

**Genome Wide Association Study (GWAS) on Root-Knot Nematode Resistance in Cultivated Peanut**

by

Fulya Eda Kumral

A thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty of  
Auburn University  
in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the Degree of  
Master of Science

Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences  
College of Agriculture

Auburn, Alabama  
August 3, 2019

Keywords: peanut, root-knot nematode, genome wide association study

Approved by

Charles Y. Chen, Chair, Professor of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences  
Kathy Lawrance, Professor of Entomology and Plant Pathology  
Alvaro Sanz-Saez, Assistant Professor of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences

## ABSTRACT

The peanut root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne arenaria*, is one of the major soil-borne pests for peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.). It causes economic losses in the production of peanut in the southeastern region, especially in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and in Texas as well. Losses due to root-knot nematodes can reach up to 50% at dense infested fields without using nematicides. The use of nematode resistant cultivars is the most convenient economical way of biological control method for producers. The identification of resistant peanut germplasm to nematode diseases is a fundamental task for breeding nematode resistant cultivar. The objectives of this research are to evaluate 161 accessions of peanut germplasm in the greenhouse for resistance and to identify SNP markers associated with root-knot nematode resistance via genome-wide association study (GWAS). Randomized complete block design with three replications for each genotype is performed for phenotyping by using greenhouse inoculation techniques. The genetic diversity panel used in this experiment was genotyped by Affymetrix version 2.0 SNP assay. Forty-six quantitative trait loci (QTLs) located on twelve different chromosomes underlying root-knot nematode resistance were determined with phenotypic variation explained (PVE) between 7.8% and 17% by GWAS. Out of 46 QTLs, 957 candidate genes detected including 520 genes on A sub-genome and 437 genes on B sub-genome. Specifically, 26 candidate genes related to LRR encoding gene were found on chromosomes A01, A04, A05, B07, B08, and B10. The associated markers could be applied in breeding programs for marker assisted selection.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my advisor, Dr. Charles Y. Chen for his continuous guidance and encouragement throughout this project. This thesis would not have been possible without his endless patience and support. I am also grateful for the support and advice of the committee members Dr. Alvaro Sanz-Saez and especially Dr. Kathy Lawrence, who provided me to work her lab during this thesis.

I would like to thank my sponsor, Ministry of National Education in Turkey, which has provided me with an excellent opportunity for my academic studies.

I would also like to deeply acknowledge, Muhammed Çağatay Kent, for his valuable contributions and helpful support on my thesis. I also thank my colleagues, Bisho R. Lawaju, Li Li, Yan Yu, Hui Zhang, and Merve Göre and Hatice Sarı, for their friendship and help.

I am whole-heartedly appreciative to my lovely family, Mualla Kumral, Faruk-Emel Kumral, Firuzan-Hakan Doğusoy, and Alper-Türker-Beril Temiz, for their unwavering support, encouragement, and love during my life. Without you, my thesis would not have been possible. Lastly, I would like to thank God for providing me the ability, strength, knowledge, and opportunity to undertake this research.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract .....	ii
Acknowledgments.....	iii
List of Tables .....	vi
List of Figures.....	vii
List of Abbreviations .....	viii
Chapter One: Literature Review .....	1
The Origin and Early History of Peanut .....	1
The Characteristics of Peanut.....	1
Economic Importance .....	3
Major Plant Parasitic Nematodes Associated with the Peanut .....	3
Overview of Root-knot Nematodes.....	4
Life Cycle of the Root-knot Nematode .....	5
Development of Resistant Peanut Cultivars .....	5
Symptoms of Root-knot Nematode Infestation .....	6
Methods for Managing the Root-knot Nematode.....	7
Genome Wide Association Study .....	8
Objectives.....	10
References.....	11
Chapter Two: Introduction.....	16

Materials and Methods .....	19
Phenotyping in Greenhouse.....	19
Extraction of Nematode Eggs from Plant Roots .....	20
DNA extraction, Genotyping and Quality Control .....	20
Statistical Analysis .....	21
Genome Wide Association Analysis .....	21
Results and Discussion.....	22
Conclusion.....	25
References .....	36
Appendix .....	39

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Analysis of variance of plant height, shoot fresh weight, root fresh weight, eggs/g root fresh weight and biomass.....	26
Table 2: Resistance classification for peanut genotypes tested in the greenhouse.....	27
Table 3: Distribution of QTLs in twelve chromosomes identified .....	28
Table 4: Total number of QTLs associated with traits. ....	29
Table 5: 26 significant SNPs and candidate genes including LRR encoding genes associated with RKN .....	30
Table 6: Tukey-Kramer’s results for eggs per gram of the root fresh weight and plant height.....	39
Table 7: Tukey-Kramer’s results for shoot fresh weight, root fresh weight and biomass.....	43

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Disease cycle of root-knot caused by nematodes of the genus <i>Meloidogyne</i> .....	10
Figure 2: Frequency distribution of mean of all traits .....	31
A: Frequency distribution for eggs per gram of the root fresh weight.....	31
B: Frequency distribution for plant height .....	31
C: Frequency distribution for root fresh weight.....	32
D: Frequency distribution for shoot fresh weight .....	32
E: Frequency distribution for biomass .....	33
Figure 3: Manhattan plots of genome-wide association for RKN resistance. ....	33
A: P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for plant height .....	33
B: P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for biomass.....	34
C: P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for eggs per gram of the root fresh weight...34	34
D: P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for root fresh weight... ..	35
E: P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for shoot fresh weight.....	35
Figure 4: Population structure analysis. The y-axis is the subgroup membership, and x-axis is the genotypes. G1-G4 indicate for subpopulations. ....	47
Figure 5: Principal component analysis based on Chord distance.....	47
Figure 6: Distribution of botanical variety within each subpopulation. ....	48
Figure 7: Screening of resistance to root-knot nematode in the greenhouse. ....	48

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANOVA	analysis of variance
BLAST	basic local alignment search tool
BM	biomass
cc	cubic centimeter
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
Eggs/g RFW	eggs per gram of the root fresh weight
GLM	general linear model
GWAS	genome wide association study
NBS-LRR	nucleotide binding site-leucine-rich repeat
PCA	principal component analysis
PH	plant height
QTL	quantitative trait locus
RFW	root fresh weight
RKN	root-knot nematode
SAS	statistical analysis software
SFW	shoot fresh weight
SNP	single nucleotide polymorphism
SSR	simple sequence repeat
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture



## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **The Origin and Early History of The Peanut**

The peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.) likely originated in South America near what is now present-day Brazil and Peru, and where almost 15 wild peanut species are found, before being spread worldwide by European traders (Acquaah, 2012). Since then it has been grown extensively in the tropical and subtropical regions of Asia, Africa, and North America (Hammons et al., 2016). Although some commercial peanut farms were present in the United States during the 1700s and 1800s, the peanut was primarily used as animal feedstock during that time; it was not commonly grown for human consumption until the 1900s (Tillman & Stalker, 2009). In the early 1900s, George Washington Carver encouraged peanut production in the United States, suggesting that it be planted in rotation with cotton (National Peanut Board, 2017). While cotton depletes nitrogen levels in the soil, the peanut, which is a legume, has the ability to fix nitrogen and thereby replenish those levels (Tallury, 2017). Increased demand for high-protein food sources during World War I saw a surge in the consumption of peanut products like peanut butter and peanut-based candies (National Peanut Board, 2017).

#### **The Characteristics of Peanut**

The peanut is a legume within the botanical family Fabaceae. The peanut is a leading oilseed crop, whose contents include 36% to 54% oil, 16% to 36% protein, and 10% to 20%

carbohydrates. The peanut is also a good source of several vitamins (E, K, and B1) and minerals (Ca, Mg, P, and K) (Tillman & Stalker, 2009).

The peanut is self-pollinated, and propagated commercially via its seed, with planting dates occurring anytime from late April until June. There are around 80 peanut species (Tallury, 2017); however, all cultivated peanut species are allotetraploid (AABB;  $2n=40$ ), while all wild species are diploid ( $2n=20$ ) except *A. monticola* ( $2n=40$ ). *Arachis hypogaea* is an allotetraploid (AABB;  $2n=40$ ) that has originated from the hybridization of two ancient diploid species followed by a natural duplication of chromosomes. These two ancient diploid species, *A. Duranensis*, and *A. ipaensis*, are the progenitors of A-genome and B-genome, respectively (do Nascimento et al., 2018).

Cultivated peanuts are categorized into two subspecies, *hypogaea* and *fastigiata*, which are further divided into six botanical varieties depending on their morphology (e.g. leaf color and branching patterns) and growth habits. More specifically, while the subspecies *hypogaea* has two botanical varieties, *hypogaea* and *hirsuta*, the subspecies *fastigiata* has four botanical varieties, *fastigiata*, *vulgaris*, *aequatoriana*, and *peruviana*. Of these subspecies, four are market types grown in the U.S.—namely, Runner (subsp. *hypogaea* var. *hypogaea*), Virginia (subsp. *hypogaea* var. *hypogaea*), Valencia (subsp. *fastigiata* var. *fastigiata*), and Spanish (subsp. *fastigiata* var. *vulgaris*) (Tallury, 2017; Vishwakarma et al., 2017). The Runner variety is the type most commonly used in peanut butter, and accounts for 80% of total U.S. peanut production, while the Virginia variety is primarily used to make gourmet snacks, and accounts for about 15% of total U.S. peanut production (National Peanut Board, 2017).

## **Economic Importance**

Total global peanut production in 2017-2018 was almost 45 million metric tons. The major peanut-producing countries in 2018 were China, India, the United States, Nigeria, and Sudan (U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA], 2018). Peanuts have a variety of commercial uses including as animal feeds like peanut hay, in foodstuffs like roasted peanuts, and in industrial products like cosmetics. As such, the peanut constitutes an excellent cash crop for U.S. domestic and international trade (National Peanut Board, 2017). The United States is the world's fourth largest peanut producer with roughly 3.5 million metric tons, with exports totaling roughly 250,000 metric tons per year (USDA, 2017). Within the United States, Georgia is the largest peanut producing state, accounting for over 50% of the country's total annual production. Alabama, which is the United States' second largest peanut producing state, accounts for only 14%. More than 80% of U.S. peanut exports are to Canada, Mexico, Europe, and Japan. Worldwide peanut exports reached \$690 million dollars in 2016. China and Argentina are important peanut exporters; however, India and Vietnam are also major players when crop quality and demand are high (USDA, 2017).

## **Major Plant-parasitic Nematodes Associated with The Peanut**

Plant-parasitic nematodes are microscopic, bilateral, and unsegmented worm-like animals that live in water, soil, and as the parasites of plants and animals. Plant-parasitic nematodes include only 10% of all nematode species but result in 14% of annual crop losses worldwide (Agrios, 2005). As one of the most important soilborne diseases affecting peanuts, plant-parasitic nematodes are a major threat to peanut production. The plant-parasitic nematode species that are economically significant threats to peanut production include *Meloidogyne spp.* (three species), *Pratylenchus brachyurus*, *Belonolaimus longicaudatus*, *Criconemoides ornatus*, *Aphelenchoides arachidis*, *Scutellonema cavanessi*, *Tylenchorynchus brevilineatus*, and *Ditylenchus africanus* (Dickson & Waele, 2005).

## Overview of Root-knot Nematodes

Root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne spp.*) (RKN) were first described in 1855 by Joseph Berkeley after he noticed damage that had occurred to cucumbers. Root-knot nematodes include nearly 100 different species of plant-parasitic roundworms (Mitkowski & Abawi, 2003). Some of the most noteworthy species of root-knot nematodes are *M. arenaria*, *M. incognita*, *M. javanica*, and *M. hapla* (Jones et al., 2013). However, peanut is a non-host of *M. incognita* (Davis & Webster, 2005). Three of them, *M. arenaria*, *M. javanica*, and *M. hapla*, are present in the peanut producing regions of North, Central, and South America as well as Africa, Asia, Europe, and Australia. While *M. hapla* is common in temperate regions, *M. arenaria* and *M. javanica* occur mostly in warmer areas (Dong et al., 2008). Though plant-parasitic nematodes as a whole account for 14% of annual crop losses worldwide, 5% of those losses are attributable to root-knot nematodes alone (Sasser et al. 1983).

In the United States, the most damaging nematode species for peanut production is *M. arenaria* (Neal) Chitwood race 1. *M. arenaria* was first identified by Chitwood from a diseased peanut plant. Two host races of *M. arenaria* had been defined in 1978; while race 1 reproduces on peanuts, race 2 requires a different host (Dickson, 1985). *M. arenaria* race 3 were identified but it was found that could not reproduce on peanut Florunner (Robertson et al, 2009).

*M. arenaria* can be found throughout much of the southern United States including in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Texas, and South Carolina. Its presence in these regions causes an estimated 3-15% decrease in peanut yields each year (Dong et al., 2007). In fact, RKN are so pervasive in Florida, and peanut fields with heavy infested RKN have more than 75% yield losses (Rich & Tillman, 2009).

## **Life Cycle of the Root-knot Nematode**

There are six stages in the life cycle of the root-knot nematode, and these include the egg stage, four juvenile steps, and adulthood. The root-knot nematode disease cycle in peanut begins when an egg hatches into a juvenile; the disease cycle progresses to the infective stage when the juvenile 2 (J2) penetrates the plant's roots with its stylet by repeatedly puncturing the surface cells. Then, the juvenile migrates to a place near the vascular tissue where it will remain to feed. After two or three days, the nematode enlarges and becomes sedentary—that is, unable to move. Root-knot nematodes must molt four times before entering the adult stage (Figure 1). The mature female nematode is pear-shaped, which facilitates the swelling necessary to produce eggs, while males are vermiform and can move freely. Notably, however, root-knot nematodes do not need males to reproduce since they are parthenogenetic. At 27°C, the entire RKN life cycle lasts 25 days, but under different environmental conditions it can last anywhere from 3 to 6 weeks (Williamson and Hussey, 1996; Agrios, 2005).

## **Development of Resistant Peanut Cultivars**

In the early 1970s, a field in Central Texas had extensive root-knot nematode stress. As a result, the wild peanut species present were analyzed for genes conferring resistance to different root-knot nematode species (Acquaah, 2012). Genes for resistance to root-knot nematode were determined in three wild peanut species: *A. batizocoi*, *A. cardenasii*, and *A. diogeni* (Simpson, 1990). Moreover, Garcia et al. (1996) identified two important resistance genes (R-genes) against *M. arenaria* race 1 from the cross of 4x (*A. hypogaea* x *A. cardenasii*)- GA 6 and PI 261942. The first found gene, *Mae*, restricts nematode egg number, while the second gene, *Mag*, inhibits RKN galling. The TxAG-6 germplasm line was created to transmit nematode R-genes from wild diploid peanut species into cultivated tetraploid species (Nagy et al., 2010).

The COAN and NemaTAM cultivars were generated by backcrossing from a hybrid between TxAG-6 and Florunner as these varieties have a high level of RKN resistance. These cultivars carry *Rma*, a resistance gene for the root-knot nematode, and have an equally high-level of root-knot nematode reproduction (Nagy et al., 2010). However, COAN had one major flaw: the resulting plant was too small, and this restricted its seed production. Although COAN yields under severe nematode pressure were 150–200% better than susceptible cultivars, overall COAN yields were still too low to be profitable for growers. However, NemaTAM crop yields average of 30% higher than those of COAN (Acquaah, 2012).

Tifguard is a runner-type peanut cultivar that was released by the USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) and the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations in 2007. This cultivar has a resistance not only to the root-knot nematode *M. arenaria* (Neal) Chitwood race 1, but also against tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV). More specifically, Tifguard was produced from the hybridization of TSWV resistant C-99R and the RKN resistant COAN (Holbrook et al., 2008). In addition, another cultivar, TifNV-High-O/L, was produced by hybridizing RKN-resistant Tifguard with Florida-07, a high-oleic cultivar. The desired characteristics of the final cultivar—RKN resistance and a high oleic to linoleic fatty acid ratio (O/L)—were selected with the aid of marker-assisted selection (Holbrook et al., 2017).

### **Symptoms of Root-knot Nematode Infestation**

The root-knot nematode *M. arenaria* (Neal) Chitwood race 1 is one of the world's major soilborne pests. It is found in tropical, subtropical, and warm temperate soils. *M. arenaria* primarily damages the plant root system and obstructs nutrient transport (Dufour et al., 1998). In addition, environmental stressors such as drought, flooding, nutrient deficiencies, and soil compactness will worsen the aboveground damage observed in RKN-infested plants. In dry

weather conditions, plants with severe infections are noticeably stunted and exhibit a yellowing of their foliage (Kenneth & Curtis, 1973).

RKN-infected plants have irregular swellings, or galls, on their pods and roots. These galls include one or more sedentary, adult female RKNs. The total number of galls present reflects the density of the nematodes and the timing of the infection. However, each gall is less than 1mm in size, making them difficult to identify. (Grabau & Dickson, 2018).

### **Methods for Managing the Root-knot Nematode**

There are several different disease management methods for dealing with plant-parasitic nematodes—namely, biological, cultural, and chemical controls. The most convenient biological control method is the use of nematode-resistant plants. Moreover, this approach is affordable for producers and growers (Lambert & Bekal, 2002). RKN-resistant peanut cultivars include TifGP-2, Tifguard, Georgia14N, TifNV-High O/L, NR 0812, and NR 0817 (Hajihassani et al., 2018).

The primary cultural control method is crop rotation, which acts by decreasing nematode population density. For example, cotton is affected by *M. incognita*, while peanuts are not a host for this nematode species. Therefore, rotating cotton and peanut crops helps lower the density of the *M. incognita* population (Hajihassani et al., 2018). According to Star et al. (2002), two-year rotations between peanut crops and either bahiagrass or velvet grass are also effective against RKN (Starr et al., 2002).

In general, plant-parasitic nematodes can survive in patchy clusters throughout a field. However, their distribution may change depending on soil texture, plant growth, and the exact nematode species in question. By sampling according to a systematic grid, researchers can determine where nematodes are located within a field. If the nematode population reaches the economic threshold level, nematicides should be used (Hajihassani et al., 2018). Studies have

shown that the nematicides aldicarb (granular) and 1,3-dichloropropene (a fumigant) are successful against RKN (Starr et al., 2002). Ultimately, controlling RKN populations requires a combination of all of these strategies as part of an integrated pest management plan (Escobar & Fenoll, 2015).

### **Genome Wide Association Studies**

Traditional breeding methods have been very successful at developing new cultivars throughout the 10,000-year history of plant domestication. Moreover, since the middle of the 1990s, the use of traditional pre-genomic breeding methods has yielded improvements to modern cultivars that allow for a dramatic increase in staple crop yields. These days, genomic tools and other new plant breeding technologies make it possible to study the genotypes associated with desirable phenotypes. Developments in next generation sequencing (NGS) and bioinformatics have facilitated the mass sequencing of genomes and transcriptomes as well as the identification of new regulatory sequences, molecular markers, and their loci (Pérez-de-Castro et al., 2012).

The detection of a quantitative trait locus (QTL) depends on a linkage analysis; however, it is restricted by the number of recombination possible per generation that are needed to improve the mapping population (Brachi et al., 2011) Linkage disequilibrium mapping, also known as association mapping, is a new and effective way to map complex traits. Relying on statistics, this method can detect the strength of the linkage between a marker locus and trait. Nowadays, association mapping may be categorized into two approaches. The first is candidate gene association, which requires comprehension of biochemistry and trait genetics. The second is genome wide association study (GWAS), which is also called a whole-genome scan (Pérez-de-Castro et al., 2012).



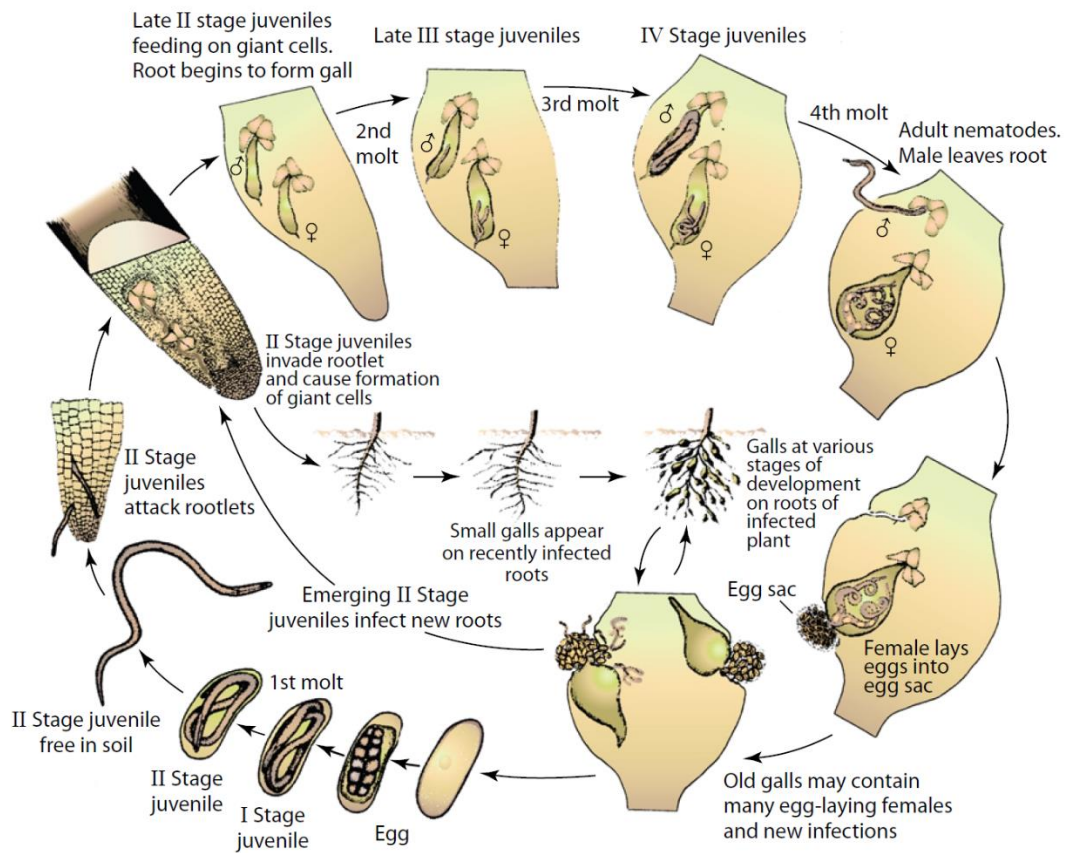
The first successful GWAS occurred in 2002 and involved the identification of the susceptibility gene for myocardial infarctions (Ikegawa, 2012). Over the past fifteen years, genome wide association studies have continued to evolve into powerful tools for investigating the genetic architecture of common diseases and for improving agriculture. For example, Genome wide association studies can help researchers understand the genetics of disease resistance in both wild and cultivated plants (Bartoli & Roux, 2017). Moreover, methods are now available to allow for GWAS on large samples within reasonable timeframes. This allows for the quick discovery of thousands of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) (Zhao et al., 2016). Unlike genome wide association studies in humans, genome wide association studies in plants have been successful, particularly with respect to rice and maize (Brachi et al., 2011).

In order to conduct an association mapping of seed quality traits in peanuts, Wang et al. (2011) evaluated 94 *A. hypogaea* mini-core collection germplasm accessions with 81 simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers and two functional SNP markers made from fatty acid desaturase 2. The authors concluded that the peanut mini-core set is appropriate for association mapping studies. Later, Pandey et al. (2014) used GWAS to investigate 300 genotypes for 36 traits including disease resistance, oil content and quality, drought tolerance, yield components, and overall yield. More recently, GWAS on peanuts tested 158 genotypes for 11 important agronomic traits. In doing so, the study explored the complex genetic relationship between agronomic traits and domestication processes in peanuts (Zhang et al., 2017).

## Objectives

This research aims to screen 161 accessions for RKN resistance in peanuts and to define the SNP markers responsible for resistance. More specifically, this project will:

- 1) Evaluate 161 accessions for RKN resistance in peanut germplasm maintained in a greenhouse.
- 2) Identify SNP markers associated with RKN resistance via a genome-wide association study.



**Figure 1:** Disease cycle of root-knot caused by nematodes of the genus *Meloidogyne* (Agrios, 2005; reprinted with permission from Elsevier)

## REFERENCES

- Acquaah, G. (2012). *Principles of plant genetics and breeding*. 2nd ed. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.
- Agrios, G. (2005). *Plant Pathology*. 5th Edition, Elsevier Academic Press, Amsterdam.
- Bartoli, C., & Roux, F. (2017). Genome-Wide Association Studies in Plant Pathosystems: Toward an Ecological Genomics Approach. *Frontiers in plant science* 8: 763.
- Brachi, B., Morris, G.P., & Borevitz, J.O. (2011). Genome-wide association studies in plants: The missing heritability is in the field. *Genome Biology* 12(10), 232.
- Davis, R., & Webster, T. (2005). PLANT PATHOLOGY AND NEMATODOLOGY Relative Host Status of Selected Weeds and Crops for *Meloidogyne incognita* and *Rotylenchulus reniformis*. *Journal of Cotton Science* 9, 41–46.
- Dickson D.W., & Waele, D.D. (2005). Nematode parasites of peanut nematode parasites of cotton and other tropical fibre crops. In: Luc M, Sikora RA, Bridge J (eds) *Plant parasitic nematodes in tropical and subtropical agriculture*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., pp. 393-436). CAB International, Wallingford.
- Dickson, D. W. (1985). Nematode Diseases of Peanut. *Nematology Circular*, 121.
- do Nascimento, E.F.M.B., dos Santos, B.V., Marques, L.O.C., Guimarães, P.M., Brasileiro, A.C.M., Leal-Bertioli, S.C.M., Bertioli, D.J., & Araujo, A.C.G. (2018). The genome structure of *Arachis hypogaea* (Linnaeus, 1753) and an induced *Arachis* allotetraploid revealed by molecular cytogenetics. *Comparative Cytogenetics* 12(1), 111–140.
- Dong, W. B., Holbrook, C.C., Timper, P., Brenneman, T.B., Chu, Y., & Ozias-Akins, P. (2008). Resistance in peanut cultivars and breeding lines to three root-knot nematode species. *Plant Disease* 92, 631-638.

- Dong, W., Holbrook, C.C., Timper, P., Brenneman, T.B., & Mullinix, B.G. (2007). Comparison of Methods for Assessing Resistance to *Meloidogyne arenaria* in Peanut. *Journal of Nematology* 39(2), 169–175.
- Dufour, R., Earles, R., Kuepper, G., & Greer, L. (1998). *Alternative Nematode Control*. Elsevier Academic Press Is an Imprint of Elsevier 1, 1-26.
- Escobar, C., & Fenoll, C. (2015). *Advances in botanical research*. London: Academic Press 76, 1-24.
- Garcia, G.M., Stalker, H.T., Shroeder, E., & Kochert, G. (1996). Identification of RAPD, SCAR, and RFLP markers tightly linked to nematode resistance genes introgressed from *Arachis cardenasii* into *Arachis hypogaea*. *Genome* 39, 836–845.
- Grabau, Z.J., & D.W. Dickson. (2018). *Management of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes in Florida Peanut Production*1. UF/IFAS Extension ENY069.
- Hajihassani A., Lawrence K.S., & Jagdale G.B. (2018) Plant Parasitic Nematodes in Georgia and Alabama. In: Subbotin S., Chitambar J. (eds) *Plant Parasitic Nematodes in Sustainable Agriculture of North America. Sustainability in Plant and Crop Protection*. Springer 2, 357-385.
- Holbrook, C. C., Ozias-Akins, P., Chu, Y., Culbreath, A.K., Kvien, C.K., & Brenneman, T.B. (2017). Registration of ‘TifNV-High O/L’ Peanut. *J. Plant. Reg* 11, 228-230.
- Holbrook, C. C., Timper P., Culbreath, A.K., & Kvien, C.K. (2008). Registration of 'Tifguard' peanut. *Journal of Plant Registrations* 2, 92-94.
- Ikegawa, S. 2012. A Short History of the Genome-Wide Association Study: Where We Were and Where We Are Going. *Genomics & Informatics* 10(4), 220.

- Jones, J. T., Haegeman, A., Danchin, E.G., Gaur, H.S., Helder, J., Jones, M.G., Kikuchi, T., Manzanilla-López, R., Palomares-Rius, J.E., Wesemael, W.M., & Perry, R.N. (2013). Top 10 plant-parasitic nematodes. *Molecular Plant Pathology* 14, 946-961.
- Kenneth, H.G., & Curtis, R.J. (1973). Peanuts--culture and uses: Chapter 13-Peanut diseases. Stillwater, OK: American Peanut Research and Education Association.
- Lambert, K. & Bekal, S. (2002). Introduction to Plant-Parasitic Nematodes. The Plant Health Instructor.
- Mitkowski, N.A., & Abawi G.S. (2003). Root-knot nematodes. The Plant Health Instructor.
- Nagy, E., Chu, Y., Guo, Y. Khanal, S., Tang, S., Li, Y., Dong, W., Timper, P., Taylor, C., Ozias-Akins, P., Holbrook, C.C, Beilinson, V., & Nielsen, N., Stalker, H., & Knapp, S. (2010). Recombination is suppressed in an alien introgression in peanut harboring Rma, a dominant root-knot nematode resistance gene. *Molecular Breeding* 26, 357-370.
- National Peanut Board. Peanut types. [Online]. (Verified 17Nov.2017). Available at <http://nationalpeanutboard.org/peanut-info/peanut-types.htm>
- Pandey, M. K., Upadhyaya, H.D., Rathore, A., Vadez, V., Sheshshayee, M.S., Sriswathi, M., Govil, M., Kumar, A., Gowda, M.V., Sharma, S., Hamidou, F., Kumar, V.A., Khera, P., Bhat, R.S., Khan, A.W., Singh, S., Li, H., Monyo, E., Nadaf, H.L., Mukri, G., Jackson, S.A., Guo, B., Liang, X., & Varshney, R.K. (2014). Genomewide association studies for 50 agronomic traits in peanut using the 'reference set' comprising 300 genotypes from 48 countries of the semi-arid tropics of the world. *PLoS one* 9(8), e105228.
- Pérez-de-Castro, A. M., Vilanova, S., Cañizares, J., Pascual, L., Blanca, J.M., Díez, M.J., Prohens, J., & Picó, B. (2012). Application of genomic tools in plant breeding. *Current genomics*. 13(3): 179-95.

- Rich, J., & Tillman, B. (2009). Root-Knot Nematode Resistance in Peanut1. UF/IFAS Extension ENY057.
- Robertson, L., Díez-Rojo, M. A., López-Pérez, J. A., Piedra Buena, A., Escuer, M., López Cepero, J., Martínez, C., & Bello, A. (2009). New host races of *Meloidogyne arenaria*, *M. incognita*, and *M. javanica* from horticultural regions of Spain. *Plant Dis* 93, 180-184.
- Sasser, J.N., Eisenback, J.D., Carter, C.C., & Triantaphyllou, A.C. (1983). The International meloidogyne project-Its goals and accomplishments. [Online] Available [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jonathan\\_Eisenback/publication/234837889\\_The\\_International\\_Meloidogyne\\_ProjectIts\\_Goals\\_and\\_Accomplishments/links/0fcfd51277c243929f000000/The-International-Meloidogyne-Project-Its-Goals-and-Accomplishments.pdf](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jonathan_Eisenback/publication/234837889_The_International_Meloidogyne_ProjectIts_Goals_and_Accomplishments/links/0fcfd51277c243929f000000/The-International-Meloidogyne-Project-Its-Goals-and-Accomplishments.pdf)
- Simpson, C.E. (1990). Pathways for introgression of pest resistance into *Arachis hypogaea* L. *Peanut Science* 18, 22–26.
- Hammons, R.O., Herman, D., Stalker, H.T. Origin and Early History of the Peanut. In: Peanuts: Genetics, Processing, and Utilization. Stalker, H. T., Wilson R. F. (Eds). (2016). Peanuts Genetics, Processing, and Utilization. American Oil Chemists' Society Press, 1-22.
- Starr, J.L., Morgan, E., & Simpson, C.E. (2002). Management of the peanut root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne arenaria*, with host resistance. [Online] Plant Health Progress. doi: 10.1094/PHP-2002-1121-01-HM.
- Tallury, S.P. 2017. Peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.): Origin and botanical descriptions. In: Varshney, R. K., Pandey, M.K., & Puppala, N. The Peanut Genome (pp. 27-31). Springer International Publishing, Cham.
- Tillman B.L., & Stalker, H.T. (2009). Peanut. In: Vollmann J., Rajcan, I. (eds). *Oil Crops. Handbook of Plant Breeding*. (vol 4, pp. 287-315). Springer, New York, NY

- US Department of Agriculture (USDA) - National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). (Online). Available at [https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov/results/22E5CD7F-2BA4-3718B2C4C5F5DF6B2A0E?pivot=short\\_desc](https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov/results/22E5CD7F-2BA4-3718B2C4C5F5DF6B2A0E?pivot=short_desc) (Verified 17Nov.2017)
- US Department of Agriculture (USDA). (2018). Foreign Agricultural Service. World Agricultural Production. *Circular Series WAP*, 8-18
- Vishwakarma, M. K., Kale, S.M., Sriswathi, M., Naresh, T., Shasidhar, Y., Garg, V., & Varshney, R.K. (2017). Genome-wide discovery and deployment of insertions and deletions markers provided greater insights on species, genomes, and sections relationships in the genus *Arachis*. *Frontiers in Plant Science* 8, 2064. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2017.02064>
- Wang, M.L., Sukumaran, S., Barkley, N.A., Chen, Z., Chen, C.Y., Guo, B., Pittman, R.N., Stalker, H.T., Holbrook, C.C., Pederson, G.A., & Yu, J. (2011). Population structure and marker-trait association analysis of the US peanut (*Arachis hypogaea L.*) mini-core collection. *Theoretical and Applied Genetics* 123(8), 1307-1317.
- Williamson, V. M., & Hussey S.R. (1996). Nematode pathogenesis and resistance in plants. *Plant Cell* 8, 1735–1745.
- Zhang, X., Zhang, J. He, X., Wang, Y., Ma, X., & Yin, D. (2017). Genome-Wide Association Study of Major Agronomic Traits Related to Domestication in Peanut. *Frontiers in Plant Science* 8, 1611.
- Zhao, Y., Zhang, C., Chen, H., Yuan, M., Nipper, R., Prakash, C.S., & He, G. (2016). QTL mapping for bacterial wilt resistance in peanut (*Arachis hypogaea L.*). *Molecular Breeding* 36, 13.

## CHAPTER TWO

### INTRODUCTION

The peanut is a globally important crop, both for smallholders as well as large commercial producers. Widely grown in tropical and subtropical regions, the peanut can be classified as either a grain legume or an oil crop. Worldwide, annual peanut production reaches around 46 million tons (Bilello, 2016). In the United States, specifically, peanuts are the 12th most valuable cash crop, boasting a total farm value of more than \$1 billion (National Peanut Board, 2018).

Nematode damage is one of the most important factors affecting peanut production. A recent study identified root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne spp.*), in particular, as the most economically destructive genus of plant-parasitic nematodes. Root-knot nematodes include nearly 100 species. Of these, *Meloidogyne arenaria* is one of the most problematic for agricultural crop production (Jonesh et al., 2013). Moreover, *M. arenaria* race 1 is the primary root-knot nematode species that infects the peanut plant (Sasser et al., 1983).

The roots of plants infected with nematodes typically exhibit galls filled with *M. arenaria* females and their egg masses (Sasser et al., 1983). Root galls containing RKN eggs inhibit plant nutrient absorption, which results in slowed growth, stunting, and yellowish leaves. RKN-infected pegs weaken, eventually breaking during harvest, and this results in yield losses. By remaining in the soil, detached pods further reduce crop yields. Moreover, pod infections caused by root-knot nematodes result in low quality harvests (Starr et al., 2002).



Root-knot nematodes can be effectively controlled with Termik 15G applying mid-season and can be provided an increase in yield of about 130% in infested RKN field (Kemerait & Davis, 2003). Another viable method is crop rotation with cotton, velvet bean, or bahiagrass (Bridge & Starr, 2007).

Plants that possess RKN-resistant genes are able to limit nematode reproduction; consequently, nematode population density is lower in those cultivars. More specifically, resistant cultivars are able to decrease the number of galls that develop on their roots (Williamson, 1999). There was no resistant peanut cultivar for RKN until 2001. The first RKN-resistant peanut cultivar, COAN, was released in 2001; however, the second such a resistant cultivar, NemaTAM, was released shortly after in 2002. Unfortunately, both COAN and NemaTAM have low yield potential compared to parent Florunner planted in noninfected fields (Dong et al., 2008). As such, COAN and NemaTAM are rarely used in agricultural applications. However, in 2014 the USDA-ARS and the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations released TifNV-High-O/L, a newer cultivar that exhibits substantial resistance to both *M. arenaria* (Neal) Chitwood race 1 and TSWV. TifNV-High-O/L presented notably higher yields compared with extensively preferable susceptible Georgia-06G in nematode infested fields (Holbrook et al., 2017).

Still, there is continuous evolutionary pressure on disease-causing nematodes to overcome the genetic resistance of cultivars like COAN, NemaTAM, Tifguard. Indeed, if a plant has only one RKN-resistant gene, then RKNs will eventually evolve the ability to subvert that resistance, thereby leaving the plant susceptible to infection. In order to increase the longevity of RKN-resistance, breeders must continue to search for new resistance genes to combine them in multi-resistant variety.

Developing new cultivars with nematode resistance requires reliable and effective screening techniques that identify resistant progeny within segregated breeding populations. Breeding lines can be evaluated in naturally infested fields; however, seasonal restrictions and soil non-uniformity mean that standardized comparisons are not possible. Thus, field-based screening may not be ideal. The screening method used to identify RKN-resistant breeding lines should be capable of readily and reliably evaluating thousands of genotypes. Greenhouses are key tools in this pursuit because they allow screening to occur throughout the year. In addition, greenhouse-based screening allows for important standardizations like sterilized soil and a uniform inoculum level (Boerma & Hussey, 1992). Data obtained from greenhouse-based testing can be analyzed with GWAS. As GWAS can directly use available genotype and phenotype data, researchers save time and resources. Moreover, GWAS can help identify the genes that confer RKN-resistance to different cultivars. This research aims to screen 161 accessions for RKN resistance in peanuts and to define the SNP markers responsible for resistance.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This experiment consisted of 161 accessions including 124 from the U.S. peanut mini-core collection and 37 from commercial cultivars and breeding lines. These accessions covered six botanical varieties: *fastigiata*, *hypogaea*, *peruviana*, *vulgaris*, *aequatoriana*, and *hirsute* (Figure 4). TifNV-High-O/L was selected as the resistant control. Tested accessions were classified into three groups based on the number of eggs per gram of root fresh weight (Eggs/g RFW): resistant, moderately resistant, and susceptible.

### Phenotyping in Greenhouse

The 161 peanut accessions were germinated on germination paper for 4 days, and then one peanut seed was transplanted into one cone-tainer (150cc) each containing soil (33.3%) and sandy mixture (66.3%) on June 15th, 2018. One day after planting, the plants were inoculated with 1 ml of nematode suspension; each suspension contained 3000 eggs. Plants were watered regularly to keep up soil moisture. A randomized complete block design with three replications for each sample was utilized for this research at the Plant Science Research Center and maintained  $27^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1$ . One month after planting, plant height (PH), shoot fresh weight (SFW), and root fresh weight (RFW) were measured. For the dried plant weight, shoot fresh plant were stored with  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2- 3 days or until the consistent weight was obtained, and then they were measured.

### **Extraction of Nematode Eggs from Plant Roots**

Washed peanut roots were blotted, weighed, and then placed into beakers. Roots were covered with 0.625% NaOCI solution and stirred with a motorized stirrer for 4 minutes (Hussey & Barker, 1973). In order to collect eggs, roots were rinsed in a 75  $\mu\text{m}$  pore sieve nested within a 25  $\mu\text{m}$  pore sieve. The liquid remaining in the 25  $\mu\text{m}$  pore sieve was poured very slowly into a clean cup. Sucrose solution (454g sugar/1L water) was added to the sample collected in the cup. The contents of the cup were mixed until homogenous, and then transferred into new tubes. These were placed into a centrifuge at 1400 rpm for 1 minute. After centrifuging, the liquid that separated to the top of each tube was again passed through the mesh sieves (75  $\mu\text{m}$  pore sieve nested within 25  $\mu\text{m}$  pore sieve). The liquid remaining in the 25  $\mu\text{m}$  pore sieve was poured very slowly into a clean cup. Finally, the number of nematode eggs collected within the liquid were counted under the Nikon TS100 inverted microscope.

### **DNA Extraction, Genotyping and Quality Control**

Plant samples were taken from grown plants in the greenhouse and protected at  $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  for DNA extraction. The modified CTAB method was used for DNA extraction (Porebski et al., 1997). Purified DNA was dissolved in TE buffer for the next analysis. The ND 2000 was used to measure the quantity and quality of DNA.

GeneSeek (Lincoln, Nebraska, USA) conducted the genotyping by using SNP array (Affymetrix). The call rate for a given SNP is the proportion of individuals that do not lack corresponding SNP information. Samples of low quality or with a low call rate were excluded ( $< 0.95$ ). Following filtering, SNPs were retained at a  $< 0.95$  minor allele frequency  $< 0.05$ , depending on the Mendelian law. STRUCTURE 2.2.3 was used to identify the optimal value of K.

## Statistical Analysis

All data were performed by using SAS 9.4 PROC GLIMMIX (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC), and LS-means were compared between accessions and replications using Tukey-Kramer's method with a significance level of  $P \leq 0.05$ . Dependent variables were plant height (PH), root fresh weight (RFW), shoot fresh weight (SFW), the number of *M. arenaria* eggs per gram of the root fresh weight (Eggs/g RFW), and biomass (BM). Independent variable was genotypes. A log transformation was applied to Eggs/g RFW the normal assumption. The LS-means estimates for the lognormal distribution function were back transformed to the original data by using PROC MEANS. The ANOVA table and associated P-values was created separately for each trait.

## Genome-Wide Association Analysis

116 peanut genotypes were used in association analyses using TASSEL 5.0 software. The general linear model (GLM) comprises the principal component analysis (PCA) model. PCA is a potential approach that can be used in GWA studies and raise the power of QTL detection. The threshold of significance level between traits and SNPs was determined as  $P < 0.001$ , (for example,  $-\log_{10}(p) = 3.0$ ) (Zhang et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2016; Li et al., 2017). The regions approximately 1 Mb upstream and downstream of peak SNPs were checked for candidate genes associated with the traits of interest (database at <https://peanutbase.org>). BLAST was used to find the gene positions on the physical map.

The GWAS results were visualized with Manhattan and quantile-quantile (Q-Q) plots that were generated using R package qqman (Figure 3). In Figure 3, the alternating orange and blue dots represent SNPs mapped to different chromosomes. Dots above the red horizontal line are SNPs with  $P$ -value  $< 0.001$ .

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 161 accessions were screened for RKN in the greenhouse. There was a statistically significant difference in the mean of PH, SFW, RFW, Eggs/g RFW, and BM between genotypes and replications ( $P \leq 0.05$ ). At  $P \leq 0.01$ , there was no difference in RFW among replications and in Eggs/g RFW among genotypes (Table 1). Means that have more than 2500 Eggs/g RFW are significantly different from each other (Table 6); however, mean of PH (Table 6), RFW, SFW, and BM are significantly different from each in own accessions of its group (Tukey–Kramer test,  $P > 0.05$ ) (Table 7). Mean of all traits were shown with frequency distribution in Figure 2.

A plant's resistance or susceptibility to plant-parasitic nematodes can be measured by nematode reproductive success (Cook and Evans, 1987). Thus, for the classification of resistance, the ability to produce nematodes was considered, and TifNV-High-O/L was determined as resistant control. More specifically, accessions were classified as resistant (R), moderately resistant (MR), and susceptible (S) based on Eggs/g RFW (Table 2). Compared to the resistant control, eleven accessions could be classified resistant or moderately resistant to *M. arenaria*. The number of Eggs/g RFW varied between 95 and 7129, with genotype PI 370331 having the least and genotype PI 494034 having the most. Genotypes PI 370331, Lot4-37Line-2, PI390428, PI497648, PI268868, PI295309, and PI407667 were classified as R because their number of Eggs/g RFW were fewer than that of TifNV-High O/L (except for Fla-07 with 190 Eggs/g RFW). In addition, genotypes PI 461434, AU-17, and PI 493938 were classified as MR because their

number of Eggs/g RFW were around 150% of that in TifNV-High-O/L. Genotypes with a higher number of Eggs/g RFW than this were categorized as S. All genotypes whose number of Egg/g RFW  $\leq$  807 are listed in Table 2.

In order to identify genetic loci related to resistance, five traits (PH, SFW, RFW, Eggs/g RFW, and BM) were examined. In total, 46 QTLs associated with four traits reached the corrected *P*-value ( $p < 0.001$ ,  $-\log_{10}(p) = 3.0$ ). No QTL was significantly related to SFW (Table 3). Forty-six quantitative trait loci (QTLs) located on twelve different chromosomes underlying root-knot nematode resistance were determined with phenotypic variation explained (PVE) between 7.8% and 17% by GWAS from greenhouse data (Table 4). Distribution of 46 QTLs on 12 different chromosomes illustrate that 27 QTLs were on the A sub-genome while 19 QTLs took part in the B sub-genome (Table 3). However, B07 contained the highest quantity with 11 QTLs, and the next one is A07 with 9 QTLs. Besides this, there were no QTL on several chromosomes, namely, A02, A03, A10, B01, B02, B03, B04, and B05. Overall, the A sub-genome had more resistant regions than the B sub-genome. Pandey et al. (2017) similarly found that the A sub-genome hosts a large number of resistant genes. That is, out of 42 total QTLs, 34 were located on the A sub-genome, while 8 were located on the B sub-genome (Pandey et al., 2017). Likewise, Bertoli et al. (2016) found more the nucleotide-binding (NB) and leucine-rich repeat (LRR) encoding disease resistant genes on the A sub-genome (397) than on the B sub-genome (345).

Out of 46 QTLs, 957 candidate genes detected including 520 genes on A sub-genome and 437 genes on B sub-genome. B07 contained the greatest number of genes (210 genes, 21.94%), and also A07 and A08 included 124 and 126 genes corresponding to 12.95 and 13.16%, respectively. Specifically, 26 out of 957 candidate genes related to LRR encoding gene were found on chromosomes A01, A04, A05, B07, B08, and B10 (Table 5). Moreover, 80.76% of these LRR

encoding genes took part in chromosome B07 at location 2810620 surrounding 1 Mb. Most disease resistance in plants is conferred by genes of the nucleotide binding site-leucine-rich repeat (NBS-LRR) class. LRR domains are found in various protein groups, including among process regulators that both control development and plant defense (Knepper and Day, 2010). QTL for resistance to *M. arenaria* (Neal) Chitwood 1 was found on chromosome A02 of *Arachis stenosperma* V10309. This included a cluster of 38 NB-LRR–encoding genes covering 6.1 Mb. Another source of nematode resistance, which has been widely used in the United States arises from the introgression of the A-genome species *Arachis cardenasii* (Bertioli et al., 2016). More specifically, a gene called *Rma* is assumed to be a dominant gene related to RKN introduced into *Arachis hypogaea* from TxAG-6 such as the superfamily of NBS-LRR encoding R genes. The R gene in wild peanut was located on chromosome A09 and B09. Moreover, *Mag* and *Mae*, which are also genes that confer resistance to RKN, are associated with *Rma* (Nagy et al., 2010).



## CONCLUSION

Root-knot nematodes are some of the most economically destructive pathogens in peanut production areas of the Southern USA. The identification of genes that confer resistance to RKNs will guide researchers in future screening and mapping experiments of the peanut genome, moreover, help to eliminate this disease. As a result of the evaluation of peanut germplasm in the greenhouse experiment, in the total, eleven accessions were identified as resistant or moderately resistant to RKN compared with resistant control TifNV-High-O/L. These genotypes may be beneficial to future breeding efforts aimed at RKN prevention. The results of GWAS, the R gene located on the A09 and B09 chromosomes, a dominant root-knot nematode resistance gene was not found to be among the tested QTLs. Nonetheless, this study identified 26 candidate genes related to LRR-encoding gene on chromosomes A01, A04, A05, B07, B08, and B10. This thesis research will extend the knowledge on the sources of resistance to root-knot nematode in peanut as well as give a lead for improvement of resistant peanut cultivar.

**Table 1:** Analysis of variance of plant height, shoot fresh weight, root fresh weight, eggs/g root fresh weight and biomass

Source	DF	Type III SS	Mean Square	F Value	Pr > F
<b>Plant Height</b>					
Genotype	160	10351.6413	64.69776	3.26	<.0001
Replication	2	495.31388	247.65694	12.49	<.0001
<b>Shoot Fresh Weight</b>					
Genotype	160	3029.03393	18.931462	1.73	<.0001
Replication	2	290.661515	145.330757	13.29	<.0001
<b>Root Fresh Weight</b>					
Genotype	160	812.175423	5.0760964	1.83	<.0001
Replication	2	21.1558918	10.5779459	3.81	0.0231
<b>Eggs/g RFW</b>					
Genotype	160	794337449	4964609.1	1.36	0.0106
Replication	2	255031899	127515949	35.03	<.0001
<b>Biomass</b>					
Genotype	160	123.883551	0.7742722	1.5	0.0013
Replication	2	34.9169084	17.4584542	33.79	<.0001

**Table 2:** Resistance classification for peanut genotypes tested in the greenhouse.

PI#	Egg/g RFW	RL	PI #	Egg/g RFW	RL	PI#	Egg/g RFW	RL	PI#	Egg/g RFW	RL
PI 370331	95	R	PI 476025	603	S	Valencia	491	S	PI 338338	631	S
Lot4-37 Line-2	111	R	PI 482120	325	S	Grif 12579	496	S	Florunner	644	S
PI 390428	123	R	PI 290620	328	S	PI 475863	506	S	PI 270998	655	S
PI 497648	127	R	PI 259658	334	S	Grif 12545	509	S	PI 494018	666	S
PI 268868	133	R	PI 196705	335	S	NM Val	513	S	PI 290536	672	S
PI 295309	139	R	PI 270905	345	S	Grif 14051	516	S	PI 502111	674	S
PI 407667	149	R	PI 157542	352	S	PI 576634	527	S	PI 493717	674	S
<b>TifNV- High-O/L</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>R</b>	C99R	372	S	PI 290560	527	S	PI 240560	687	S
Fla-07	190	R	PI 576636	403	S	C76-16	530	S	PI 481795	692	S
PI 461434	229	MR	PI 331297	403	S	PI 155107	542	S	PI 576614	695	S
AU-17	239	MR	PI 482189	409	S	PI 200441	545	S	EXP27- 1516	705	S
PI 493938	243	MR	PI 158854	431	S	G06G	563	S	PI 298854	708	S
PI 471954	262	S	PI 493880	454	S	PI 442768	575	S	PI 343384	714	S
PI 290594	276	S	PI 355271	459	S	PI 152146	579	S	Lot5- 101/Line-8	730	S
PI 162655	288	S	PI 313129	462	S	PI 268696	581	S	PI 162857	738	S
PI 372305	292	S	PI 268847	468	S	PI 478819	581	S	PI 648241	740	S
PI 259851	304	S	PI 372271	475	S	PI 648242	583	S	CG7-A	746	S
PI 268755	309	S	PI 355268	477	S	PI 295250	595	S	PI 496448	776	S
FL-279	311	S	PI 296550	477	S	PI 288146	604	S	SPT06-6	788	S
VC-2 (1)	319	S	NC-3033	482	S	PI 496401	612	S	PI 290566	805	S
PI 648250	320	S	PI 259748	488	S	PI 268586	627	S	Ga Green	807	S

RL: Resistant Level

R: Resistant, < eggs/g RFW of TifNV-High O/L and

eggs/g RFW up to “TifNV-High O / L + 10% of TifNV-High O / L”  $\geq$  eggs/g RFW

MR: Moderately resistant, eggs/g RFW up to “TifNV-High O / L + 50% of TifNV-High O / L”

S: Susceptible, eggs/g root > 50% of TifNV-High O / L

**Table 3:** Distribution of QTLs in twelve chromosomes identified

Trait	Marker	Chromosome	Position	P-Value	- log <sub>10</sub> (P value)	PVE (%)
BM	AX-176809414	A05	1.04E+08	4.84E-05	4.31	16.62
BM	AX-176796238	A05	1.04E+08	1.39E-05	4.85	15.89
BM	AX-176794905	A05	1.04E+08	4.12E-04	3.38	13.24
BM	AX-176812683	A07	18777607	8.32E-04	3.07	12.13
Eggs/g RFW	AX-147219410	A04	9307072	4.50E-05	4.34	14.93
Eggs/g RFW	AX-176821623	B06	2198106	8.23E-04	3.08	10.88
Eggs/g RFW	AX-176822589	B07	2810620	6.42E-04	3.19	8.90
Eggs/g RFW	AX-177644370	B08	1.24E+08	3.08E-04	3.51	10.26
PH	AX-176805890	A01	1580925	3.25E-04	3.48	11.17
PH	AX-176796691	A05	86185395	3.03E-04	3.51	9.29
PH	AX-147225431	A06	63883081	9.88E-04	3.00	7.80
PH	AX-177637748	A07	56104900	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-176822013	A07	59068844	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-176821798	A07	63657369	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-176812653	A07	64217536	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-177639255	A07	58292539	3.73E-04	3.42	11.06
PH	AX-177639847	A07	68894297	5.35E-04	3.27	10.59
PH	AX-177637603	A07	24206696	5.53E-04	3.25	10.54
PH	AX-177637650	A07	58745504	6.31E-04	3.19	8.37
PH	AX-177637432	A08	4160623	3.24E-06	5.48	16.96
PH	AX-176822307	A08	2405445	1.77E-05	4.75	14.91
PH	AX-177638264	A08	2401835	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-176821485	A08	2924597	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-177637391	A08	4130418	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-177637155	A08	4160628	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-176794999	A09	81732757	3.89E-04	3.41	8.90
PH	AX-176810505	A09	1.02E+08	3.89E-04	3.41	8.90
PH	AX-176820309	B06	50767609	9.88E-04	3.00	7.80
PH	AX-147255972	B07	99843248	5.14E-06	5.28	16.50
PH	AX-177637764	B07	51500083	1.17E-04	3.93	12.68
PH	AX-147255754	B07	57047298	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-176823112	B07	1E+08	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-147255998	B07	1.02E+08	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-147256091	B07	1.06E+08	1.18E-04	3.92	12.54
PH	AX-177637951	B07	68777401	8.54E-04	3.06	9.97
PH	AX-147256234	B07	1.12E+08	9.88E-04	3.00	9.78
PH	AX-177638959	B07	88051816	9.28E-04	3.03	7.93
PH	AX-177638466	B07	24656861	9.52E-04	3.02	7.86
PH	AX-177644247	B08	9988581	7.04E-04	3.15	8.14
PH	AX-177643492	B09	1.39E+08	8.15E-04	3.08	8.12
PH	AX-177639393	B10	1.1E+08	4.08E-04	3.38	8.89
PH	AX-177643787	B10	95718840	9.88E-04	3.00	7.80

**Table 3:** Continued.

<b>Trait</b>	<b>Marker</b>	<b>Chromosome</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>P-Value</b>	<b>- log<sub>10</sub> (<i>P</i> value)</b>	<b>PVE (%)</b>
RFW	AX-176794905	A05	1.04E+08	2.22E-04	3.65	13.78
RFW	AX-176806726	A05	1.04E+08	7.47E-04	3.12	9.52
RFW	AX-147223670	A05	1.03E+08	7.51E-04	3.12	9.49

**Table 4:** Total number of QTLs associated with traits.

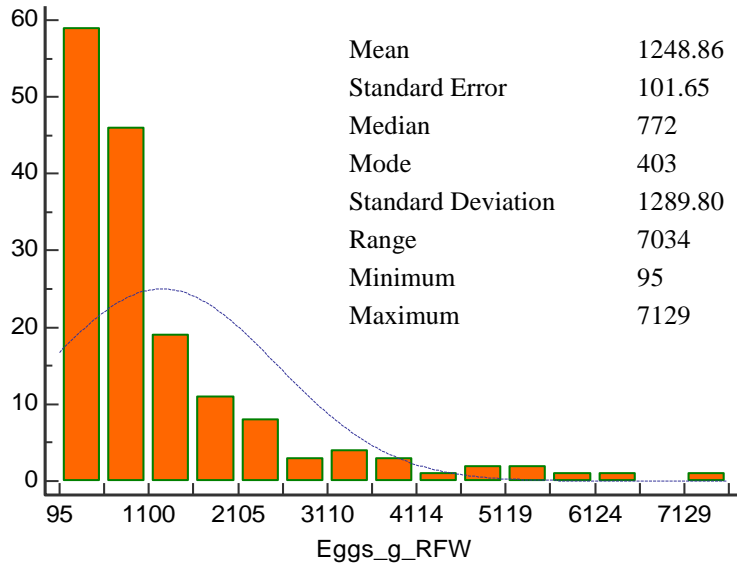
<b>Traits</b>	<b>Determined QTLs</b>	<b>- log<sub>10</sub> (<i>P</i> value)</b>	<b>PVE (%)</b>
BM	4	4.85-3.07	16.62-12.13
Eggs/g	4	4.34-3.08	14.93-8.90
PH	35	5.48-3.00	16.96-7.81
RFW	3	3.65-3.12	13.78-9.49
Total	46	3.00-5.48	7.80-16.96

**Table 5:** 26 significant SNPs and candidate genes including LRR encoding genes associated with RKN.

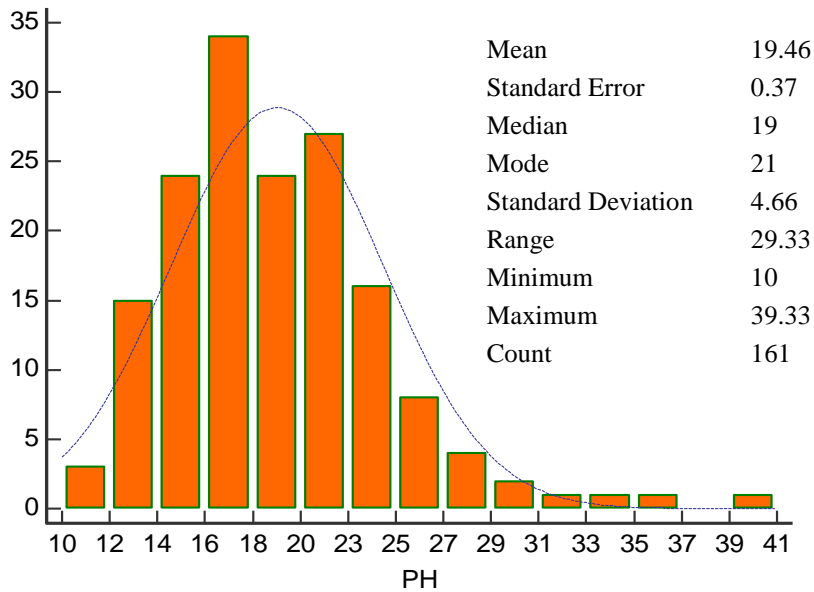
<b>Trait</b>	<b>SNP Location (bp)</b>	<b>Candidate Gene</b>	<b>Gene Location (bp)</b>
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	A04-9307072	Arahy.CT5ZD3	9616353-9621745
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.18C3F6	2756450-2763400
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.21TZH2	2812840-2814981
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.24K8LL	2750311-2753514
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.2ZUN3L	2637378-2640386
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.6DS8WC	2669806-2670378
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.6R79T7	2670436-2672808
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.BBM6FL	2909926-2919339
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.DKBS4X	2807891-2812032
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.F3E022	2710902-2713877
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.FXNF4I	2359004-2369234
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.HW8B30	2344577-2347990
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.L85DV8	2719236-2722201
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.R600FJ	2692253-2695219
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.S3Z82H	2794965-2798706
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.TTKZ9K	2728271-2733731
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.U2RA4L	2347581-2350586
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.V485GG	2644198-2647224
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.WH0DJX	2811829-2812563
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.S3Z82H	2654758-2657706
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.XTV6UZ	2622342-2633564
<b>Egg/g RFW</b>	B07-2810620	Arahy.ZU31CU	2687768-2691573
<b>PH</b>	A01-1580925	Arahy.ZKQR71	1679221-1680513
<b>PH</b>	B08-9988581	Arahy.VNIH7N	10098971-10104661
<b>PH</b>	B10-110263083	Arahy.JVX2H3	109849739-109860797
<b>RFW</b>	A05-103711123	Arahy.IGT6GQ	104068602-104072237
<b>BM</b>	A05-104023520	Arahy.IGT6GQ	104068602-104072237

**Figure 2:** Frequency distribution of mean of all traits. **A:** Frequency distribution for eggs per gram of the root fresh weight. **B:** Frequency distribution for plant height. **C:** Frequency distribution for root fresh weight. **D:** Frequency distribution for shoot fresh weight. **E:** Frequency distribution for biomass.

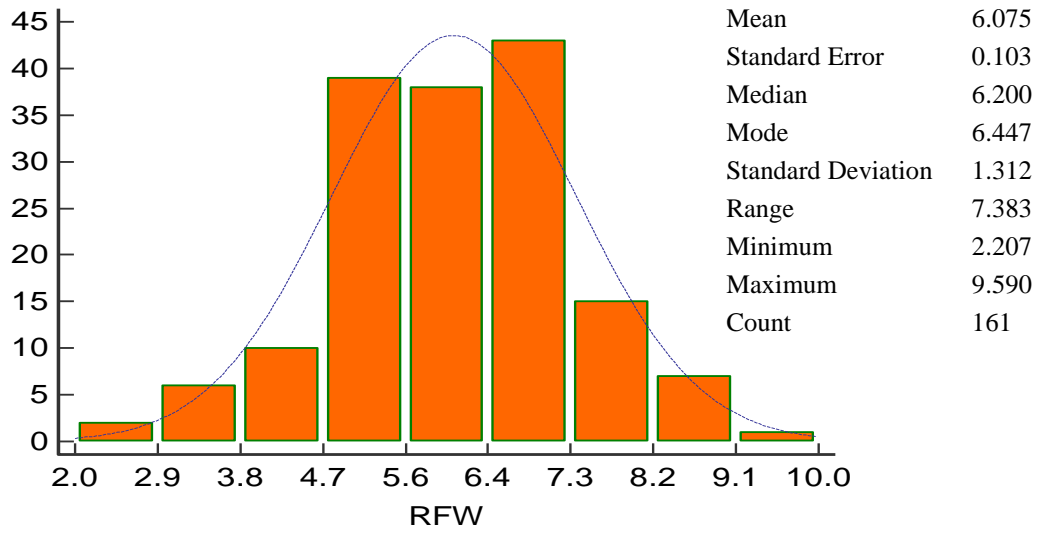
**A**



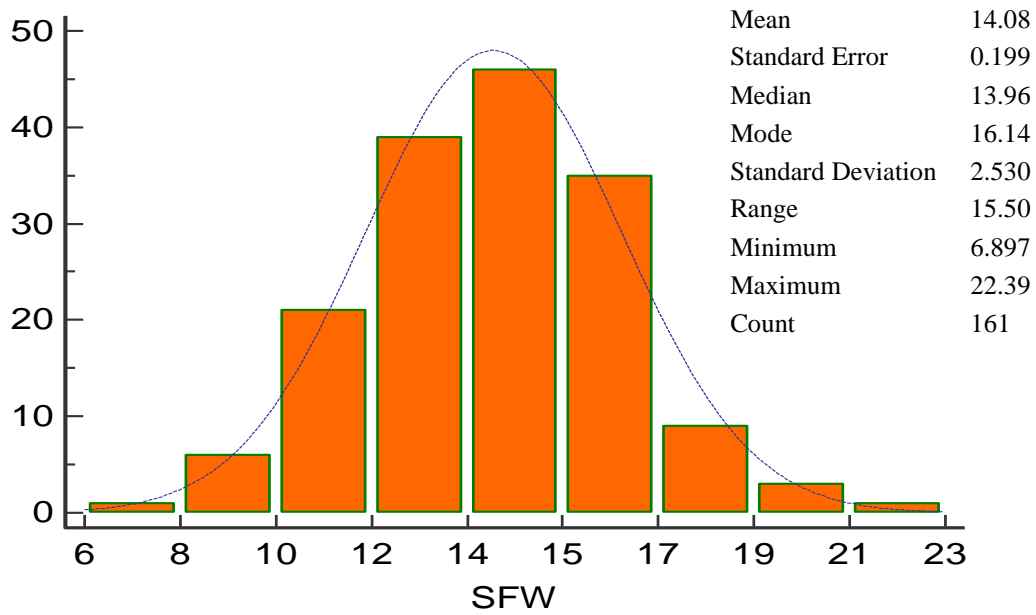
**B**



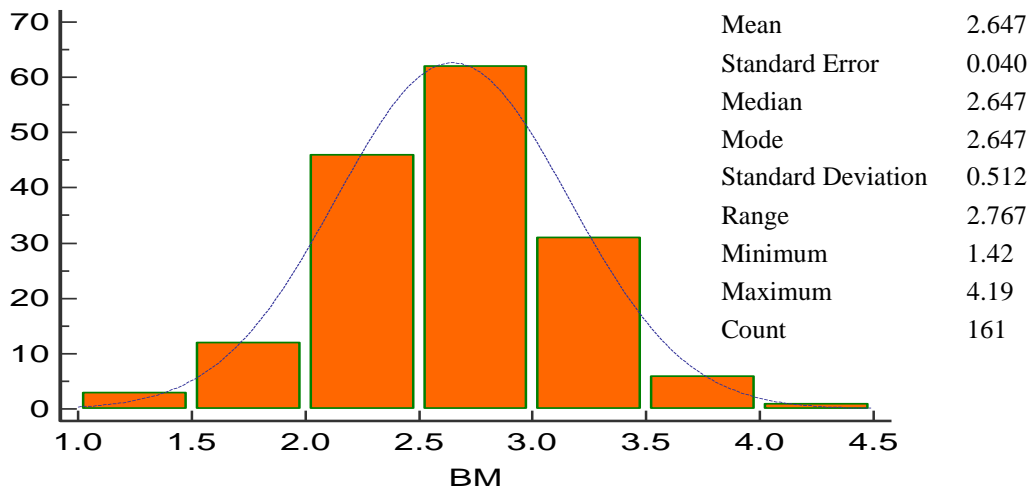
**C**



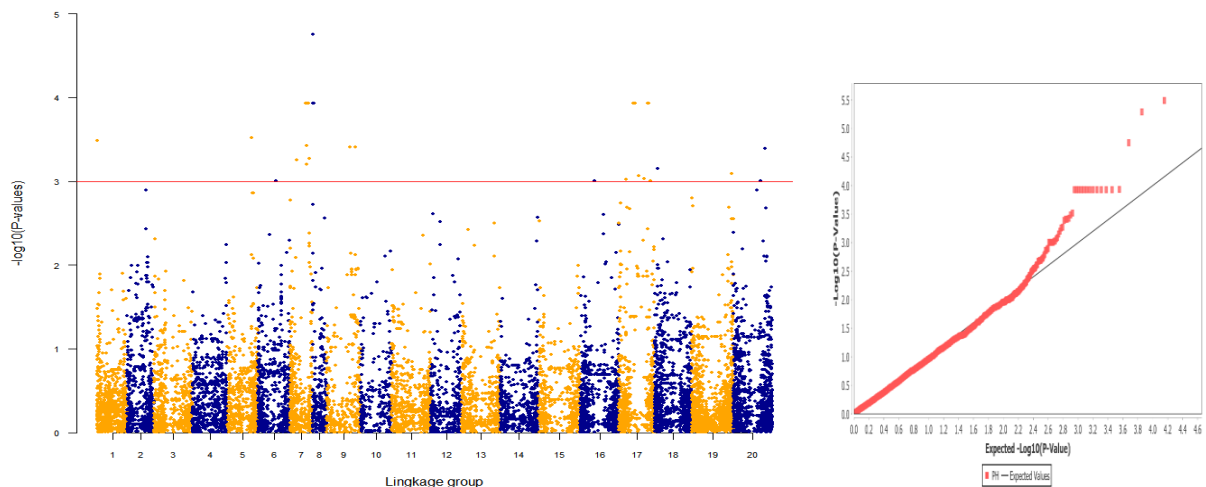
**D**

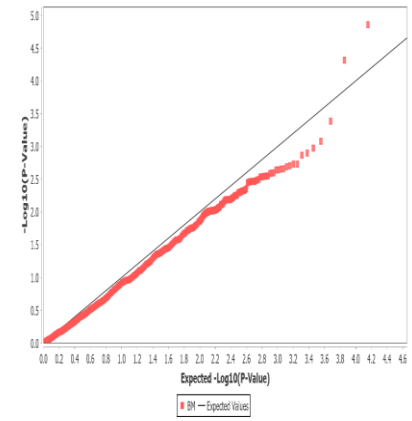
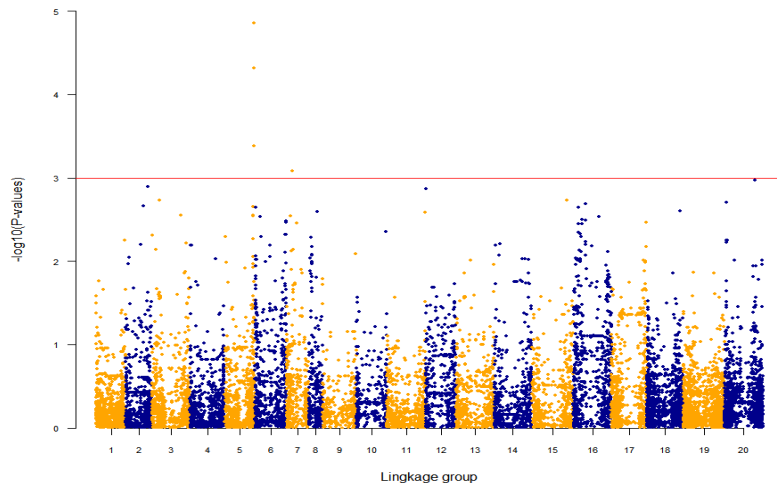
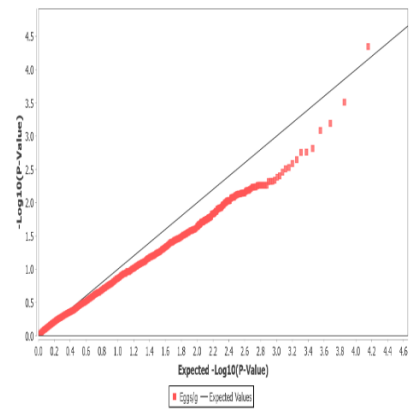
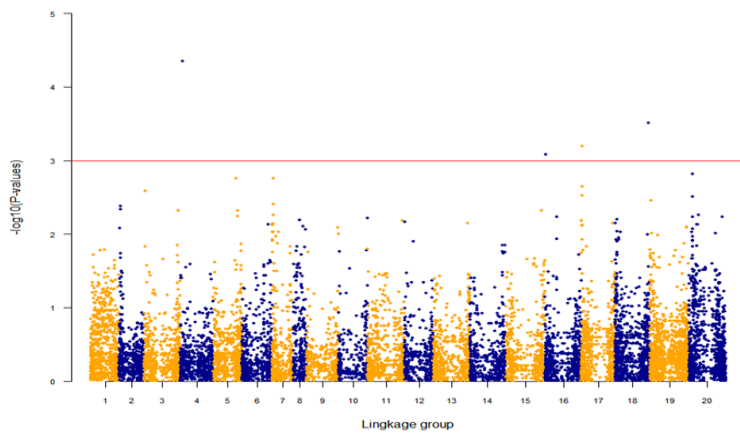


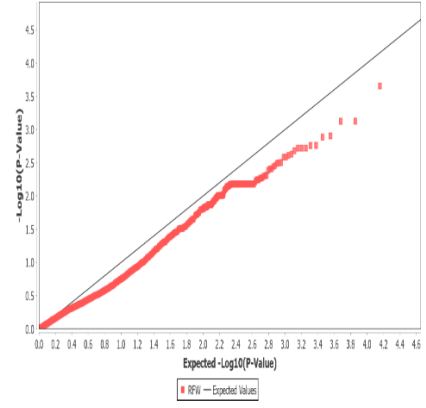
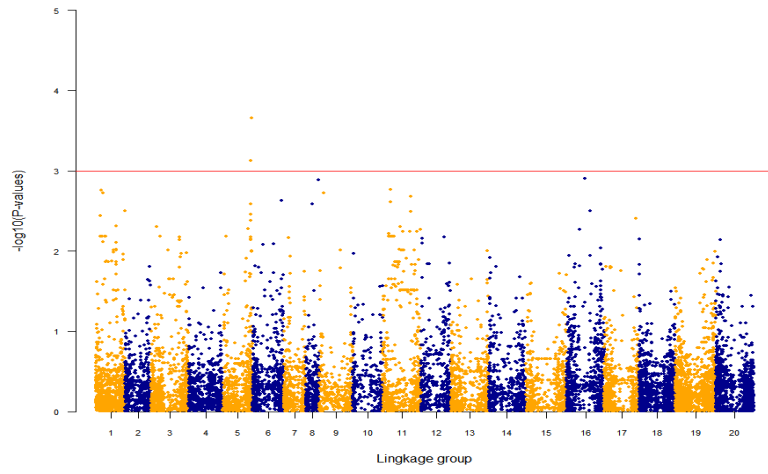
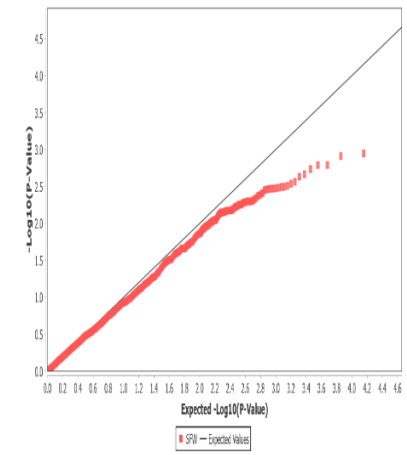
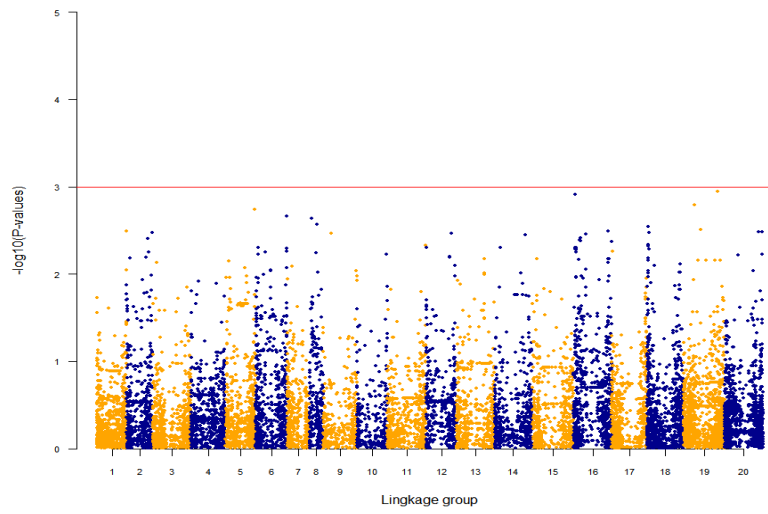


**E**

**Figure 3:** Manhattan plots of genome-wide association for RKN resistance. The red line demonstrates the genome-wide significant threshold:  $-\log_{10}(\text{P value}) = 3.0$ . **A:** P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for plant height. **B:** P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for biomass. **C:** P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for eggs per gram of the root fresh weight. **D:** P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for root fresh weight. **E:** P-values by linkage group and Q-Q plots for shoot fresh weight.

**A**

**B****C**

**D****E**

## REFERENCES

- Bertioli, D. J., Cannon, S. B., Froenicke, L., Huang, G., Farmer, A. D., Cannon, E. K. S., et al. (2016). The genome sequences of *Arachis duranensis* and *Arachis ipaensis*, the diploid ancestors of cultivated peanut. *Nature Genetics*. 48, 438–446.
- Bilello, S. (2016). 21st Century Homestead: *Nitrogen-fixing crops*. Place of publication not identified: LULU COM.
- Boerma, H. R., & Hussey, R. S. (1992). Breeding plants for resistance to nematodes. *Journal of Nematology*, 24:242-252.
- Bridge, J., & Starr, J. L. (2007). *Plant nematodes of agricultural importance a color handbook*. Boston, MA: Academic Press.
- Cook, R., & Evans, K. (1987). Resistance and tolerance. Pp. 179–231 in R. H. Brown and B. R. Kerry, eds. *Principles and practice of nematode control in crops*. Murrumbidgee, NSW, Australia: Academic Press.
- Dong, W. B., Holbrook, C. C., Timper, P., Brenneman, T. B., Chu, Y., & Ozias-Akins, P. (2008). Resistance in peanut cultivars and breeding lines to three root-knot nematode species. *Plant Disease*. 92, 631-638.
- Holbrook, C. C., Ozias-Akins, P., Chu, Y., Culbreath, A.K., Kvien, C.K., & Brenneman, T.B. (2017). Registration of ‘TifNV-High O/L’ Peanut. *Journal of Plant Registrations*, 11, 228-230.
- Hussey, R. S., & Barker, K. B. (1973). A comparison of methods of collecting inoculate of *Meloidogyne spp.*, including a new technique. *Plant Disease Reporter* 57:1025-1028.

- Jones, J. T., A. Haegeman, E.G. Danchin, H.S. Gaur, J. Helder, M.G. Jones., T. Kikuchi, R. Manzanilla-López, J.E. Palomares-Rius, W.M. Wesemael, & R.N. Perry. (2013). Top 10 plant-parasitic nematodes. *Molecular Plant Pathology* 14, 946-961.
- Kemerait, R.C., & Davis, R.F. 2003. Evaluation of nematicides to reduce losses to root-knot nematode in peanut [abstract]. Fungicide and Nematicide Tests. 58 Report No. NO14.
- Knepper, C., & Day, B. (2010). From perception to activation: the molecular-genetic and biochemical landscape of disease resistance signaling in plants. *The arabidopsis book*, 8, e012. doi:10.1199/tab.0124
- Li, H., Zhang, L., Hu, J., Zhang, F., Chen, B., Xu, K., Gao, G., Li, H., Zhang, T., Li, Z. and Wu, X. (2017). Genome-Wide Association Mapping Reveals the Genetic Control Underlying Branch Angle in Rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.). *Frontiers in Plant Science*, 8, 1054.
- Nagy, E., Chu, Y.Y., Guo, S., Khanal, & Tang, S. (2010). Recombination is suppressed in an alien introgression in peanut harboring *Rma*, a dominant root-knot nematode resistance gene. *Molecular Breeding* 26, 357-370.
- National Peanut Board. Peanut types. [Online]. (Verified 15Nov.2018). Available at <https://www.nationalpeanutboard.org/peanut-info/history-peanuts-peanut-butter.htm>
- Pandey, M. K., Wang, H., Khera, P., Vishwakarma, M. K., Kale, S. M., Culbreath, A. K., ... Guo, B. (2017). Genetic Dissection of Novel QTLs for Resistance to Leaf Spots and Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus in Peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.). *Frontiers in plant science*, 8, 25.
- Porebski, S., Bailey, G. & Baum, B.R. (1997). Modification of a CTAB DNA extraction protocol for plants containing high polysaccharide and polyphenol components. *Plant Molecular Biology Reporter* 15, 8-15.

- Sasser, J.N., Eisenback, J.D, Carter, C.C., & Triantaphyllou, A.C. (1983). The International meloidogyne project-Its goals and accomplishments. *Ann. Rev. Phytopathol* 21, 271-88.
- Starr, J.L., Morgan, E., & Simpson, C.E. (2002). Management of the peanut root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne arenaria*, with host resistance. [Online] Plant Health Progress. doi: 10.1094/PHP 2002-1121-01-HM.
- Williamson, V. M. (1999). Plant nematode resistance genes. *Plant Biology* 2, 327-331.
- Zhang, H., Li, C., Davis, E.L., Wang, J., Griffin, J.D., Kofsky, J., & Song, B.H. (2016) Genome-Wide Association Study of Resistance to Soybean Cyst Nematode (*Heterodera glycines*) HG Type 2.5.7 in Wild Soybean (*Glycine soja*). *Frontiers Plant Science* 7, 1214.
- Zhang, J.P., Song, Q.J., Cregan, P.B., Nelson, R.L., Wang, X.Z., Wu, J.X., & Jiang G.L. (2015). Genome-wide association study for flowering time, maturity dates and plant height in early maturing soybean (*Glycinemax*) germplasm. *BioMed Central (BMC) Genomics* 16, 217.

## APPENDIX

**Table 6:** Tukey-Kramer's results for eggs per gram of the root fresh weight and plant height.

PI #	Eggs/g RFW	Pr >  t		PH (cm)	Pr >  t	
PI 494034	7129	<.0001	A	27.67	<.0001	ABCDEFGH
PI 476636	6521	<.0001	AB	18.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 259617	5661	<.0001	ABC	20.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 356004	5290	<.0001	ABCD	31.33	<.0001	ABCD
PI 292950	5225	<.0001	ABCDE	14.50	<.0001	EFGHI
PI 403813	4917	0.0002	ABCDEF	39.33	<.0001	A
Lot5-83 Line-5	4873	0.0002	ABCDEF	19.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Olin	4599	0.0004	ABCDEF	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 476432	4062	0.0015	BCDEFG	26.33	<.0001	ABCDEFGH
PI 648245	3979	0.0019	BCDEFG	15.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 493581	3787	0.0029	BCDEFGH	35.33	<.0001	AB
SunOleic 93R	3487	0.0059	BCDEFGHI	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 337399	3314	0.0086	CDEFGHIJ	23.33	<.0001	ABCDEFGH
Flavorunner 458	3265	0.0096	CDEFGHIJ	16.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 501272	3233	0.0103	CDEFGHIJ	22.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 271019	2760	0.0272	CDEFGHIJ	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 497318	2693	0.031	CDEFGHIJ	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 295730	2673	0.0321	CDEFGHIJ	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 274198	2529	0.0422	CDEFGHIJ	16.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 461427	2410	0.0524	CDEFGHIJ	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
AU16-28	2407	0.0527	CDEFGHIJ	16.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 493547	2369	0.0564	DEFGHIJ	19.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 475918	2365	0.0568	DEFGHIJ	20.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 493631	2160	0.0812	EFGHIJ	15.67	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 274194	2156	0.0816	FGHIJ	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
PI 196622	2113	0.0878	FGHIJ	18.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 371521	2039	0.0991	FGHIJ	12.00	<.0001	GHI
Lot 5-100 Line-7	2016	0.1029	FGHIJ	27.00	<.0001	ABCDEFGH
PI 493329	2012	0.1036	FGHIJ	23.00	<.0001	ABCDEFGH
PI 323268	1909	0.1034	FGHIJ	20.51	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 478850	1859	0.1318	FGHIJ	15.67	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 493729	1796	0.1452	FGHIJ	34.67	<.0001	ABC
PI 262038	1790	0.1464	FGHIJ	28.33	<.0001	ABCDEF
PI 494795	1729	0.2342	FGHIJ	17.62	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 274193	1723	0.162	FGHIJ	19.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 159786	1662	0.1771	FGHIJ	20.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Lot5-73 Line-1	1641	0.1825	FGHIJ	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
PI 331314	1580	0.1991	FGHIJ	17.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI

Table: Continued.

PI #	Eggs/g RFW	Pr >  t		PH (cm)	Pr >  t	
PI 337406	1516	0.2176	GHIJ	18.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 497517	1482	0.2278	GHIJ	30.67	<.0001	ABCDE
PI 468250	1451	0.2375	GHIJ	22.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 337293	1448	0.2385	GHIJ	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 339960	1411	0.2507	GHIJ	24.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 268806	1393	0.2567	GHIJ	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 296558	1310	0.2856	GHIJ	24.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 196670	1301	0.2892	GHIJ	20.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 325943	1296	0.291	GHIJ	30.00	<.0001	ABCDE
NC-7	1295	0.2913	GHIJ	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 270786	1259	0.3046	GHIJ	20.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 504614	1254	0.3068	GHIJ	24.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 319768	1251	0.3076	GHIJ	24.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 269037	1218	0.3207	GHIJ	21.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 493356	1216	0.3212	GHIJ	21.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Lot5-63 Line-6	1130	0.3565	GHIJ	16.67	<.0001	CDEFGHI
Ap-4	1118	0.3616	GHIJ	23.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
GA Greener	1110	0.3651	GHIJ	16.33	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 502120	1076	0.3798	GHIJ	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Lot5-80 Line-3	1065	0.3845	GHIJ	14.33	<.0001	EFGHI
PI 429420	1056	0.2946	GHIJ	26.51	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 196635	1052	0.3903	GHIJ	18.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 497395	1047	0.3928	GHIJ	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 576637	1036	0.3978	GHIJ	26.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
N0808201	1029	0.4009	GHIJ	17.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 288210	1021	0.4044	GHIJ	19.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 343398	993	0.4173	HIJ	15.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
Ga HI O/L	990	0.4189	HIJ	18.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 497639	988	0.4195	HIJ	20.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 471952	978	0.4243	HIJ	14.67	<.0001	EFGHI
PI 270907	903	0.4607	HIJ	20.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 259836	868	0.4781	HIJ	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 268996	847	0.4887	HIJ	22.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 648249	841	0.4919	HIJ	15.33	<.0001	DEFGHI
AT 3085RO	840	0.4924	HIJ	17.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Lot4-8 Line-4	824	0.5003	HIJ	14.33	<.0001	EFGHI
PI 502040	811	0.5074	HIJ	17.00	<.0001	CDEFGHI
Ga Green	807	0.5094	HIJ	17.00	<.0001	CDEFGHI
PI 290566	805	0.5103	HIJ	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
SPT06-6	788	0.5193	HIJ	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 496448	776	0.5257	HIJ	22.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 274195	774	0.5268	HIJ	10.00	0.0001	I
Tifrunner	772	0.528	HIJ	11.67	<.0001	HI



Table: continued.

PI #	Eggs/g RFW	Pr >  t		PH (cm)	Pr >  t	
CG7-A	746	0.5415	HIJ	16.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 648241	740	0.5449	HIJ	14.33	<.0001	EFGHI
PI 162857	738	0.5462	HIJ	20.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Lot5-101 Line-8	730	0.5502	HIJ	17.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 343384	714	0.5589	HIJ	12.33	<.0001	GHI
PI 298854	708	0.5626	HIJ	16.67	<.0001	CDEFGHI
EXP27-1516	705	0.5644	HIJ	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 576614	695	0.5695	HIJ	15.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 481795	692	0.5712	HIJ	13.67	<.0001	FGHI
PI 240560	687	0.574	HIJ	22.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 493717	674	0.5813	HIJ	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
PI 502111	674	0.5816	HIJ	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 290536	672	0.5826	HIJ	22.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 494018	666	0.5858	HIJ	22.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 270998	655	0.5918	HIJ	13.67	<.0001	FGHI
Florunner	644	0.5984	HIJ	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 338338	631	0.6054	HIJ	15.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 268586	627	0.6079	HIJ	24.67	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
PI 496401	612	0.6167	HIJ	15.33	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 288146	604	0.6211	IJ	22.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 476025	603	0.6218	IJ	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 295250	595	0.6261	IJ	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 648242	583	0.6333	IJ	23.00	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
PI 478819	581	0.6343	IJ	19.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 268696	581	0.6346	IJ	23.67	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
PI 152146	579	0.6358	IJ	19.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 442768	575	0.638	IJ	21.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
G06G	563	0.4778	IJ	17.01	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 200441	545	0.6552	IJ	15.00	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 155107	542	0.6575	IJ	16.33	<.0001	DEFGHI
C76-16	530	0.6645	IJ	20.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 290560	527	0.666	IJ	15.33	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 576634	527	0.6664	IJ	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Grif 14051	516	0.6726	IJ	19.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
NM Val	513	0.6745	IJ	22.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Grif 12545	509	0.6766	IJ	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 475863	506	0.6788	IJ	23.00	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
Grif 12579	496	0.685	IJ	22.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
Valencia	491	0.688	IJ	20.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 259748	488	0.6893	IJ	27.33	<.0001	ABCDEFHG
NC-3033	482	0.693	IJ	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
PI 296550	477	0.6964	IJ	13.67	<.0001	FGHI
PI 355268	477	0.6964	IJ	22.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI

**Table:** Continued.

PI #	Eggs/g RFW	Pr >  t		PH (cm)	Pr >  t	
PI 372271	475	0.6971	IJ	19.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 268847	468	0.7014	IJ	13.67	<.0001	FGHI
PI 313129	462	0.7053	IJ	13.67	<.0001	FGHI
PI 355271	459	0.7068	IJ	16.67	<.0001	CDEFGHI
PI 493880	454	0.7099	IJ	15.33	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 158854	431	0.7243	IJ	15.67	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 482189	409	0.7378	J	20.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 331297	403	0.7415	J	19.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 576636	403	0.7416	J	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
C99R	372	0.7605	J	16.67	<.0001	CDEFGHI
PI 157542	352	0.7731	J	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
PI 270905	345	0.7775	J	21.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 196705	335	0.7841	J	23.33	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
PI 259658	334	0.7847	J	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 290620	328	0.7882	J	23.33	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
PI 482120	325	0.7901	J	18.33	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 648250	320	0.7931	J	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
VC-2 (1)	319	0.7941	J	25.67	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
FL-279	311	0.799	J	16.67	<.0001	CDEFGHI
PI 268755	309	0.8004	J	24.00	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
PI 259851	304	0.8033	J	21.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 372305	292	0.8109	J	14.67	<.0001	EFGHI
PI 162655	288	0.8133	J	16.67	<.0001	CDEFGHI
PI 290594	276	0.8214	J	22.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 471954	262	0.8304	J	15.67	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 493938	243	0.8423	J	25.00	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
AU-17	239	0.8449	J	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 461434	229	0.8515	J	23.67	<.0001	ABCDEFGHI
Fla-07	190	0.8766	J	21.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
TifNV-High O/L	174	0.8868	J	17.67	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 407667	149	0.903	J	20.00	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 295309	139	0.6758	J	18.51	<.0001	BCDEFGHI
PI 268868	133	0.9132	J	14.00	<.0001	FGHI
PI 497648	127	0.9173	J	16.17	<.0001	DEFGHI
PI 390428	123	0.9196	J	12.33	<.0001	GHI
Lot4-37 Line-2	111	0.9278	J	13.33	<.0001	GHI
PI 370331	95	0.9854	J	16.62	<.0001	CDEFGHI

Significant differences indicated by Tukey by  $P < 0.05$ .

Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different.

Statistical analysis of Eggs/g RFW was performed on log transformed data, but the means presented are untransformed.

**Table 7:** Tukey-Kramer's results for shoot fresh weight, root fresh weight and biomass.

PI #	SFW			RFW			BM		
	(g)	Pr >  t	ABC	(g)	Pr >  t	ABC	(g)	Pr >  t	ABC
PI 494034	11.37	<.0001	ABC	5.87	<.0001	ABC	2.48	<.0001	AB
PI 476636	11.27	<.0001	ABC	3.61	0.0002	ABC	1.83	<.0001	AB
PI 259617	12.76	<.0001	ABC	5.03	<.0001	ABC	2.71	<.0001	AB
PI 356004	16.34	<.0001	ABC	6.39	<.0001	ABC	2.78	<.0001	AB
PI 292950	11.95	<.0001	ABC	5.02	<.0001	ABC	3.18	<.0001	AB
PI 403813	11.09	<.0001	ABC	3.50	0.0003	ABC	2.06	<.0001	AB
Lot5-85 Line-5	13.76	<.0001	ABC	2.21	0.0224	BC	2.08	<.0001	AB
Olin	11.83	<.0001	ABC	2.67	0.0058	BC	2.23	<.0001	AB
PI 476432	14.83	<.0001	ABC	5.45	<.0001	ABC	2.47	<.0001	AB
PI 648245	6.90	0.0004	C	4.78	<.0001	ABC	1.42	0.0007	B
PI 493581	16.09	<.0001	ABC	5.81	<.0001	ABC	2.57	<.0001	AB
SunOleic 93R	12.70	<.0001	ABC	6.86	<.0001	ABC	2.60	<.0001	AB
PI 337399	13.81	<.0001	ABC	4.54	<.0001	ABC	2.88	<.0001	AB
Flavorunner 458	15.05	<.0001	ABC	6.29	<.0001	ABC	2.65	<.0001	AB
PI 501272	10.60	<.0001	ABC	3.06	<.0001	BC	1.50	0.0004	B
PI 271019	10.31	<.0001	ABC	2.92	0.0026	BC	1.79	<.0001	AB
PI 497318	16.14	<.0001	ABC	5.85	<.0001	ABC	2.84	<.0001	AB
PI 295730	14.10	<.0001	ABC	5.70	<.0001	ABC	2.26	<.0001	AB
PI 274198	14.61	<.0001	ABC	4.39	<.0001	ABC	3.07	<.0001	AB
PI 461427	12.27	<.0001	ABC	7.04	<.0001	ABC	2.78	<.0001	AB
AU16-28	13.38	<.0001	ABC	4.87	<.0001	ABC	2.17	<.0001	AB
PI 493547	16.20	<.0001	ABC	5.96	<.0001	ABC	3.07	<.0001	AB
PI 475918	14.09	<.0001	ABC	7.32	<.0001	ABC	2.94	<.0001	AB
PI 493631	13.11	<.0001	ABC	4.86	<.0001	ABC	2.59	<.0001	AB
PI 274194	10.70	<.0001	ABC	5.84	<.0001	ABC	2.30	<.0001	AB
PI 196622	13.43	<.0001	ABC	4.75	<.0001	ABC	2.40	<.0001	AB
PI 371521	13.00	<.0001	ABC	6.21	<.0001	ABC	2.08	<.0001	AB
Lot5-100 Line-7	14.89	<.0001	ABC	6.57	<.0001	ABC	3.34	<.0001	AB
PI 493329	13.42	<.0001	ABC	4.76	<.0001	ABC	2.76	<.0001	AB
PI 323268	15.39	<.0001	ABC	6.21	<.0001	ABC	2.64	<.0001	AB
PI 478850	14.33	<.0001	ABC	6.43	<.0001	ABC	2.48	<.0001	AB
PI 493729	16.31	<.0001	ABC	4.86	<.0001	ABC	2.66	<.0001	AB
PI 262038	15.53	<.0001	ABC	6.40	<.0001	ABC	2.95	<.0001	AB
PI 494795	14.24	<.0001	ABC	4.89	<.0001	ABC	2.16	<.0001	AB
PI 274193	15.00	<.0001	ABC	5.39	<.0001	ABC	2.76	<.0001	AB
PI 159786	14.08	<.0001	ABC	4.83	<.0001	ABC	2.00	<.0001	AB
Lot5-73 Line-1	9.44	<.0001	BC	3.97	<.0001	ABC	1.49	0.0004	B
PI 331314	14.50	<.0001	ABC	6.14	<.0001	ABC	2.94	<.0001	AB
PI 337406	12.64	<.0001	ABC	5.56	<.0001	ABC	2.47	<.0001	AB
PI 497517	21.09	<.0001	AB	8.55	<.0001	ABC	3.79	<.0001	AB
PI 468250	14.21	<.0001	ABC	4.80	<.0001	ABC	2.64	<.0001	AB
PI 337293	13.45	<.0001	ABC	4.14	<.0001	ABC	2.76	<.0001	AB
PI 339960	15.87	<.0001	ABC	4.92	<.0001	ABC	2.94	<.0001	AB

**Table:** Continued.

<b>PI #</b>	<b>SFW (g)</b>	<b>Pr &gt;  t </b>		<b>RFW (g)</b>	<b>Pr &gt;  t </b>		<b>BM (g)</b>	<b>Pr &gt;  t </b>	
PI 268806	10.13	<.0001	ABC	5.31	<.0001	ABC	2.09	<.0001	AB
PI 296558	22.39	<.0001	A	6.76	<.0001	ABC	3.88	<.0001	AB
PI 196670	15.17	<.0001	ABC	6.29	<.0001	ABC	2.91	<.0001	AB
PI 325943	11.07	<.0001	ABC	4.33	<.0001	ABC	1.98	<.0001	AB
NC-7	16.61	<.0001	ABC	6.83	<.0001	ABC	3.00	<.0001	AB
PI 270786	15.86	<.0001	ABC	6.64	<.0001	ABC	2.80	<.0001	AB
PI 504614	9.72	<.0001	BC	6.09	<.0001	ABC	1.84	<.0001	AB
PI 319768	13.37	<.0001	ABC	5.82	<.0001	ABC	2.70	<.0001	AB
PI 269037	13.67	<.0001	ABC	5.05	<.0001	ABC	2.42	<.0001	AB
PI 493356	11.99	<.0001	ABC	6.21	<.0001	ABC	2.53	<.0001	AB
Lot5-63 Line-6	14.39	<.0001	ABC	7.15	<.0001	ABC	2.41	<.0001	AB
Ap-4	13.96	<.0001	ABC	4.01	<.0001	ABC	2.34	<.0001	AB
GA Greener	12.68	<.0001	ABC	7.22	<.0001	ABC	2.19	<.0001	AB
PI 502120	15.43	<.0001	ABC	7.67	<.0001	ABC	3.26	<.0001	AB
Lot5-80Line-3	11.45	<.0001	ABC	4.91	<.0001	ABC	2.31	<.0001	AB
PI 429420	14.13	<.0001	ABC	7.02	<.0001	ABC	2.57	<.0001	AB
PI 196635	15.23	<.0001	ABC	6.55	<.0001	ABC	2.92	<.0001	AB
PI 497395	17.26	<.0001	ABC	7.71	<.0001	ABC	3.36	<.0001	AB
PI 576637	20.60	<.0001	AB	7.21	<.0001	ABC	4.19	<.0001	A
N0808201	13.29	<.0001	ABC	4.84	<.0001	ABC	2.69	<.0001	AB
PI 288210	13.92	<.0001	ABC	6.32	<.0001	ABC	2.46	<.0001	AB
PI 343398	14.97	<.0001	ABC	6.93	<.0001	ABC	2.85	<.0001	AB
Ga HI O/L	15.81	<.0001	ABC	5.25	<.0001	ABC	2.65	<.0001	AB
PI 497639	15.85	<.0001	ABC	6.36	<.0001	ABC	3.11	<.0001	AB
PI 471952	10.39	<.0001	ABC	7.58	<.0001	ABC	2.63	<.0001	AB
PI 270907	11.58	<.0001	ABC	5.41	<.0001	ABC	1.60	0.0001	B
PI 259836	11.12	<.0001	ABC	6.45	<.0001	ABC	2.14	<.0001	AB
PI 268996	16.14	<.0001	ABC	6.27	<.0001	ABC	2.82	<.0001	AB
PI 648249	11.91	<.0001	ABC	7.00	<.0001	ABC	2.44	<.0001	AB
AT 3085RO	16.85	<.0001	ABC	8.47	<.0001	ABC	3.40	<.0001	AB
Lot4-8 Line-4	13.03	<.0001	ABC	5.28	<.0001	ABC	2.54	<.0001	AB
PI 502040	13.92	<.0001	ABC	5.85	<.0001	ABC	2.41	<.0001	AB
Ga Green	16.75	<.0001	ABC	5.93	<.0001	ABC	2.98	<.0001	AB
PI 290566	14.03	<.0001	ABC	5.84	<.0001	ABC	2.50	<.0001	AB
SPT06-6	13.01	<.0001	ABC	5.18	<.0001	ABC	2.29	<.0001	AB
PI 496448	14.82	<.0001	ABC	6.49	<.0001	ABC	2.50	<.0001	AB
PI 274195	13.95	<.0001	ABC	5.45	<.0001	ABC	3.18	<.0001	AB
Tifrunner	8.90	<.0001	BC	4.14	<.0001	ABC	1.74	<.0001	AB
CG7-A	13.62	<.0001	ABC	7.35	<.0001	ABC	2.23	<.0001	AB
PI 648241	11.62	<.0001	ABC	7.03	<.0001	ABC	2.08	<.0001	AB
PI 162857	18.38	<.0001	ABC	7.02	<.0001	ABC	3.35	<.0001	AB
Lot5-101 Line-8	14.70	<.0001	ABC	6.71	<.0001	ABC	2.64	<.0001	AB
PI 343384	11.15	<.0001	ABC	5.05	<.0001	ABC	1.81	<.0001	AB

**Table:** Continued.

<b>PI #</b>	<b>SFW</b>	<b>Pr &gt;</b>		<b>RFW</b>	<b>Pr &gt;</b>		<b>BM</b>	<b>Pr &gt;</b>	
	<b>(g)</b>	<b> t </b>		<b>(g)</b>	<b> t </b>		<b>(g)</b>	<b> t </b>	
PI 298854	13.37	<.0001	ABC	5.22	<.0001	ABC	2.74	<.0001	AB
EXP27-1516	12.78	<.0001	ABC	6.53	<.0001	ABC	2.20	<.0001	AB
PI 576614	14.92	<.0001	ABC	7.21	<.0001	ABC	2.65	<.0001	AB
PI 481795	11.24	<.0001	ABC	4.55	<.0001	ABC	2.26	<.0001	AB
PI 240560	11.71	<.0001	ABC	6.45	<.0001	ABC	2.31	<.0001	AB
PI 493717	12.41	<.0001	ABC	7.06	<.0001	ABC	2.21	<.0001	AB
PI 502111	13.00	<.0001	ABC	7.69	<.0001	ABC	2.41	<.0001	AB
PI 290536	12.26	<.0001	ABC	5.19	<.0001	ABC	1.94	<.0001	AB
PI 494018	16.65	<.0001	ABC	6.83	<.0001	ABC	3.13	<.0001	AB
PI 270998	11.73	<.0001	ABC	5.70	<.0001	ABC	2.45	<.0001	AB
Florunner	16.03	<.0001	ABC	7.09	<.0001	ABC	2.95	<.0001	AB
PI 338338	9.01	<.0001	BC	6.23	<.0001	ABC	2.14	<.0001	AB
PI 268586	15.52	<.0001	ABC	6.72	<.0001	ABC	3.02	<.0001	AB
PI 496401	12.11	<.0001	ABC	3.77	<.0001	ABC	1.47	0.0005	B
PI 288146	13.43	<.0001	ABC	8.14	<.0001	ABC	2.65	<.0001	AB
PI 476025	16.68	<.0001	ABC	7.21	<.0001	ABC	3.17	<.0001	AB
PI 295250	15.20	<.0001	ABC	6.49	<.0001	ABC	2.98	<.0001	AB
PI 648242	11.72	<.0001	ABC	5.70	<.0001	ABC	2.06	<.0001	AB
PI 478819	11.18	<.0001	ABC	5.94	<.0001	ABC	1.83	<.0001	AB
PI 268696	12.49	<.0001	ABC	4.86	<.0001	ABC	2.46	<.0001	AB
PI 152146	12.77	<.0001	ABC	5.49	<.0001	ABC	2.33	<.0001	AB
PI 442768	16.78	<.0001	ABC	6.73	<.0001	ABC	3.38	<.0001	AB
G06G	17.40	<.0001	ABC	8.06	<.0001	ABC	3.32	<.0001	AB
PI 200441	13.30	<.0001	ABC	4.82	<.0001	ABC	2.77	<.0001	AB
PI 155107	16.58	<.0001	ABC	8.30	<.0001	ABC	3.18	<.0001	AB
C76-16	17.71	<.0001	ABC	5.26	<.0001	ABC	3.28	<.0001	AB
PI 290560	11.32	<.0001	ABC	5.90	<.0001	ABC	2.06	<.0001	AB
PI 576634	15.02	<.0001	ABC	6.38	<.0001	ABC	2.80	<.0001	AB
Grif 14051	15.06	<.0001	ABC	6.57	<.0001	ABC	3.00	<.0001	AB
NM Val	18.66	<.0001	ABC	7.53	<.0001	ABC	3.59	<.0001	AB
Grif 12545	13.96	<.0001	ABC	8.33	<.0001	ABC	2.54	<.0001	AB
PI 475863	17.66	<.0001	ABC	4.45	<.0001	ABC	3.16	<.0001	AB
Grif 12579	14.46	<.0001	ABC	7.18	<.0001	ABC	2.66	<.0001	AB
Valencia	18.02	<.0001	ABC	4.89	<.0001	ABC	3.41	<.0001	AB
PI 259748	14.89	<.0001	ABC	6.20	<.0001	ABC	2.92	<.0001	AB
NC-3033	16.04	<.0001	ABC	6.88	<.0001	ABC	3.20	<.0001	AB
PI 296550	15.63	<.0001	ABC	6.88	<.0001	ABC	2.92	<.0001	AB
PI 355268	17.89	<.0001	ABC	5.04	<.0001	ABC	3.61	<.0001	AB
PI 372271	16.59	<.0001	ABC	6.02	<.0001	ABC	2.93	<.0001	AB
PI 268847	8.99	<.0001	BC	7.31	<.0001	ABC	2.18	<.0001	AB
PI 313129	14.11	<.0001	ABC	7.72	<.0001	ABC	2.56	<.0001	AB
PI 355271	10.29	<.0001	ABC	5.19	<.0001	ABC	1.84	<.0001	AB
PI 493880	13.00	<.0001	ABC	6.20	<.0001	ABC	2.53	<.0001	AB

**Table:** Continued.

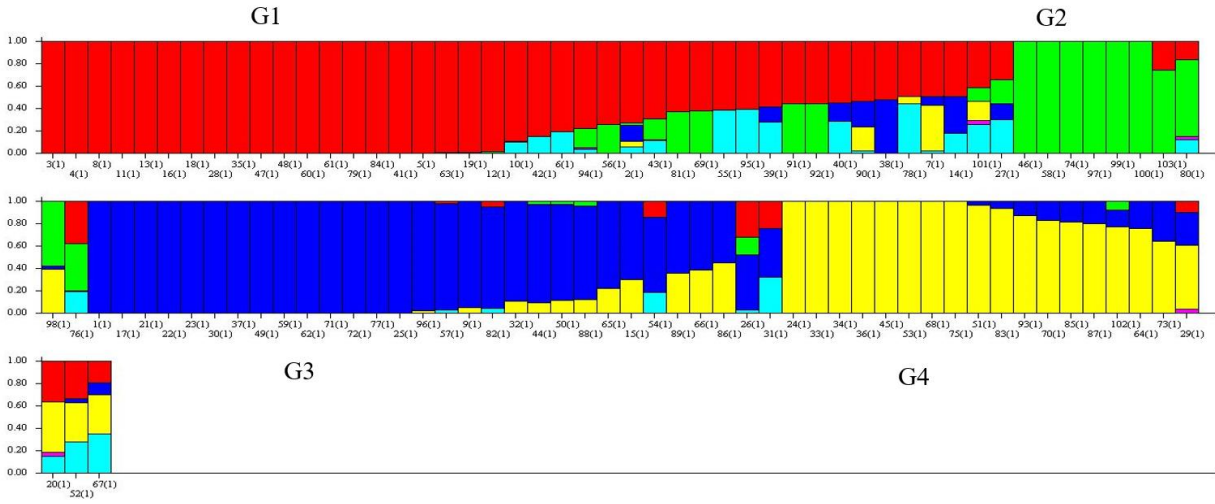
PI #	SFW			RFW			BM		
	(g)	Pr >  t	ABC	(g)	Pr >  t	ABC	(g)	Pr >  t	AB
PI 158854	16.03	<.0001	ABC	7.02	<.0001	ABC	3.06	<.0001	AB
PI 482189	11.45	<.0001	ABC	5.09	<.0001	ABC	2.14	<.0001	AB
PI 331297	14.12	<.0001	ABC	6.82	<.0001	ABC	2.99	<.0001	AB
PI 576636	15.77	<.0001	ABC	7.34	<.0001	ABC	2.88	<.0001	AB
C99R	9.49	<.0001	BC	6.55	<.0001	ABC	2.68	<.0001	AB
PI 157542	17.30	<.0001	ABC	6.20	<.0001	ABC	3.16	<.0001	AB
PI 270905	13.19	<.0001	ABC	7.65	<.0001	ABC	2.53	<.0001	AB
PI 196705	16.24	<.0001	ABC	4.61	<.0001	ABC	2.90	<.0001	AB
PI 259658	17.03	<.0001	ABC	5.53	<.0001	ABC	2.56	<.0001	AB
PI 290620	13.61	<.0001	ABC	4.87	<.0001	ABC	2.41	<.0001	AB
PI 482120	10.37	<.0001	ABC	9.05	<.0001	AB	2.02	<.0001	AB
PI 648250	10.80	<.0001	ABC	7.43	<.0001	ABC	2.12	<.0001	AB
VC-2 (1)	16.49	<.0001	ABC	5.76	<.0001	ABC	3.08	<.0001	AB
FL-279	15.96	<.0001	ABC	7.15	<.0001	ABC	3.13	<.0001	AB
PI 268755	15.60	<.0001	ABC	7.36	<.0001	ABC	3.21	<.0001	AB
PI 259851	16.66	<.0001	ABC	6.01	<.0001	ABC	2.90	<.0001	AB
PI 372305	11.71	<.0001	ABC	9.00	<.0001	AB	2.03	<.0001	AB
PI 162655	14.65	<.0001	ABC	8.21	<.0001	ABC	2.83	<.0001	AB
PI 290594	16.55	<.0001	ABC	3.47	0.0004	ABC	3.14	<.0001	AB
PI 471954	18.68	<.0001	ABC	6.45	<.0001	ABC	3.23	<.0001	AB
PI 493938	13.67	<.0001	ABC	5.47	<.0001	ABC	2.94	<.0001	AB
AU-17	13.72	<.0001	ABC	6.86	<.0001	ABC	2.80	<.0001	AB
PI 461434	18.22	<.0001	ABC	9.59	<.0001	A	3.62	<.0001	AB
Fla-07	17.25	<.0001	ABC	6.08	<.0001	ABC	2.98	<.0001	AB
TifNV-High O/L	11.84	<.0001	ABC	6.77	<.0001	ABC	1.97	<.0001	AB
PI 407667	13.89	<.0001	ABC	7.13	<.0001	ABC	3.02	<.0001	AB
PI 295309	12.38	<.0001	ABC	5.26	<.0001	ABC	2.28	<.0001	AB
PI 268868	14.96	<.0001	ABC	8.19	<.0001	ABC	3.39	<.0001	AB
PI 497648	12.23	<.0001	ABC	7.33	<.0001	ABC	2.91	<.0001	AB
PI 390428	13.60	<.0001	ABC	5.17	<.0001	ABC	2.59	<.0001	AB
Lot4-37 Line-2	13.24	<.0001	ABC	6.02	<.0001	ABC	2.46	<.0001	AB
PI 370331	19.25	<.0001	ABC	8.62	<.0001	ABC	3.82	<.0001	AB

Significant differences indicated by Tukey by  $P < 0.05$ .

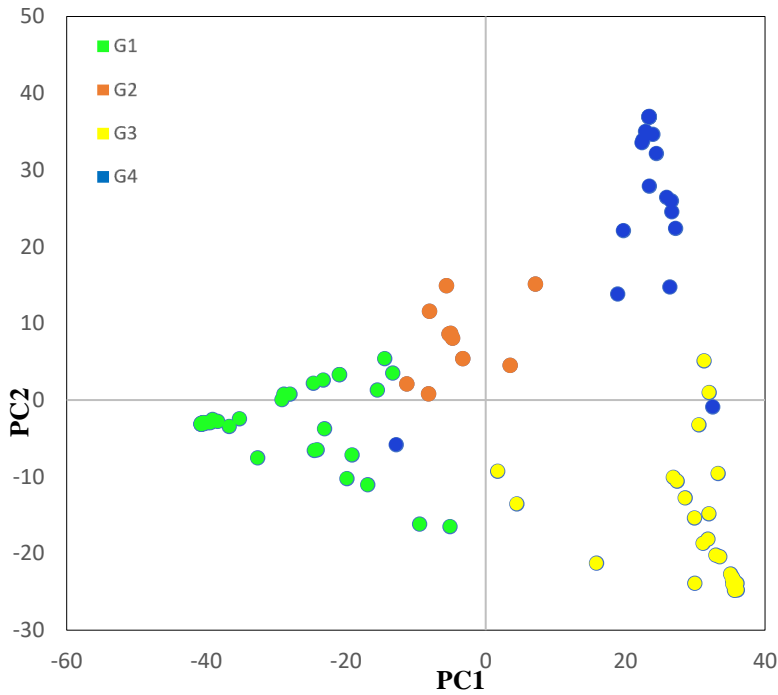
Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different.

Statistical analysis of Eggs/g RFW was performed on log transformed data, but the means presented are untransformed.

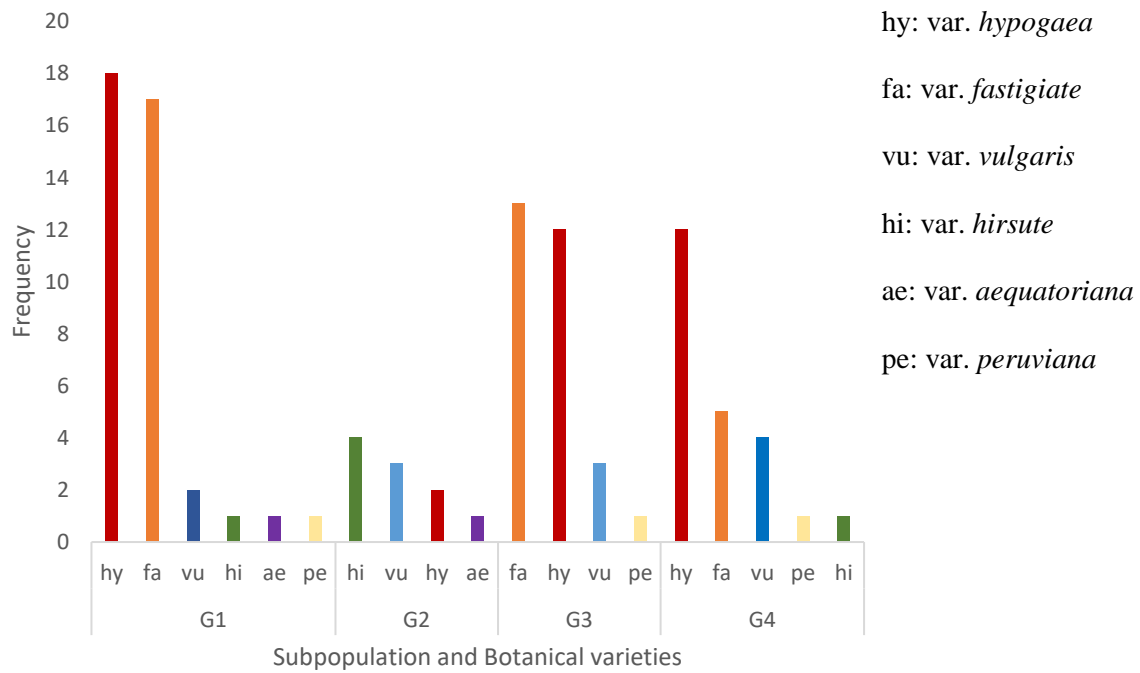
**Figure 4:** Population structure analysis. The y-axis is the subgroup membership, and x-axis is the genotypes. G1-G4 indicate for subpopulations.



**Figure 5:** Principal component analysis based on Chord distance.



**Figure 6:** Distribution of botanical variety within each subpopulation.



**Figure 7:** Screening of resistance to root-knot nematode in the greenhouse.

