

New wheat genotypes tolerant to aluminum toxicity obtained by mutation induction⁽¹⁾

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Abstract – Seed from the sensitive wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) cultivar Anahuac was treated to gamma-ray irradiation and eleven Al³⁺ tolerant mutants selected. The objective was to compare these mutants to the original Anahuac and to the tolerant wheat cultivars IAC-24 and IAC-60 from 1994 to 1996 in acid (Capão Bonito) and limed (Monte Alegre do Sul) soil field trials, in the State of São Paulo, Brazil. Grain yield and agronomic characteristics were analyzed. All the mutant lines yielded higher than the sensitive Anahuac cultivar in the acid soils of Capão Bonito. Under limed soil conditions, 10 mutants had a similar yield to the original sensitive cultivar and one a lower yield. The majority of the mutants were similar in yield to the tolerant cultivars IAC-24 and IAC-60 under both conditions. Some of the mutants showed altered agronomic characteristics, but these alterations did not generally influence the grain yield. The results indicated that tolerant lines with good characteristics may be obtained from a susceptible cultivar by mutation induction, thus allowing cropping under conditions where Al³⁺ is a limiting factor.

Index terms: acid soil, liming, breeding methods, mutants, gamma radiation, agronomic characters, grain yield, plant breeding.

Novos genótipos de trigo tolerantes a toxicidade de alumínio obtidos por meio de indução de mutação

Resumo – Onze mutantes tolerantes a Al³⁺ foram selecionados a partir de sementes da cultivar de trigo (*Triticum aestivum* L.) sensível Anahuac, tratadas com raios-gama. O objetivo deste trabalho foi comparar esses mutantes com a cultivar original e as tolerantes IAC-24 e IAC-60 de 1994 a 1996, em ensaios de campo em solo ácido (Capão Bonito) e corrigido (Monte Alegre do Sul) no Estado de São Paulo. Produção de grãos e várias características agrônômicas foram analisadas. Todas as linhagens mutantes produziram mais que a cultivar sensível em solos ácidos em Capão Bonito. Em solos corrigidos, dez mutantes apresentaram produção similar à Anahuac original e um, menor produção. A maioria dos mutantes apresentou produção similar à das cultivares tolerantes IAC-24 e IAC-60 em ambas as condições. Alguns dos mutantes mostraram alterações em características agrônômicas, mas tais alterações em geral não afetaram a produção de grãos. Os resultados indicaram que linhagens tolerantes com boas características podem ser obtidas de cultivares sensíveis a partir de indução de mutação, permitindo o cultivo em condições nas quais o Al³⁺ é um fator limitante.

Termos para indexação: solo ácido, calagem, métodos de melhoramento, mutante, raios-gama, características agrônômicas, rendimento de grãos, melhoramento de plantas.

Introduction

Breeding for aluminum tolerant cultivars is among the main objectives of wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) breeding in the State of São Paulo (Camargo, 1993) since Al³⁺ sensitivity is an important limiting factor for yield in the majority of acid soils. Deficiency in an agronomic characteristic, such as aluminum tolerance may be corrected in a cultivar which has a series of other good traits by using chemical or physical mutagens.

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Wheat mutation induction has been used in Brazil with several objectives, and mutants for earliness, plant height, disease resistance and Al^{3+} toxicity tolerance have been obtained (Camargo et al., 1996; Tulmann Neto et al., 1996). In the case of the sensitive cultivar Anahuac, the objective was to obtain Al^{3+} tolerance mutants without alteration to the basic characteristics of the cultivar following the previously described strategy. As in other crops, once the mutant is obtained, it is necessary to test its performance in various locations and years prior to deciding whether it may substitute the original cultivar or will need to be intercrossed in a breeding program.

Mutants obtained from gamma-rays irradiated seeds of the sensitive wheat cultivar Anahuac previously screened in nutrient solution for Al^{3+} tolerance (Camargo et al., 1987) were further selected under field conditions. The present study was carried out to assess the mutant lines and the original Anahuac, IAC-24 and IAC-60 cultivars.

Material and Methods

Eleven 'Anahuac' mutant lines (numbered mutant 18 to 28), tolerant to Al^{3+} toxicity in nutritive solutions (using method proposed by Camargo & Oliveira, 1981), were assessed under field conditions, in two location of the State of São Paulo, Brazil. These mutant lines were obtained after field selection in the M_3 generation derived from seeds of Anahuac treated with 260 Gy (mutant lines 18 to 24) and 310 Gy (mutant lines 25 to 28) gamma-rays as described by Camargo et al. (1996).

The cultivars Anahuac, of Mexican origin, semidwarf, early cycle and sensitive to Al^{3+} toxicity; IAC-24, semidwarf, early cycle and tolerant to Al^{3+} and IAC-60, average height, medium cycle and tolerant to Al^{3+} were used as controls in the experiments. The last two cultivars were selected from crosses of the Instituto Agronômico de Campinas (IAC) wheat breeding program.

Three experiments were set up at the Capão Bonito Experimental Station, São Paulo State, under upland and acid soil (Latosol) conditions (climate wheat zone B), in March, 1994, 1995 and 1996. Two experiments were also sown at the Monte Alegre do Sul Experimental Station, São Paulo State (climate zone H), in limed soil (Podzol) under sprinkler irrigation, in April, 1994 and 1995. The climate wheat zones were established according to the rain distribution and temperature (Instituto Agronômico, 1996). A randomized complete block experimental design, with

four replications per location was used. Each trial was made up of 80 plots, each one formed by six 3-meter rows, spaced at 0.20 m. A 0.60 m space was left between plots. Eighty viable seeds/meter were sown, totaling 1,440 seeds per plot, in an evaluated area of 3.6 m². The fertilizers were spread on the soil before the seeding time and after that they were incorporated into the soil. The amount of the applied fertilizers in the two locations were based on the fertilizers recommendations tables of Instituto Agronômico (Ray et al., 1985). In Table 1 the results of the soil analysis carried out in Capão Bonito and Monte Alegre do Sul are presented.

The following data were collected: period from emergence to flowering and maturity (flowering and life cycle), lodging (scale 0 without lodging to 5 maximum lodging), plant height, spike length, number of spikelets per spike, grains per spike and spikelet, weight of 100 grains and grain yield. These parameters were assessed according to Camargo et al. (1991).

Other characteristics such as spike length, number of spikelets per spike, number of grains per spike and per spikelet and weight of 100 grains which are related to yield components were analyzed in the Monte Alegre do Sul experiment, only in 1994, to have a preliminary comparison between the mutants and original Anahuac for these characteristics.

A joint analysis of variance for years at each location, for the assessed parameters, except yield components, was carried out. An analysis of the residual mean squares was performed to check for discrepancies and validate the joint analysis.

The assumptions of the analysis of variance were checked before proceeding to the joint analysis in order to detect and correct problems of scale of the variable response, the presence of outliers, absence of variance equality, excessively influential values and design problems. This analysis was carried out using the LBA software from SAS and whenever necessary the indicated transformation was adopted to obtain the maximum likelihood.

The joint analysis of variance was carried out and significance at the 5% level was considered. In cases where a significant effect of interaction was detected, the Tukey test was carried out independently for each year, but based on the pooled residual obtained in the joint analysis of variance. The STAT software in SAS was used for this analysis. Individual analysis of variance and means comparison by the Tukey test were carried out for the yield components analyzed in the experiment at Monte Alegre do Sul, in 1994.

Results and Discussion

Working with wheat mutants, Barriga et al. (1996) indicated the need to establish yield stability by analyzing production for several years and locations before a final recommendation is made. As pointed out by Maluszynski et al. (1995), mutants obtained after mutagenic treatment are very often released directly to farmers after yield trials, but could also be included as improved germplasm in breeding programs. They observed that in wheat cropping for bakeries, only 35 out of 140 mutant cultivars were obtained from indirect use in crosses. This means that in the majority of cases there were no large alterations induced by the mutagenics in the original material. However, in several selected wheat mutants obtained in other countries, alterations have been found for other characteristics besides the object of the original selection (Donini et al., 1984).

Grain yield

The genotype (mutant lines and cultivars), year and genotype and year interaction mean squares in the joint analysis of variance for grain yield for the experiments at Capão Bonito (1994-96) were significant. In these experiments, under upland conditions in acid soil, and base saturation percentages of 22 on the arable layer, the yield results (Table 2) showed that the control cultivars IAC-60

and IAC-24 were tolerant, and Anahuac, a cultivar very sensitive to aluminum toxicity. Table 2 shows comparison of the mutants and the original Anahuac cultivar using the Tukey test. The mutant yields were higher in all years indicating the advantages of the aluminum tolerance obtained for this soil condition. The comparison among the 11 mutants showed, as indicated by the significant interaction among genotypes and years in the analysis of variance, that some mutants have higher yield (or lower) than others depending on the year. In 1995 the mutant 23 had a higher yield than mutants 18 and 27, but in 1994 and 1996 their yields were similar. It must be emphasized that, in the three years, several mutants (mutants 20, 23, 26, 27 and 28, for example) had high yield means similar to those of the tolerant controls IAC-60 and IAC-24.

The joint analysis of variance mean squares for yield in the experiments in Monte Alegre do Sul (1994-1995) indicated that the year and genotypes effects were significant. On the other hand, the genotype x year interaction effects were not significant (Table 3). When the Tukey test was applied for the comparison of the genotypes' grain yield means for the two years, it was found that only mutant 25 yielded less than the original Anahuac cultivar and the other two IAC cultivars. The other mutants had similar yields to those of the tolerant controls. This indicates that ten of the mutants selected for tolerance to Al^{3+} toxicity were as productive in limed soils as in acid soils. Similar to the results obtained in Capão Bonito, mutants 20, 26, 27 and 28 had high yield levels.

In the present work, tolerant mutants were found. The experiments under acid soil conditions showed that all the mutants yield more than the original cultivar; but under limed soil there was no difference among the genotypes, except for mutant 25, which produced less. The grain yield results obtained for the two studied locations are in agreement with those obtained by Felicio et al. (1998). They demonstrated that the grain yield of different genotypes was reduced 50% under acid soil and upland condition, in comparison with limed soil and irrigated soil.

Lodging

Table 4 indicates that in Capão Bonito there were significant lodging effects for years, genotypes and

Table 1. Soil analysis of the trials locations at the depth of 0-20 cm⁽¹⁾.

Determinations	Capão Bonito	Monte Alegre do Sul
P resin (mg/kg)	16.0	78.0
M.O. (g/kg)	30.0	25.0
pH (CaCl ₂)	4.6	4.9
K (mmol _c /dm ³)	1.2	4.1
Ca (mmol _c /dm ³)	24.0	35.0
Mg (mmol _c /dm ³)	5.0	12.0
H + Al (mmol _c /dm ³)	72.0	52.0
S (mmol _c /dm ³)	20.0	51.0
T (mmol _c /dm ³)	92.0	103.0
V (%)	22.0	50.0

⁽¹⁾ Analysis made at the Centro de Solos e Recursos Agroindustriais, Instituto Agrônomo de Campinas, SP, Brazil.

interaction. The comparison of the means within years shows that lodging was low for all the genotypes. In 1995 there were no differences among the genotypes and in 1994 and 1996, various mutants had greater lodging values than the original Anahuac cultivar. Lodging resistance is related to plants with a vigorous and healthy root system, short and sturdy straw, resistant straw that does not break in the wind and resistance to disease pathogens and insects that attack and weaken the straw and root system (Poehlmann & Sleper, 1995). In the present case the results indicated that mutant plants presented the highest lodging percentage. Under acid soil in Capão Bonito the tolerant to aluminum toxicity mutants showed normal development, but the original Anahuac cultivar presented low plant development due to its high sensibility to aluminum toxicity. This may be explained when the mean heights for the original Anahuac cultivar (Table 5) are observed; as it is

sensitive to aluminum and generally had lower plant height as a reflex of the damaging Al^{3+} effect. Although the greater plant height is obviously not solely responsible for greater lodging (Poehlmann & Sleper, 1995), it is doubtless one of the important factors in its occurrence.

The interaction was not significant among genotypes and years in Monte Alegre do Sul (Table 4). Comparison of the mutants and the original cultivar showed no significant differences. Mutant 25 had the lowest lodging values comparatively to those of the other mutants, except mutants 19, 22 and 24. Six of the mutants had greater lodging than IAC-24 and IAC-60.

Plant height

The comparison of the means in 1994 indicated that the majority of mutants had no plant height differences to the original Anahuac cultivar, but the

Table 2. Mean grain yield (kg/ha) of wheat genotypes in the experiments at Capão Bonito, 1994-1996⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	1994	1995	1996	1994/1996
Anahuac mutant 18	1,327ab	1,028c	837ab	1,064
Anahuac mutant 19	1,424ab	1,215bc	872ab	1,170
Anahuac mutant 20	1,222ab	1,799ab	934ab	1,318
Anahuac mutant 21	1,257ab	1,778ab	920ab	1,318
Anahuac mutant 22	1,229ab	1,271bc	771ab	1,090
Anahuac mutant 23	1,396ab	1,826ab	1,004a	1,409
Anahuac mutant 24	958b	1,417abc	792ab	1,056
Anahuac mutant 25	1,188ab	1,563abc	483b	1,078
Anahuac mutant 26	1,500ab	1,465abc	1,247a	1,404
Anahuac mutant 27	1,576ab	1,431abc	1,271a	1,426
Anahuac mutant 28	1,479ab	1,576abc	1,351a	1,469
Anahuac original	167c	403d	6c	192
IAC-60	1,882a	2,056a	1,049a	1,662
IAC-24	1,188ab	1,375abc	1,063a	1,209
F (Years)	-	-	-	20.21**
F (Genotypes)	-	-	-	11.12**
F (G x Y)	-	-	-	3.20**
LSD (Tukey 5%) ⁽²⁾	9.57	9.57	9.57	-
C.V. (%)	9.70	13.72	10.91	11.80

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter did not differ by the Tukey test. ⁽²⁾ Value obtained with data transformed to \sqrt{x} . **Significant at 1% level of probability.

mutants 27 and 28 were slightly higher (Table 5). In 1995, only mutants 19 and 22 were similar to the control and the others were higher; in 1996 all the mutants were higher than the control.

There was a significant year interaction in Monte Alegre do Sul (Table 5). Comparison between mutants and the original cultivar showed that seven mutants were higher than the original cultivar. This could indicate the occurrence of a mutation which affected the plant height, besides aluminum toxicity tolerance. The greater height of these mutants could be an undesirable characteristic for lodging. However, the mutants did not differ from the control for this characteristic in this location (Table 4).

Flowering cycle

The significance of genotypes, years, genotypes x years, and mean flowering cycles for the three

Table 3. Mean grain yield (kg/ha) of wheat genotypes in experiments at Monte Alegre do Sul, in the years of 1994 and 1995⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	1994	1995	1994/95
Anahuac mutant 18	3,354	2,243	2,799a
Anahuac mutant 19	3,070	2,354	2,712a
Anahuac mutant 20	3,264	2,611	2,938a
Anahuac mutant 21	3,542	2,333	2,937a
Anahuac mutant 22	3,333	2,069	2,676a
Anahuac mutant 23	3,507	2,042	2,774a
Anahuac mutant 24	2,653	2,125	2,389ab
Anahuac mutant 25	2,216	1,632	1,924b
Anahuac mutant 26	3,445	2,500	2,972a
Anahuac mutant 27	3,570	2,493	3,031a
Anahuac mutant 28	3,049	2,250	2,649a
Anahuac original	3,285	2,104	2,694a
IAC-60	3,403	2,805	3,104a
IAC-24	3,097	2,254	2,566ab
F (Years)	-	-	148.72**
F (Genotypes)	-	-	5.34**
F (G x Y)	-	-	1.46 ^{ns}
LSD. (Tukey 5%) ⁽²⁾	-	-	0.3037
C.V. (%)	13.40	10.14	2.61

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter did not differ by the Tukey test. ⁽²⁾ Value obtained with data transformed to log x. ^{ns} Nonsignificant. **Significant at 1% of probability.

experiments set up at Capão Bonito are shown in Table 6. It was observed that the flowering cycle in 1994 and 1995, when compared with 1996, was lower for all genotypes. The higher temperatures in these years were responsible for this reduction. When the mutants were compared with the original cultivar, it can be seen that in 1994 there were differences in the cycle only for mutant 25 (longer cycle). In 1995, the cycles were similar and in 1996 only mutant 26, with a smaller cycle, differed from the control. Therefore, under these conditions with the exception of mutants 25 and 26, all others had similar flowering time as the original Anahuac cultivar.

In Monte Alegre do Sul, Table 6 indicates that in 1994 six mutants (19, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 27) were earlier and five (18, 20, 21, 25 and 28) had cycles similar to the original Anahuac. In 1995 all the mutants had similar flowering comparatively to the original cultivar.

Maturity

The results from Capão Bonito (Table 7) indicate a significant interaction among genotype and years. When the mutants were compared with the original cultivar in 1994, only mutant 25 had similar maturity, while all other mutants were earlier. In 1995, ten mutants were cycle similar to the control and mutant 25 had the latest flowering. In 1996, the mutants 24, 26, 27, and 28 were earlier than Anahuac and the others had a similar cycle. This suggests that in 1994 climatic factors were responsible for the different behavior of the mutants in relation to maturity cycle. In the other years, the majority of the mutants had the same cycle or were much earlier than the original cultivar (except for mutant 25 which was later in 1995). It is well known that greater earliness may be an advantage and from this point of view this alteration did not disqualify the mutant. It must be said, however, that the original Anahuac is not recommended for planting under acid soil conditions and that when this happens, as in the present experiment, poor plant development is observed and therefore comparisons of the maturity cycle as well as other characteristics under these conditions should be taken with caution.

In Monte Alegre do Sul (Table 7) the mutants showed similar maturity to the original cultivar in

both 1994 and 1995 years. Under corrected soil conditions the Anahuac cultivar expressed its true maturity cycle. This seems to indicate that there was no mutation affecting the maturity cycle of some mutants as could have been expected considering the Capão Bonito data.

Other characteristics

The data indicate that differences exist between the mutants and the original Anahuac cultivar for all the assessed traits (Table 8). These differences varied among the mutants according to the trait. For those traits where differences were found, the mutants had higher or lower values comparatively to the control. For spike length, nine mutants were similar to the control and two had higher values. For the number of grains per spike, four mutants had similar values and seven lower values. These assessed characteristics are quantitative and were not the primary objective of the selection made to obtain the mutants. Long

studies carried out on induced wheat mutants (Borojevic & Sesek, 1981) indicated that alterations in quantitative characteristics were common and thus the breeder should assess the mutants obtained for various years and locations. These alterations may positively or negatively affect the yield. In the present study, these characteristics were preliminarily assessed in one year and one location. Nevertheless, certain inferences may be made based on the Monte Alegre do Sul data especially those which did not show genotype x year interaction (Table 3). When the general means were compared, the mutants had similar yield to that of the original Anahuac (except mutant 25, which yielded less). The alterations (positive or negative) observed in the mutant for these characteristics did not alter grain production. This may be explained by a compensation mechanism among them. For example, in the case of mutant 23 there was an increase in spike length, number of spikelet per spike and in the weight of a hundred

Table 4. Lodging mean (0 = least lodging; 5 = maximum lodging) of plants in the experiments at Capão Bonito and Monte Alegre do Sul (MAS), in the years 1994/1996⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	Capão Bonito				MAS 94/95
	1994	1995	1996	94/96	
Anahuac mutant 18	1.25a	0.50a	1.25a	1.00	3.25a
Anahuac mutant 19	0.75ab	0.00a	0.75ab	0.50	1.38abcd
Anahuac mutant 20	1.50ab	0.25a	1.25a	1.00	2.50abc
Anahuac mutant 21	0.75ab	0.00a	1.50a	0.75	2.63ab
Anahuac mutant 22	1.00a	0.00a	1.25a	0.75	2.13abcd
Anahuac mutant 23	1.75a	0.00a	1.25a	1.00	2.25abc
Anahuac mutant 24	1.00a	0.25a	1.00a	0.75	1.13abcd
Anahuac mutant 25	0.75ab	0.00a	0.00b	0.25	0.13d
Anahuac mutant 26	1.00a	0.00a	1.75a	0.92	2.63ab
Anahuac mutant 27	0.75ab	0.00a	1.25a	0.67	2.62ab
Anahuac mutant 28	1.00a	0.00a	1.75a	0.92	2.75ab
Anahuac original	0.00b	0.25a	0.00b	0.08	0.75abcd
IAC-60	0.00b	0.00a	0.75ab	0.25	0.88cd
IAC-24	2.00a	0.00a	0.75ab	0.92	0.63cd
F (Years)				28.19*	71.15**
F (Genotypes)				2.02*	6.82**
F (G x Y)				2.85**	0.89 ^{ns}
LSD (Tukey 5%)	0.4977 ⁽²⁾	0.4977 ⁽²⁾	0.4977 ⁽²⁾		0.7564 ⁽³⁾
C.V. (%)				2.54	27.62

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter do not differ by Tukey test at 5% level of probability. ⁽²⁾ Value obtained with data transformed to $1/\sqrt{x+0.5}$. ⁽³⁾ Value obtained by the data transformed to \sqrt{x} . ^{ns} Nonsignificant. * Significant at 5% of probability. ** Significant at 1% of probability.

Table 5. Plant height mean (in cm) in the experiments at Capão Bonito and Monte Alegre do Sul (MAS), 1994/1996⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	Capão Bonito				MAS 94/95
	1994	1995	1996	94/96	
Anahuac mutant 18	73.75abcd	78.75abc	75.00cd	75.83	112a
Anahuac mutant 19	70.00bcd	66.25cd	65.00d	67.08	91bcd
Anahuac mutant 20	78.75abcd	80.00abc	75.00cd	77.92	96bc
Anahuac mutant 21	77.50abcd	81.25abc	76.25bcd	78.33	98bc
Anahuac mutant 22	72.50abcd	67.50cd	68.75d	69.58	94bcd
Anahuac mutant 23	73.75abcd	78.75abc	72.50cd	75.00	94bcd
Anahuac mutant 24	67.50cd	73.75bc	67.50d	69.58	99b
Anahuac mutant 25	67.50bcd	78.75abc	70.00d	72.08	86cd
Anahuac mutant 26	72.50abcd	87.50a	92.50a	84.17	113a
Anahuac mutant 27	82.50ab	86.25ab	85.00abc	84.58	114a
Anahuac mutant 28	80.00abc	80.00abc	88.75ab	82.92	113a
Anahuac original	62.50d	52.50d	26.25e	47.08	83d
IAC-60	85.00a	83.75ab	73.75cd	80.83	96bc
IAC-24	68.75bcd	67.50cd	67.50d	67.92	86cd
F (Years)				1.39 ^{ns}	41.26**
F (Genotypes)				7.52**	24.82**
F (G x Y)				3.10**	1.23 ^{ns}
LSD (Tukey 5%) ⁽²⁾	2212.39	2212.39	2212.39		12
C.V. (%)				16.31	5.62

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter did not differ by Tukey test at 5% of probability. ⁽²⁾ Value obtained with data transformed to X². ^{ns} Nonsignificant. ** Significant at 1% of probability.

Table 6. Mean cycle (in days) from emergence to flowering in the experiments at Capão Bonito and Monte Alegre do Sul, 1994/1996⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	Capão Bonito				Monte Alegre do Sul		
	1994	1995	1996	1994/96	1994	1995	1994/95
Anahuac mutant 18	47.00cd	46.00bc	67.00ab	53.33	69.75bcd	68.75abc	69.25
Anahuac mutant 19	50.00bcd	47.75abc	70.50ab	56.00	69.00cd	67.25bc	68.13
Anahuac mutant 20	48.75bcd	46.00bc	70.50ab	55.10	70.25bcd	68.75abc	69.50
Anahuac mutant 21	50.75bc	46.00bc	74.00a	56.92	70.25bcd	70.25abc	70.25
Anahuac mutant 22	48.25bcd	47.75abc	68.75ab	54.92	69.00cd	69.25abc	69.13
Anahuac mutant 23	47.00cd	44.75c	70.50ab	54.08	68.00cd	69.75abc	68.88
Anahuac mutant 24	45.25cd	42.25c	63.50ab	50.33	64.00d	66.50c	65.25
Anahuac mutant 25	68.00a	52.25ab	74.00a	64.75	76.00abc	74.00abc	75.00
Anahuac mutant 26	45.25cd	44.75c	61.75b	50.58	68.00cd	67.25bc	67.63
Anahuac mutant 27	45.75cd	44.75c	67.00ab	52.50	68.00cd	68.00bc	68.00
Anahuac mutant 28	44.00d	46.00bc	63.50ab	51.17	68.25bcd	66.25c	67.75
Anahuac original	50.00bcd	47.75abc	74.00a	57.25	77.25ab	73.75abc	75.50
IAC -60	58.50a	51.75ab	74.00a	64.42	79.50a	75.00ab	77.25
IAC 24	55.25ab	54.50a	72.25a	60.67	74.75abc	76.25a	75.50
F (Years)	-	-	-	222.52**	-	-	2.49 ^{ns}
F (Genotypes)	-	-	-	6.78**	-	-	13.27**
F (G x Y)	-	-	-	3.04**	-	-	2.44**
LSD (Tukey 5%)	0.00885 ⁽²⁾	0.00885 ⁽²⁾	0.00885 ⁽²⁾	-	8.21	8.21	-
C.V. (%)	-	-	-	1.46	-	-	2.61

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter do not differ by the Tukey test at 5% of probability. ⁽²⁾ Value obtained through joint analyses, original data transformed to log X. ^{ns} Nonsignificant. ** Significant at 1% of probability.

Table 7. Mean cycle (in days) from emergence to maturity in the experiments of Capão Bonito and Monte Alegre do Sul, 1994/96⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	Capão Bonito				Monte Alegre do Sul		
	1994	1995	1996	1994/96	1994	1995	1994/95
Anahuac mutant 18	113.00b	118.75b	128.50abc	120.10	113.00b	114.00abc	113.50
Anahuac mutant 19	114.75b	118.75b	130.25ab	121.25	112.75b	112.25bc	112.50
Anahuac mutant 20	113.00b	117.00b	130.50ab	120.17	114.25b	114.25abc	114.25
Anahuac mutant 21	116.50b	117.00b	132.00a	121.83	113.75b	115.75abc	114.75
Anahuac mutant 22	113.00b	117.00b	130.25ab	120.08	112.75b	112.50bc	112.63
Anahuac mutant 23	113.00b	117.00b	130.25ab	120.08	112.75b	112.75bc	112.75
Anahuac mutant 24	113.00b	117.00b	125.00c	118.33	112.75b	111.00c	118.88
Anahuac mutant 25	127.00a	124.00a	133.00a	128.00	112.75b	124.00a	118.38
Anahuac mutant 26	113.00b	118.75ab	125.00c	118.92	113.00b	112.75bc	112.88
Anahuac mutant 27	113.00b	122.25ab	126.75bc	120.67	113.00b	115.75abc	114.38
Anahuac mutant 28	113.00b	117.00b	125.00c	118.33	113.00b	115.75abc	114.38
Anahuac original	127.00a	117.00b	133.00a	125.67	116.75ab	114.00abc	115.38
IAC -60	127.00a	124.00a	132.00a	127.67	126.00a	124.00abc	125.00
IAC 24	127.00a	124.00a	132.50a	127.83	118.25ab	122.25ab	120.25
F (Years)	-	-	-	61.30**	-	-	1.50 ^{ns}
F (Genotypes)	-	-	-	3.95**	-	-	8.17**
F (G x Y)	-	-	-	8.68**	-	-	4.01**
LSD (Tukey 5%)	5.16	5.16	5.16	-	10.80	10.80	-
C.V. (%)	-	-	-	1.75	-	-	1.64

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter do not differ by the Tukey test at 5% level of probability. ^{ns} Nonsignificant. ** Significant at 1% of probability.

Table 8. Mean data for spike length, number of spikelets per spike, number of grains per ear and per spikelet and weight of a hundred grains for the wheat genotypes analyzed in the experiments at Monte Alegre do Sul in 1994⁽¹⁾.

Genotypes	Spike length (cm)	Spikelets/spike (no)	Grains/spike (no)	Grains/spikelet (no)	Weight of 100 grains (g)
Anahuac mutant 18	8.1cdef	19.2cd	31.9cde	1.65bc	4.41a
Anahuac mutant 19	7.5efg	17.8e	28.9e	1.61bc	4.05ab
Anahuac mutant 20	8.1cdef	19.5c	31.8cde	1.62bc	4.41a
Anahuac mutant 21	8.3bcd	20.4bc	31.0de	1.50c	4.21a
Anahuac mutant 22	8.2bcde	18.9bc	31.9cde	1.69bc	4.07ab
Anahuac mutant 23	8.5abc	20.0bc	34.6abcde	1.72bc	4.15a
Anahuac mutant 24	7.0g	17.7e	31.7cde	1.78bc	4.16a
Anahuac mutant 25	8.9ab	24.2a	36.6abcd	1.50c	3.75c
Anahuac mutant 26	7.4fg	17.5e	32.2cde	1.82abc	4.30a
Anahuac mutant 27	7.2g	17.5e	32.9bcde	1.84abc	3.92abc
Anahuac mutant 28	7.4fg	17.3e	33.5bcde	1.92ab	4.20a
Anahuac original	7.6defg	17.9de	40.8ab	2.26a	3.42c
IAC-60	9.0a	24.4a	42.1a	1.71bc	3.60bc
IAC-24	8.1cdef	20.4b	39.1abc	1.91ab	3.55bc
F (Genotypes)	17.62**	77.05**	7.01**	5.96**	10.72**
C.V. (%)	3.71	2.71	8.01	4.31	5.19
LSD (Tukey 5%)	0.743	1.376 ⁽²⁾	0.006 ⁽²⁾	0.0828 ⁽³⁾	0.5321

⁽¹⁾ Means followed by the same letter did not differ by the Tukey test. ⁽²⁾ Value obtained with data transformed to 1/x. ⁽³⁾ Value obtained with data transformed to 1/√x. ** Significant at 1% of probability.

grains. The number of grains per spike was similar, but the mutant had a lower number of grains per spikelet, so there was a compensation which resulted in similar yield. For the majority of the mutants evaluated such compensations were observed. The exception was mutant 25 which produced less than the original Anahuac cultivar probably because even though it had a longer spike and greater number of spikelets per spike, the number of grains per spikelet was greatly reduced.

Conclusions

1. Eleven mutant lines obtained by gamma-ray radiation from the Anahuac cultivar are higher yielding than the original Anahuac cultivar in acid soil under upland conditions; the majority of mutant lines has similar yield to the IAC-60 and IAC-24 cultivars, which are tolerant to aluminum toxicity.

2. Ten mutant lines and the controls Anahuac, IAC-60 and IAC-24 do not differ among themselves for grain yield in corrected soils under sprinkle irrigation.

3. These mutants are indicated as a substitute for the Anahuac cultivar for acid soil.

4. Aluminum tolerant lines with good agronomic characteristics are obtained from susceptible cultivar by mutation induction.

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