

Welcome to 3rd year BSc Botany.

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Today we will be seeing the course

cytogenetics and plant breeding.

The unit is quantitative inheritance.

The module name is monogenic

versus polygenic inheritance.

Outline, we will be seeing monogenic,

inheritance and polygenic inheritance

learning outcomes of this module

will be understands the concepts of

monogenic and polygenic inheritance

differentiates between monogenic

and polygenic inheritance.

Introduction let us first see what

are monogenic and polygenic traits

monogenic trait is a characteristic

that is produced by a single gene.

Or a single allele.

An example of monogenic trait is the ability to roll your tongue or implants.

An example would be the round or the wrinkled seeds of pea plant,

whereas a polygenic trait is a

characteristic that is controlled by

two or more genes that are located at

different areas on different chromosomes.

Examples of polygenic inheritance would be.

Human skin color, human eye color.

The height, weight,

intelligence of people and amongst plants.

One example would be the kernel

color of wheat.

So the key difference between monogenic

and polygenic inheritance lies in

the number of genes involved in the

determination of a particular character.

So if we have to define polygenes,

it would be two or more different

pairs of alleles.

With a presumed cumulative effect that

governs such quantitative traits like size,

pigmentation,

intelligence, etc.

These contributing to the traits,

the alleles which contribute to the

trait are termed as contributing alleles.

They may also be referred to as effectively.

And those appearing not to do so I

refer to as the non contributing

alleles may also be referred to

as a non effective traits.

So in monogenic inheritance,

one trait is determined by a single gene

and in polygenic inheritance one trait

is determined by two or more genes.

So thus we can say that in monogenic

inheritance it refers to a kind of inheritance whereby a trait is determined by the expression of a single gene or a single allele and not by several genes as seen in polygenic inheritance.

Having understood monogenic and polygenic traits.

Let us try to understand what is qualitative and quantitative genetics in order to understand.

Qualitative and quantitative genetics.

Let's see what are qualitative traits.

The classical Mendelian traits are the ones which are qualitative in nature.

Now these traits which are qualitative in nature, are easily classified into distinct phenotypic classes.

So there are these distinct phenotypic classes which are under the control of only one or very few genes and they have no environmental modifications to the gene effects.

The example here would be the height of the P plants, either tall or dwarf, or the seed type of pea plants, either round or wrinkled.

So these qualitative traits are usually determined by a single gene.

That is, they are set to be under the control of a major gene, and therefore these qualitative traits are the monogenic traits.

As against that, let us see quantitative traits now these quantitative traits.

Are the ones which have

a spectrum of phenotypes.

These straight exhibit continuous

variation that can usually be quantified,

and it can be quantified by measuring

by weighing by counting and so on.

Trade such as the grain yield per acre or

the human skin color or the kernel color

in read are all quantitative traits.

These quantitative traits were earlier

referred to as the metric traits and

these have continuous variability,

so these quantitative traits.

Autometric traits,

they tend to be more complex and they are

usually controlled by multiple genes.

These traits,

like I said from a spectrum of phenotypes

which blend from one type to another,

and thus they cost continuous variation.

So these quantitative traits
are the polygenic traits,
so we can now finally say that
in polygenic traits there is each
contributing non allelic gene and it
has a small and relatively equal effect.

The effect of every allele is additive in
polygenic traits there is no dominance,
no recessive characters.

There is no epistaxis or no interactions
which are observed and the value
of the trait is influenced by
the environmental factors.

Now, in summary,
if we have to differentiate between
the monogenic and the polygenic traits.

The monogenic traits,
like we saw,
are the classical Mendelian traits.

The height of the pea plant,

the seed type of the pea,

and so these are the classical

Mendelian traits,

whereas the polygenic traits are

the nonclassical Mendelian traits.

In monogenic traits the phenotypic

classes are under the genetic

control or the genetic influence

of only one or very few genes,

whereas in polygenic traits they are

the quantitative traits or the metric

traits and they tend to be more complex.

These are usually controlled

by multiple genes.

In monogenic traits the phenotypic

classes are very distinct

whereas in polygenic traits the

phenotypic classes have a spectrum.

The spectrum of phenotypes which
blend from one type to another
to cause continuous variations.

In monogenic traits,
the traits may be dominant recessive,
no such dominance or recessive
knus is observed.

In the polygenic traits in monogenic
traits they may express epistaxis.

They may express allelic interactions,
however, in polygenic trait,
no such epistaxis or interactions
amongst the different loci contributing
to the value of that rate is seen.

Also in monogenic traits the traits are
not influenced by environmental factors,
whereas in polygenic traits the
value of the trade is influenced
by the environmental factors.

Here students are my references.

Thank you.