



CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT ON CHLOROPHYLL CONTENT AND GRAIN YIELD OF BREAD WHEAT (*TRITICUM AESTIVUM* L.)

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SUMMARY

The paper presents the study of bread wheat's chlorophyll content and grain yield traits under changing environmental conditions — optimal water supply and simulated water-deficit conditions. Selecting 15 wheat cultivars from different regions (Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, and CIMMYT) based on economically valuable characteristics became the specimens for the presented study that evaluated the SPAD indicators in correlation with the grain yield in bread wheat and determined the vital role of genotypes, environments, and genotype by environment interaction effects. The relationship between chlorophyll content and yield parameters under different growing conditions was also well-defined. The results revealed that ecosystems had more influence on the chlorophyll content than the wheat genotypes. Several wheat cultivars with soil moisture tolerance have gained identification, along with the correlation coefficient between chlorophyll content and grain yield under varied environmental conditions of water supply. The study validated the role of genotypes and environments in the manifestation of responses to stress conditions.

Keywords: Bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.), optimum water supply, water-deficit condition, chlorophyll content index, grain yield, correlation coefficient

Communicating Editor: Dr. Osama Osman Atallah

Manuscript received: May 27, 2023; Accepted: October 19, 2023. © Society for the Advancement of Breeding Research in Asia and Oceania (SABRAO) 2023

Citation: Baboeva SS, Matkarimov FI, Usmanov RM, Turaev OS, Togaeva MA, Baboev SK, Kushanov FN (2023). Climate change impact on chlorophyll content and grain yield of bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.). *SABRAO J. Breed. Genet.* 55(6): 1930-1940. http://doi.org/10.54910/sabrao2023.55.6.7.

Key findings: Climate variability for two years made it possible to determine the wheat genotypes' potential for resistance to abiotic stress conditions. In the studied cultivars, under the relatively dry season, the chlorophyll content was about the readings of SPAD 250 at 10 units less than in the crop season with high humidity at the early wheat phase. An external factor strongly influenced the chlorophyll content, while the specificity of the cultivars was only 12.7%. The other factors, such as, the volume and pubescence of the leaf and the soil conditions, showed an impact of 15.3%.

INTRODUCTION

Climate change in the form of global warming several perilous hydrometeorological and phenomena, such as, flooding and droughts, temperature fluctuations (extremely high temperatures and frosts), and strong winds are rising. It is also likely that climate change will affect the quantity and quality of water resources, negatively influencing agricultural production and public health (Orlovsky et al., 2019). Genotype-environment interaction effects are the utmost causes of cultivars' differences in their performance under varied environmental conditions. Various genotypes react differently to the same situations, and at the same time, the same genotype responds differently to varied ecological conditions (Pradhan et al., 2012; Doroshkov et al., 2016). Moreover, plant species are often characteristic of immense variations in amplitude in botanical features and properties (Kushanov et al., 2022).

Water scarcity and stress conditions are the most widespread abiotic facets maliciously affecting crop plants. About onethird of the land surface is subject to moisture deficiencies, while half of this area is extremely arid. The climate of Uzbekistan is acutely continental, which experiences extreme seasonal changes. Areas with continental climates have colder winters, longer-lasting snow, and shorter growing seasons. The central part of the territory is an arid zone, which is responsible for the dryness of air and soil, as well as, climate variability. Almost 80% of the country's area comprises desert and semidesert zones (Isadzhanov, 2020).

However, in Uzbekistan, crop production is almost entirely on an irrigated agriculture basis. Noteworthily, over-wetting and more humidity can also negatively impact the general conditions of crop plants and their final yield. Breeding for wide homeostasis is essential since the higher adaptability of the genotypes can ensure their stability under varying environmental conditions (Adylova *et al.*, 2018).

Newly developed crop cultivars with an advantage in a particular region are their resistance to biotic and abiotic factors and adaptability to variations in climatic conditions. Uzbekistan, climate change requires In developing wheat cultivars tolerant to water deficit conditions and resistant to waterloaging, as observed in recent years due to heavy rains during the grain ripening season. Given that photosynthetic activity determines plant productivity, its stability under changing environmental conditions, to a certain extent, can characterize a particular genotype as being able to maintain grain yield within specified limits. The photosynthetic pigments, with other internal and external factors, determine a cultivar's biological and economic productivity.

Several studies revealed that the chlorophyll found in leaves, measured with a SPAD chlorophyll meter, showed close linkage with grain yield (Blackmer and Schepers, 1995; Boggs et al., 2003; Maiti et al., 2004). Past studies also enunciated SPAD readings' positive correlations with wheat dry matter yield (Parvizi et al., 2004). Several studies exhibited the possibility of a reliable indication of nitrogen stress and the relationship with relative outputs from SPAD values. A significant positive correlation of SPAD readings was evident with rice grain yield (Earl and Tollenaar, 1997; Fox et al., 2001; Ramesh et al., 2002; Spaner et al., 2005). In this regard, determining the relationship between chlorophyll content and productivity is essential to predict the yield potential of bread wheat under diverse growing environments and determine the breeding values of the individual genotypes.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant material

The experimental material comprising 15 cultivars of bread wheat (Table 1) was a selection from 201 wheat cultivars based on drought resistance from previous research work (Baboyeva *et al.*, 2021, 2022). The cultivars, developed for different ecological and geographical regions, included Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, and the Kyrgyz Republic. The presented study started during 2021–2022 at the Durmon Experimental Field Station, Institute of Genetics and Plant

Experimental Biology, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The experiment continued in a randomized complete block design (RCBD) with two replications under two water conditions: a) irrigated and b) water deficit (non-irrigated) conditions. The seeding rate was 200 kg/ha, with all wheat genotypes sown in the fourth week of October. Under artificial drought conditions, field irrigation ensued before planting, then non-irrigation followed the entire growing season. The control background received irrigation after sowing and gained three more watering during the growing season.

Table 1. Bread wheat cultivars used in the study.

| No. | Name | Origin | Collection | Characters |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1 | Vassa | Russian Federation | IGPEB* | Lutescens |
| 2 | Grom | Russian Federation | IGPEB | Lutescens |
| 3 | Andijan 4 | Uzbekistan | IGPEB | Erytrospermum |
| 4 | Pakhlavon | Uzbekistan | IGPEB | Erytrospermum |
| 5 | Durdona | Uzbekistan | IGPEB | Lutescens |
| 6 | Ezoz | Uzbekistan | IGPEB | Graecum |
| 7 | Akmarvarid | Uzbekistan | IGPEB | Graecum |
| 8 | Dordoy 16 | Kyrgyz Republic | IGPEB | Graecum |
| 9 | Dank | Kyrgyz Republic | IGPEB | Ferrugineum |
| 10 | Bayandy | Kazakhstan | IGPEB | Lutescens |
| 11 | Shapagat | Kazakhstan | IGPEB | Spring Lutescens |
| 12 | Raminal | Kazakhstan | IGPEB | Lutescens |
| 13 | Maira | Kazakhstan | IGPEB | Lutescens |
| 14 | Sapali | Kazakhstan | IGPEB | Erytrospermum |
| 15 | Krasnovodopadskaya 210' | Kazakhstan | IGPEB | Erytrospermum |

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In 2021, the research worked on two different environmental conditions (E = environment): a) optimal water conditions (irrigated field - E1) and b) water-deficit conditions (non-irrigated conditions - E2). In research comprised different 2022, the combinations of wheat seed and water regimes, i.e., E3 (seeds obtained under optimal water conditions and also grown under irrigated conditions), E4 (seeds obtained under water-deficit conditions and grown under optimal water conditions), E5 (seeds obtained under optimal conditions and grown under water-deficit settings), and E6 (seeds obtained under water-deficit conditions and also raised under the same conditions) (Figure 1).

Assessment of climate variability

The hydrothermal humidity coefficient (HTC), described by Selyaninov (1930) as a characteristic of the level of moisture available in the grown area, used the following formula for its calculation:

$$HTC = R \times 10/\Sigma t$$

Where:

R is the sum of precipitation in millimeters (mm) for a period with a temperature above +10 °C, and Σ t is the sum of temperatures for this period in °C (Zinkovsky and Zinkovskaya, 2018; Zinkovskaya *et al.*, 2019). However,

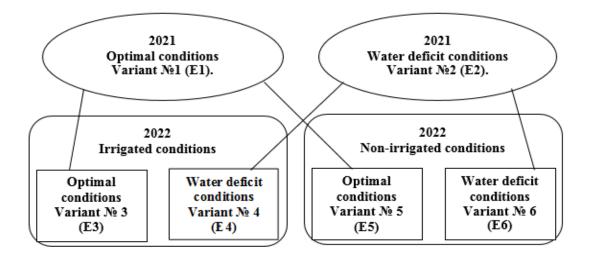


Figure 1. Scheme of wheat experiments during 2021–2022.

according to Evarte-Bundere and Evarts-Bunders (2012), the HTC ranges were as follows:

HTC from 1.0 to 2.0 – humidity is sufficient

- HTC > 2.0 profusely humid
- HTC < 1.0 insufficient humidity
- HTC from 1.0 to 0.7 dry
- HTC from 0.7 to 0.4 very dry

Chlorophyll content

Assessing the value of SPAD-chlorophyll had a portable chlorophyll meter, SPAD-502 (Minolta Co., Ltd., Osaka, Japan). For this purpose, 10 randomly selected plants from each plot were samples to measure the chlorophyll content. Acquiring readings came from a flag leaf at the flowering stage from three different points (the bottom, middle, and tip of the leaf), then averaged to obtain the final SPAD-chlorophyll value.

Statistical analysis

Genotype productivity data compilation used the computer software Statistical 6.0 and Microsoft Excel. Correlation analysis ensued with the analysis of variance (ANOVA) method.

RESULTS

Climate variability and hydrothermal coefficient

By calculating the hydrothermal coefficient for 2021-2022, in the first 10 days of April 2021, the total precipitation was 23.0 mm and the HTC = 2.93, followed by a severe drought, which resulted in reduced rains and very high temperatures, giving a HTC value of 0.62.

In March 2022, precipitation was abundant, i.e., 13.8 mm in the first 10 days (HTC = 5.75) and 80.8 mm in the third week (HTC = 14.28), providing moderate humidity, while in April 2022, there was a water shortage. In the first 10 days, the fourth week of May, and the third week of June 2022, the precipitation was 21.0, 20.1, and 21.3 mm, respectively, and in combination with high temperatures, a moisture deficit condition was evident (Figure 2). One must note that this soil moisture level was sufficient for the full formation of grains during the period of earing.

Climate variability for the two crop seasons made it possible to determine the genotype's resistance to various external factors. Determining the degree of tolerance to water deficiency due to lack of moisture (2021)

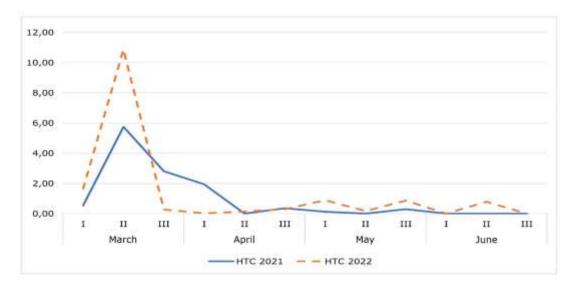


Figure 2. The hydrothermal humidity coefficient (HTC) during the vegetation period of wheat genotypes in 2021–2022.

provided a better opportunity to verify resistance to diseases, tolerance to lodging caused by high humidity (2022), and the ability to maximize grain yield.

Leaf chlorophyll content measurement

The commencement of spring boosted the intensive growth and development of wheat plants, aiding in the assessment of various wheat genotypes for chlorophyll content. From the heading phase to the end of the plant growth and life cycle, gauging the productivity of diverse genotypes can be easy, as well as, the influence of external environmental factors on grain yield (Platovsky et al., 2021). During 2021, under optimal conditions (E1), in 15 wheat cultivars, the average chlorophyll content was 42.6 ± 0.9 ; under water deficiency (E2), the said value was 41.8 ± 0.8 (Table 2). In 2022, under high humidity conditions of E3 and E4, the chlorophyll content was 54 ± 0.8, and under environmental conditions E5 and E6, the average value for the said trait was 53.6 ± 0.4 and 53.4 \pm 0.6, respectively.

In the studied cultivars during the dry crop season, the chlorophyll content was about 10 units less than in a crop season with high humidity in an early stem elongation phase of wheat. Compared with other wheat cultivars, 'Pakhlavon' the cultivar revealed less chlorophyll content; however, this indicator changed little in the two distinct variants of the experiment, indicating its better resistance to varied climatic conditions. The same results were evident in the wheat cultivars 'Andijan 4,' 'Maira,' 'Grom,' and 'Dank' (awned). However, wheat cultivars 'Ezoz.' 'Bayandy,' 'Krasnovodopadskaya,' and 'Shapagat' appeared to be relatively more sensitive to climate variations. In the cultivars 'Raminal,' 'Sapali,' 'Vassa,' and 'Dordoy 16,' the chlorophyll amount was relatively higher under dry conditions than the optimal irrigation.

The highest chlorophyll content under all the environmental conditions emerged in the wheat cultivars of the Kazakh selection, 'Krasnovodopadskaya 210' and 'Bayandy.' Said cultivars, as expected under optimal conditions, the chlorophyll content was higher than under provisional drought conditions (Table 2). Various cultivars of wheat also differed in the chlorophyll content, with the highest chlorophyll content recorded in the cultivar 'Krasnovodopadskaya 210' (49.4), whereas the minimum in cultivar 'Pakhlavon' (36.7). However, the interaction effects of the wheat genotypes with varied levels of drought were nonsignificant.

| No. | Cultivars | 2021 | | 2022 | | | M | C) /0/ | |
|-----|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|
| NO. | Cultivars | E1 | E2 | E3 | E4 | E5 | E6 | – Means | CV% |
| 1 | Akmarvarid | 41.9 | 39.4 | 51.5 | 52.7 | 54.4 | 54.6 | 49.1±2.7 | 13.6 |
| 2 | Andijan 4 | 42.4 | 42.3 | 55.9 | 53.8 | 54.8 | 55.3 | 50.8±2.7 | 12.9 |
| 3 | Durdona | 43.6 | 41.7 | 56.6 | 58.1 | 54.5 | 52.8 | 51.2±2.8 | 13.5 |
| 4 | Ezoz | 44.3 | 42.5 | 55.4 | 56.5 | 52.8 | 48.4 | 50.0±2.4 | 11.7 |
| 5 | Pakhlavon | 36.7 | 36.6 | 47.8 | 46.5 | 51.4 | 48.8 | 44.6±2.6 | 14.3 |
| 6 | Bayandy | 48.4 | 45.4 | 56.3 | 52.5 | 57.1 | 55.2 | 52.5±1.9 | 8.9 |
| 7 | Raminal | 41.4 | 42.7 | 53.5 | 54.1 | 53.0 | 56.8 | 50.2±2.7 | 13.0 |
| 8 | Krasnovodopadskaya 210 | 49.4 | 46.2 | 59.8 | 58.1 | 53.8 | 56.8 | 54.0±2.2 | 9.8 |
| 9 | Sapali | 38.2 | 40.1 | 53.7 | 54.5 | 53.6 | 52.9 | 48.8±3.1 | 15.5 |
| 10 | Shapagat | 41.2 | 37.8 | 55.9 | 50.3 | 53.3 | 57.6 | 49.4±3.3 | 16.4 |
| 11 | Maira | 39.5 | 39.0 | 52.1 | 53.7 | 51.3 | 47.5 | 47.2±2.7 | 13.8 |
| 12 | Grom | 45.8 | 45.0 | 49.9 | 54.3 | 52.4 | 50.9 | 49.7±1.5 | 7.4 |
| 13 | Vassa | 44.2 | 45.7 | 52.5 | 54.8 | 52.8 | 56.0 | 51.0±2.0 | 9.6 |
| 14 | Dank (ostistaya) | 42.8 | 42.6 | 53.9 | 51.8 | 53.0 | 52.1 | 49.4±2.1 | 10.6 |
| 15 | Dordoy 16 | 38.8 | 40.5 | 56.3 | 57.9 | 55.8 | 54.6 | 50.6±3.5 | 17.0 |
| | Means | 42.6 | 41.8 | 54.1 | 54.0 | 53.6 | 53.4 | | |

Table 2. Effect of climate change on the chlorophyll content in wheat cultivars during the flowering phase.

Table 3. Two-factor analysis of the influence of environmental conditions on wheat cultivars' chlorophyll content and productivity.

| Variables | Climate | Genotype | Other factors |
|---------------------------------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Chlorophyll (SPAD) | 72.0 | 12.7 | 15.3 |
| Grain yield (g m ²) | 11.5 | 42.6 | 45.9 |

Analysis of grain yield

All 15 soft wheat cultivars selected from the various regions of Central Asia showed higher grain yield in terms of genotype potential under the climatic conditions of Uzbekistan (Table 3). The results also indicated the full maturation periods of the studied cultivars under different experimental variants. In 2021, crops from irrigated conditions were distinct as optimal (E1), and water deficit (without irrigation) on yield and chlorophyll content indicated as a stress condition (E2) (Figure 3). The crop season 2022 is descriptive of abundant rains, which led to soil waterlogging. Herein, the irrigated conditions experienced high humidity (E3 and E4), while non-irrigated conditions sustained relatively moderate humidity (E5 and E6).

Under optimal conditions (E1), the wheat productivity was higher than the same in other options. However, the lowest productivity was apparent under water deficit conditions. For chlorophyll content, a higher value occurred under environmental conditions E3 and E4, whereas a low value for chlorophyll content was traceable under the water deficiency conditions (E2). Two-factor analysis of variance revealed that the chlorophyll content had external factors strongly affecting it, and the specificity of the cultivars was only 12.7%. Other factors, such as, the volume and pubescence of the leaf and the soil conditions, had an impact of 15.3%. The influence of the environment on the grain yield, on the contrary, was relatively low, and the grain yield was mainly dependent on the varietal agrotechnology and the genotype itself.

Noticeably, various genotypes responded differently to the growing conditions. In the first year (2021), when the experiment included only two irrigation regimes, i.e., irrigated and non-irrigated conditions, naturally, the grain yield was higher under irrigated conditions than in the nonirrigated variant in almost all the wheat

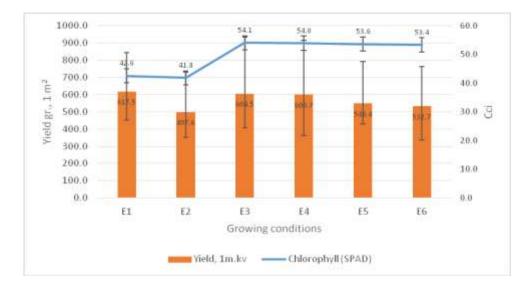


Figure 3. Dependence of the wheat chlorophyll content and productivity on environmental variations.

genotypes. The highest grain yield under both irrigated conditions was visible in the cultivar 'Raminal' (belonging to Kazakh selection); however, the low harvest under irrigation conditions was notable in the cultivars 'Akmarvarid' and 'Maira' and in cultivar 'Vassa' without irrigation.

In 2022, during the second year, when humidity was high during grain accumulation, the cultivar 'Akmarvarid' showed the highest grain yield. In this cultivar, the higher yield was distinct even under the E6 condition (when the seeds obtained under water-deficit conditions in 2021 were grown again under water shortage in 2022). However, the average harvest was relatively higher than in other genotypes in all the experiment variants. The variety 'Raminal' gave a higher grain yield in almost all variants and a relatively low output under E5 conditions.

Wheat cultivars 'Grom' and 'Vassa,' considered high-yielding in the Republic, have large-area cultivation in Uzbekistan. However, in these experiments, the genotypes showed a relatively low grain yield under all the irrigation regimes (Table 4). It is necessary to enhance the grain yield and selection of cultivars due to spike weight and the number of grains per spike (Qulmamatova *et al.,* 2022). Therefore, genetic diversity can benefit various breeding programs to develop high-yielding genotypes

and hybrids adapted to water-deficient areas (Adilova *et al.*, 2020).

Correlation analysis of the traits

The correlation analysis between the chlorophyll content and wheat growing and environmental conditions ensued. There was a weak negative relationship between the SPAD index and the cultivar's cultivation conditions with water deficit and high humidity (E2 [r = -0.29] and E3 [r = -0.34], respectively). However, on average, the said association was positive in other environmental conditions.

A weak relationship was discernible between the chlorophyll content and the total grain yield. Between these two traits, in genotypes grown under E3 and E5 variants (the seeds obtained from plants grown under optimal water conditions), as well as, between E5 and E6, an average positive relationship existed with correlation coefficient values of r = 0.48 and r = 0.33, respectively. Data analysis further showed that the correlation coefficient between productivity and growing conditions, on average, was moderately positive for all environments over the years of research (Table 5). It indicates a relatively high degree of conjugation of environmental conditions with the photosynthetic pigments found in winter wheat plants.

| No. | Cultivars | 2021 | | 2022 | | | Moone | C.V.% | |
|-----|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|--------|
| NO. | Cultivals | E1 | E2 | E3 | E4 | E5 | E6 | – Means | C.V.70 |
| 1 | Akmarvarid | 496.0 | 408.0 | 935.3 | 672.4 | 555.6 | 760.5 | 638.0±78.4 | 30.1 |
| 2 | Andijan 4 | 686.0 | 626.5 | 742.6 | 726.6 | 495.4 | 560.0 | 639.5±39.8 | 15.3 |
| 3 | Durdona | 595.5 | 369.5 | 514.7 | 461.9 | 430.5 | 365.3 | 456.2±36.2 | 19.4 |
| 4 | E'zoz | 555.0 | 378.0 | 406.4 | 363.3 | 481.4 | 490.0 | 445.7±30.6 | 16.8 |
| 5 | Pakhlavon | 595.0 | 450.5 | 514.7 | 490.8 | 547.1 | 547.3 | 524.2±20.6 | 9.6 |
| 6 | Bayandy | 609.0 | 478.5 | 770.1 | 520.1 | 607.8 | 562.8 | 591.4±41.3 | 17.1 |
| 7 | Raminal | 845.5 | 731.5 | 710.2 | 915.5 | 529.6 | 763.5 | 749.3±53.9 | 17.6 |
| 8 | Krasnovodopadskaya 210 | 654.0 | 579.5 | 472.1 | 608.4 | 557.6 | 756.2 | 604.6±39.1 | 15.8 |
| 9 | Sapali | 796.5 | 481.0 | 523.7 | 785.4 | 792.5 | 402.6 | 630.3±73.8 | 28.7 |
| 10 | Shapagat | 613.0 | 579.0 | 549.2 | 582.9 | 555.2 | 477.2 | 559.4±18.9 | 8.3 |
| 11 | Maira | 453.0 | 434.0 | 479.5 | 540.7 | 464.3 | 515.5 | 481.2±16.4 | 8.3 |
| 12 | Grom | 598.0 | 527.0 | 628.4 | 512.4 | 557.2 | 470.2 | 548.9±23.7 | 10.6 |
| 13 | Vassa | 566.0 | 353.5 | 492.7 | 389.8 | 491.2 | 336.4 | 438.3±37.4 | 20.9 |
| 14 | Dank (awned) | 626.0 | 503.0 | 731.9 | 720.0 | 724.2 | 441.9 | 624.5±51.2 | 20.1 |
| 15 | Dordoy 16 | 574.5 | 564.0 | 595.7 | 720.0 | 436.4 | 540.4 | 571.8±37.4 | 16.0 |

Table 4. Impact of climate change on the grain yield (g/m^2) of various wheat genotypes.

Table 5. Correlation coefficient between wheat chlorophyll content and productivity under varied environmental conditions.

| Variables | | Chlorophyll | | | | | | | Productivity | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|--------------|------|------|-------|----|--|--|
| | | E1 | E2 | E3 | E4 | E5 | E6 | E1 | E2 | E3 | E4 | E5 | E6 | | |
| | E1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | E2 | -0.29 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ž | E3 | -0.34 | -0.07 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chlorophyll | E4 | 0.41 | 0.35 | 0.05 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| ord | E5 | 0.36 | 0.39 | 0.01 | 0.34 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| ChI | E6 | 0.32 | 0.11 | -0.04 | 0.17 | 0.55 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | E1 | -0.13 | -0.05 | -0.06 | 0.28 | 0.08 | 0,16 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| | E2 | -0.32 | 0.08 | -0.12 | 0.1 | -0.07 | -0.11 | 0.66 | 1 | | | | | | |
| ity | E3 | -0.04 | 0.05 | -0.17 | -0.31 | 0.48 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.28 | 1 | | | | | |
| ctiv | E4 | -0.16 | -0.16 | -0.2 | -0.06 | 0.08 | -0.13 | 0.66 | 0.76 | 0.51 | 1 | | | | |
| Productivity | E5 | -0.27 | 0.02 | 0 | -0.1 | 0.14 | -0.18 | 0.46 | 0.1 | 0.23 | 0.39 | 1 | | | |
| Pro | E6 | 0.15 | -0.13 | 0.03 | -0.07 | 0.33 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.53 | 0.46 | 0.47 | -0.08 | 1 | | |

DISCUSSION

In leaves of wheat genotype, variations in the chlorophyll content play a vital role in manifesting drought resistance. In drought-resistant and stable-bread wheat cultivars under unfavorable conditions, the chlorophyll content varied slightly, while in unstable cultivars, a sharp decrease was evident (Alaei, 2011). In the presented studies, such a sudden variation was not distinct among the wheat cultivars for chlorophyll content because all the selected genotypes were pre-selected for resistance to water deficit conditions.

The studies of the bread wheat cultivars in Pakistan obtained the same results, with higher chlorophyll content observed under well-irrigated conditions but decreased significantly under drought conditions ranging from 50 to 55 (Wasaya *et al.*, 2021). Severe drought conditions inhibit plant photosynthesis by affecting chlorophyll components, damaging the photosynthetic apparatus, and causing changes in chlorophyll content (Iturbe-Ormaetxe *et al.*, 1998). Ommen *et al.* (1999) also reported reduced chlorophyll content in the spring wheat leaves under drought conditions. Research also noted that the

reduction in chlorophyll content under water deficit conditions was mainly due to the damage to chloroplasts by reactive oxygen species in crop plants (Smirnoff and Wheeler, 2000; Turaev *et al.*, 2023).

However, Khayatnezhad *et al.* (2011) reported that when exposing resistant wheat genotypes to drought, green chlorophyll tissues increased in their leaves. An influential factor in drought stress resistance is that genotypes with a high chlorophyll content in leaves were mostly resistant to stress conditions. The same was well-stated in the work of Abilfazova (2016), in which low oxidative and high photosynthetic activity of leaves of resistant peach cultivars and clones were evident under various stress factors, i.e., high soil moisture and low air temperature during the spring flowering period.

In the work of Pryadkina et al. (2014) on spring wheat genotypes, it was prominent under optimal weather conditions that mostly, crop amount correlated with the chlorophyll photosynthetic potential (ChIPP), which characterizes the total chlorophyll content in the aboveground parts of wheat plants per unit of planted area for the growing season. However, global climate change can lead to relationship violations of the between photosynthetic parameters and grain yield. The prevailing studies also revealed that high the temperatures decreased chlorophyll content in the leaves, the size of the assimilation surface of crops, the duration of functioning, and the grain yield.

In this regard, one must note that the pigment complex of a plant organism is one of the systems highly volatile to variations in environmental conditions. Therefore, chlorophyll pigments respond to minimum variations in the environment, such as, high temperature and insufficient water supply, causing the destruction of chloroplasts and, thereby, violating the synthesis of chlorophyll *a* and *b*, changing the bonds' strength in the chlorophyll-protein-lipid complex of the plastid (Abilfazova, 2016).

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings, a discovery verified that the wheat genotypes under study react to climate change in various ways. Under optimal irrigated conditions (E1), the highest grain yield was prominent in the cultivar 'Raminal' of the Kazakh selection in all the environmental conditions. The cultivar 'Vassa' of Russian breeding and cultivar 'E'zoz' from the CIMMYT collection occurred sensitive to water-deficit settings. The cultivars, 'Akmarvarid' and `Andijan-4' the Uzbek selection of and 'Bayandy' and 'Raminal' of the Kazakh selection, proved tolerant to high humidity (E3). The chlorophyll content attained more influence from the environmental conditions than from wheat genotypes. Among the 15 wheat genotypes, the cultivar studied 'Pakhlavon' had a relatively low SPAD, and the cultivar 'Bayandy' had a relatively high SPAD value; but, for other cultivars, the trait values were moderate. Significant differences were also apparent among the wheat genotypes grown in different raising conditions. In the first year (2021), when the weather was relatively dry, the average SPAD value under irrigated conditions was 42.6, while under relative water-deficit conditions, the value was 41.8. For the second year (2022), in wet weather, the chlorophyll content ranged from 53.4 to 54.1 under four growing options; however, it differed by almost 10 units from the first-year results.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The presented study proceeded within the framework of the A-FA-104 project, with financial support from the Agency of Innovative Development under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

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