and has e.g. 100cM mapping length, then at about 25cM no markers can be placed.
- 14. You mutagenize seed (corn, canola; M0), and if one plant then has the mutation (M1); and the mutation is recessive and has no consequence for gamete viability. And you self-fertilize the M1plant. Then in F2 you expect the Mendelian 1 : 3 segregation for the mutant vs. wild-type phenotype
- 15. The higher the number of genes that contribute to the genetic variation of a trait, the larger the genetic variance tends to be
- 16. The higher the number of genes that contribute to the genetic variation of a trait, the smaller the genetic variance tends to be

- 17. Whether you take L locations and Y years as factors in your linear model or you model this as L x Y 'environments' in your linear model, for the heritability (broad sense) this does not make a difference
- Drift causes inbreeding

 Inbreeding reduces dominance variance and increases additive variance hence
 Drift increases additive variance
- 19. Selection exploits diversity, hence variance. Selection reduces the genetic variance, it cannot increase the genetic variance.
- 20. In HWE, via random mating, only the additive effects are inherited $(\alpha 1, \alpha 2, \alpha)$. These are the statistical, hence average effects of the alleles. The dominance deviations ("SCA") of individuals have thus heritability of zero in a HWE population.
- 21. The larger the impact of the different locations and years etc. on the trait, the smaller is heritability (broad sense)
- 22. You need at least data from 2 environments to estimate h² of a genotype
- 23. Random mating is 'random mating of male and female gametes', this is true in animals and in plants
- 24. The genetic coefficient of co-ancestry (consanguinity, genetic relationship) on an individual to itself is r=1
- 25. Based on CMS, one can well produce seed of 2way, 3way and 4way hybrids (e.g. in sunflower, corn, canola)
- 26. Hybrid cultivars show a 'dead-end' feature. They 'biologically' block farmers' rights and breeders' rights
- 27. If in resistance A (e.g. rust) four genes code for the relevant metabolic steps (enzymes) and in resistance B (mildew) two genes, then the Mendelian segregation pattern for A must be more complicated (1:2:1; 9:3:3:1; etc.) than for B
- 28. Homozygous parents do not transfer their 'personal' homozygosity into their crossbred offspring, as obvious in DHbased hybrid breeding

- 29. Crossing a number of inbred lines e.g. in a diallel pattern means genetically recombining them
- 30. By calculating means across replicates, we can eliminate the effect of soil heterogeneity and the effect of competition among neighbors (different plant heights)
- 31. Most mutant alleles are inherited in a recessive way
- 32. *Triticum monococcum* was one of the parents (A-genome) of our modern wheat
- 33. A selection intensity of 1% can cause risk of drift
- 34. Faba bean breeders exploit the linkage between hilum colour and Vicine content. White hilum colour is used to select for low Vicine (marker-assisted selection, morphological marker). Hence, one could exploit this and screen genebank accessions for hilum colour, easy to do, and thus find very many genetically diverse low-Vicine types.



- 35. 2/3 = 0.67
- 36. If you test for 1:3 (χ^2 -test), you have 1df, and the tabulated value for P=5% is 3.841. If you find a value of less than this, then you can statistically accept the hypothesis of mongenic dominant-recessive inheritance
- 37. The 'variance component of genotypes' is an estimate of the genetic variance (basis: series of field tests with a fixed set of genotypes). You can take this variance as estimator of the variance among the true genotypic values of your candidates.
- 38. A phenotypically <u>superior</u> candidate has the same probability to be impacted by a positive (or negative) GxE interaction as a phenotypically <u>inferior</u> candidate.

- 39. If you have tested your N=12 candidates in three environments for yield and resistance, then you should calculate the breeding-relevant correlation between yield and resistance from 3 x 12 = 36 data pairs (results), because this gives you more degrees of freedom when testing the correlation for significance
- 40. Exotic germplasm typically has more unfavorable QTL than adapted germplasm
- 41. If your DNA-markers are not mapped, then you cannot check their usefulness for MAS, neither via biparental QLT-mapping nor via GWAS
- 42. If you find a very clear, highly significant marker in you search for QTL, then this marker can directly applied in breeding (MAS)
- 43. If applying a FDR of <10% (Benjamini, Hochberg, 1995), then the highest hit (marker) can be termed causative marker
- 44. The markers which you find significant suffer from the uncertainty of being estimated stronger-than-true or weaker-than-true. This error is symmetrical and, on average, is balanced
- 45. To find the position of your candidate gene quite precisely you must employ very many markers. In a genome of 1400cM length (*Vicia faba*) you should at least employ [1.400cM / 0.1cM] = 14.000 markers, this means you need to use at least a 14K chip
- 46. The higher the ratio of root-mass/shoot-mass, the higher is the drought-stress tolerance of a genotype