# Selecting the ideotype of improved rice cultivars using multiple regression 

## and multivariate models

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## ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

## Materials and methods

## Statistical analysis

In order to determine the most important traits and demonstrate the contribution share of different traits for the formation and the determination of PY, the method of variable selection and multiple regressions was used. The stepwise regression analysis with forward selection method was performed. Through this method, the relationship between the PY and all the traits were quantitatively determined; from the 38 investigated traits. After that, the best models of one to ten variables were specified. Moreover, the measures of minimum, maximum, average, and the level of significance for the six traits were selected and the effect on the PY was presented. All the traits influencing the PY were considered as independent variables, and the PY as a dependent variable and, eventually, the best regression models or production models, including one-to-p variables (six variables in here), were specified by forward selection (abbreviated as maxr). The best regression model was selected based on the highest $R^{2}$. Furthermore, for multiple alignments, the models were controlled by investigating the variance inflation factor (Soltani et al. 2000). Then, the best regression models of the six variables were selected in the step seven. The reason for selection this step was that by increasing the number of variables from one to six, the changes in $R^{2}$ remained significantly constant ( $\mathrm{R}^{2}=0.64^{* *}$ ). Later, the mentioned equation was investigated and analyzed, and, by deriving the component correlation between the equation components, the positive and the negative relationship, and correlation of the components with each other were evaluated. Finally, the traits' specifications, in the form of average and best models, which can be placed in the PY regression model, entered the production model of six variables. In order to determine the PY model (production model), the relationships between all the variables were measured and the PY was evaluated using the regression method (Soltani et al. 2016). The final model was obtained through the controlled trial-and-error method, which can quantify the effect of the PY limitations. The average PY was calculated by the model by putting the observed average variables ( Xs ) in the fields under study in the PY model. By placing the best observed value of the variables in the PY model, the maximum obtainable PY was calculated. The difference between these two variables has been considered PY changes. The
difference between the multiplication of the average observed value for each variable by its coefficient and the multiplication of the best observed value for the same variable by the coefficient of the same variable presents the value of the PY variation for that variable. The ratio of PY variation for each variable to the total PY variation show its share in creating PY changes and is presented in percentage. Different procedures of the software SAS (version 9.1) were used for analysis.

## Analysis of canonical correlation

The relationship between canonical variables and main variables is evaluated with correlation coefficients between them, which is generally called structural factors (Khattree and Naik 2000; Johnson and Wichern 2002). To investigate this correlation, the correlation between VAR/WITH variables (investigated traits) and its main canonical variables was evaluated for five pairs of primary variables. These pairs of variables provided the greatest correlation with VAR/WITH variables (investigated traits).

## Principle component analysis (PCA) and biplot analysis

The principal component analysis method explained by Harman (1976) was followed in the extraction of the components. The percentage variances explained by each component were determined (Tadesse and Bekele 2001). Principal component analysis were performed using the software SPSS (version 16) for all the traits of rice cultivars. Biplots were generated using the software Minitab (version 16) that runs in a windows environment, an earlier version of which was described in Yan (2001). Up-to-date information on GGE biplot is available at http://www.ggebiplot.com.

Table S1. Description of improved rice cultivars characteristics using in the experiment

| Cultivar | Growth <br> condition | Maturity <br> condition | Paddy yield <br> $\left(\mathrm{kg} \mathrm{ha}^{-1}\right)$ | Quality <br> condition | Tolerance <br> to stress | Origin |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dasht | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 7500 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Amol 3 | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 8000 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Ghaem | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 6000 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Pardis | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 6000 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Pazhouhesh | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 6650 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Keshvari | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 7500 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Kados | Semi-dwarf | Late maturity | 6500 | Normal quality | A little sensitive | Iran |
| Nemat | Dwarf | Late maturity | 7250 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Fajr | Dwarf | Late maturity | 6250 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Khazar | Dwarf | Late maturity | 6300 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Sahel | Dwarf | Late maturity | 6750 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Shiroodi | Dwarf | Late maturity | 7750 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |
| Neda | Dwarf | Late maturity | 7750 | Normal quality | Tolerance | Iran |

Table S2. List of investigated traits affecting the yield in regression models

| Traits | Unit | Min. | Mean | Max. | pr>F |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Days to germination (DG) | day | 2.5 | 4.1 | 6 | ** |
| Days to transplanting (DTP) | day | 25 | 29.2 | 34 | ** |
| Days to tillering (DT) | days since seeding in the nursery | 35 | 39.7 | 45 | ** |
| Days to stem elongation (DS) | days since seeding in the nursery | 51 | 63.8 | 76 | ** |
| Days to heading (DH) | days since seeding in the nursery | 84 | 93.8 | 108 | ** |
| Days to pollination (DP) | days since seeding in the nursery | 85 | 95 | 108 | ** |
| Days to physiological maturity (DPM) | days since seeding in the nursery | 99 | 112 | 122 | ** |
| Days to harvesting date (DHD) | days since seeding in the nursery | 112 | 120.8 | 131 | ** |
| Leaf area per plant (LA) | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | 0.11 | 0.2 | 0.4 | ** |
| Leaf area index (LAI) | - | 2.95 | 6 | 9.3 | ** |
| Leaf number (LN) | no. | 44 | 79.8 | 130 | ** |
| Flag leaf length (FLL) | cm | 20 | 30.2 | 42 | ** |
| Panicle length (PL) | cm | 22.6 | 27.1 | 32.2 | ** |
| Stem length (SL) | cm | 54 | 76.5 | 130 | ** |
| Plant height (PH) | cm | 8.25 | 103.6 | 157.5 | ** |
| Number of tiller per hill (TTH) | no. | 7.4 | 13.9 | 21.4 | ** |
| Number of fertile tiller per hill (FTH) | no. | 7 | 13.3 | 19.6 | ** |
| Fertile tiller percentage per hill (FTP) | \% | 81.53 | 96.1 | 100 | ** |
| Number of infertile tiller per hill (ITH) | no. | 0 | 0.6 | 2.4 | ** |
| Tillering coefficients (TC) | \% | 3.7 | 6.9 | 10.7 | ** |
| Panicle number per plant (PNP) | no. | 7 | 13.4 | 19.6 | ** |
| Panicle per square meter (PM) | no. | 175 | 333.5 | 490 | ** |
| Total spikelet per panicle (TS) | no. | 65.8 | 126 | 207.2 | ** |
| Number of filled spikelet per panicle (FS) | no. | 61.1 | 97.9 | 165 | ** |
| Filled spikelet percentage (FSP) | \% | 56.45 | 79.9 | 94.9 | ** |
| Blank spikelet per panicle (BS) | no. | 3.8 | 28.1 | 90.1 | ** |
| Thousand grain weight (TGW) | gr. | 22 | 25.3 | 30 | ** |
| Leaf and shoot dry weight in pollination stage (LSWP) | gr. | 6 | 42.4 | 83.5 | ** |
| Panicle dry weigh in pollination stage (PWP) | gr. | 2 | 9 | 20.5 | ** |
| Total plant weight in pollination stage (TW) | gr. | 0 | 50.6 | 98.5 | ** |
| Leaf and stem weight in physiological maturity stage (LSWM) | gr. | 18.5 | 42.6 | 70 | ** |
| Panicle dry weight in physiological maturity stage (PWM) | gr. | 17.5 | 33.6 | 56 | ** |
| Allocation efficiency of dry matter to panicle (ALP) | gr. | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | ** |
| Maximum dry matter accumulation (DMA) | gr. | 45 | 76.3 | 123 | ** |
| Paddy yield (PY) | kg ha ${ }^{-1}$ | 5600 | 6624.1 | 8170 | ** |
| Straw yield (SY) | kg ha ${ }^{-1}$ | 4750 | 7296.79 | 9800 | * |
| Biological yield (BY) | kg ha ${ }^{-1}$ | 10500 | 13921.15 | 17160 | ** |
| Harvest index (HI) | \% | 39.8 | 47.77 | 56.10 | ** |

The last column is the probability of significant F-test by ANOVA to compare cultivars. ns, * and ${ }^{* *}$ : non-significant and significant in $5 \%$ and $1 \%$ probability level, respectively.

Table S3. Mean comparison of all investigated traits of 13 improved rice cultivars.

| Traits | Unit | Dasht | Amol 3 | Ghaem | Pardis | Pazhouhesh | Keshvari | Kados | Nemat | Fajr | Sahel | Shiroodi | Neda | Khazar | LSD 0.05 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DG | day | 5.0a | 5.0a | 4.0c | 4.0c | 4.0c | 4.5b | 3.8d | 4.0c | 4.0c | 4.0c | 3.8d | 3.8d | 4.0c | 0.00 |
| DTP | day | 26.5g | 27.0 f | 29.0d | 29.5c | 28.0e | 29.0d | 26.0h | 32.0a | 30.0b | 30.0b | 32.0a | 32.0a | 29.0d | 0.00 |
| DT | day | 41.0a | 40.8 ab | 39.3 bcd | 41.0a | 38.8cde | 37.5e | 37.8de | 40.2abc | 39.7abc | 40.5ab | 41.2a | 39.8abc | 37.8 de | 1.57 |
| DS | day | 59.8fe | 60.5 e | 64.0 cd | 68.3a | 64.5 c | 64.3 c | 59.0 g | 68.3a | 64.5c | 63.5d | 66.8b | 66.3b | 59.7 fg | 0.72 |
| DH | day | 97.0cd | 98.2b | 87.8i | 90.2g | 87.2i | 92.7f | 90.8g | 97.2cd | 99.2a | 88.7h | 97.5 bc | 96.7 de | 96.2 e | 0.68 |
| DP | day | 99.7 b | 101.0a | 88.7j | 90.3h | 87.7k | 93.8 f | 91.3 g | 97.5 cd | 99.8b | 89.3i | 98.0c | 97.0 de | 96.8 e | 0.50 |
| DPM | day | 113.5 f | 121.2a | 105.5j | 105.5j | 101.7k | 116.0d | 111.8 g | 117.2c | 108.8h | 106.8i | 117.0c | 117.7b | 115.5 e | 0.43 |
| DHD | day | 125.0b | 122.5c | 117.8 e | 117.7e | 114.5f | 118.3e | 120.0d | 125.3b | 121.7c | $114.0 f$ | 125.2b | 127.0a | 121.8c | 1.11 |
| LA | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | 0.24 cd | 0.28b | 0.24c | 0.21e | 0.24cd | 0.22 de | 0.20ef | 0.26 bc | 0.34a | 0.24cd | 0.24c | 0.20ef | 0.19 f | 0.02 |
| LAI | - | 5.9cd | 6.9 b | 6.0c | 5.3 e | 5.9cd | 5.5 de | 5.0ef | 6.5 bc | 8.6a | 6.0cd | 6.0c | 5.1ef | 4.7 f | 0.54 |
| LN | no. | 53.3 f | 70.2e | 83.2 cd | 71.3 e | 85.7c | 74.3 e | 69.0e | 76.7de | 99.8 ab | 95.2b | 94.5b | 107.5a | 56.7 f | 8.24 |
| FLL | cm | 35.2a | 32.2bc | 27.8efg | 26.7 fg | 25.8 g | 32.5bc | 32.8ab | 30.3 cd | 25.8 g | 32.5 bc | 29.5 de | 28.7efg | 33.33ab | 2.39 |
| PL | cm | 26.5e | 29.1b | 24.3 f | 27.4 de | 24.1f | 27.9cd | 29.2b | 26.8 de | 26.4 e | 26.5 e | 28.8 bc | 23.6 f | 31.2a | 1.14 |
| SL | cm | 84.6b | 75.8cde | 79.9 bc | 73.2ef | 67.0gh | 78.7cd | 99.0a | 66.7 gh | 73.7def | 68.9 fg | 67.2 g | 62.2h | 98.2a | 5.01 |
| PH | cm | 111.0b | 104.8cd | 104.2cd | 100.6de | 91.1g | 106.6bc | 128.3a | 93.4g | 100.2efg | 95.4fg | 96.0efg | 85.8h | 129.4a | 5.06 |
| TTH | no. | 9.1 f | 12.5 de | 14.2bc | 13.4cd | 16.9a | 11.6 e | 14.5bc | 15.2b | 14.4 bc | 18.1a | 14.9b | 17.3a | $8.6 f$ | 1.25 |
| FTP | \% | 95.3b-e | 94.6cde | 98.1ab | 99.3 a | 95.6 bcd | 97.7ab | 99.3a | 95.7 bcd | 92.3 e | 97.3abc | 96.4abc | 93.0 de | 94.5cde | 2.98 |
| TC | \% | $4.6 f$ | 6.3 de | 7.1bc | 6.7 cd | 8.4a | 5.8 e | 7.2bc | 7.6b | 7.2bc | 9.0a | 7.4b | 8.6a | 4.3 f | 0.63 |
| PM | no. | 217.5 f | 294.2e | 345.8cd | 332.5d | 402.5b | 282.5 e | 358.8cd | 367.5c | 333.3d | 438.3a | 357.9cd | 401.7b | $203.3 f$ | 27.9 |
| TS | no. | 186.0 a | 167.0b | 84.9 g | 137.9c | 79.5 g | 141.2c | 119.9d | 133.5c | 103.3ef | 111.7de | 133.8c | 97.6 f | 142.0c | 12.22 |
| FSP | \% | 77.1 de | $70.5 f$ | 90.9ab | 80.7cd | 93.2a | 81.5c | 78.4cde | 71.7 f | 81.8c | 87.1b | 70.8 f | 79.3cde | 75.8 e | 3.87 |
| BS | no. | 42.0b | 52.1a | $7.8 f$ | 26.7 cd | $5.5 f$ | 25.8 cd | 28.6c | 39.2b | 20.3de | 15.1e | 38.3b | 20.1 de | 43.9b | 7.25 |
| TGW | gr. | $25.0 f$ | 23.5 g | 25.1 f | 22.8h | 23.8 g | 22.2i | 23.5 g | 27.3b | 26.3d | 29.3a | 27.0c | 26.0e | 27.3 bc | 0.26 |
| LSWP | gr. | 62.5a | 33.7fgh | 24.8i | 30.3ghi | 26.5hi | 53.1bc | 39.7def | 46.0 cd | 56.7ab | 39.2def | 41.2 de | 61.1a | 36.5efg | 7.44 |
| PWP | gr. | 12.2a | 11.3 ab | 5.0 g | 7.3 ef | 5.7f | 9.5 bcd | 11.3ab | 10.9abc | 8.3 de | 8.9cde | 9.5 bcd | 9.4cde | 7.2ef | 2.02 |
| TW | gr. | 74.7a | 44.9def | 29.8h | 37.6 fgh | 32.2gh | 62.6abc | 51.0cde | 56.9 bcd | 65.0ab | 48.1def | 50.7cde | 61.0 bc | 43.7fgh | 12.17 |
| LSWM | gr. | 61.8a | 34.9def | 39.2cde | 31.1 f | 32.9fe | 44.3 bc | 47.0b | 36.2def | 35.0def | 41.0 bcd | 64.4a | 47.2b | 39.4cde | 7.23 |
| PWM | gr. | 30.7def | 32.6cde | 34.9 bcd | 35.0bcd | 29.2ef | 40.5a | 30.5def | 27.4 f | 35.5bc | 37.5 ab | 39.0ab | $31.6 \mathrm{c}-\mathrm{f}$ | 32.7cde | 4.58 |
| ALP | gr. | 0.16def | 0.24a | 0.17cde | 0.20 bc | $0.18 \mathrm{~b}-\mathrm{e}$ | 0.15 ef | 0.21b | 0.19bcd | 0.13 f | $0.18 \mathrm{~b}-\mathrm{e}$ | 0.20bcd | 0.15 ef | 0.17cde | 0.04 |
| DMA | gr. | 92.5b | 67.5efg | 74.1def | 66.0 fg | 62.1 g | 84.8bc | 77.5 cde | 63.6 g | 70.5d-g | 78.5cd | 103.4a | 78.8cd | 72.1d-g | 10.41 |
| PY | kg ha ${ }^{-1}$ | 6850abc | 6272de | 6063e | 6317cde | 6345cde | 6958ab | 6645bcd | 6773bcd | 6347cde | 7127ab | 7152ab | 7365a | 5903e | 576.62 |
| BY | $\mathrm{kg} \mathrm{ha}{ }^{-1}$ | 7147bc | 7660ab | 6550c | 7692ab | 7193bc | 7033bc | 7150bc | 7218bc | 6975bc | 7125bc | 7250bc | 8625a | 7240bc | 1017.30 |
| HI | \% | 49.2abc | 45.1d | 48.7a-d | 45.0d | 47.1a-d | 49.8ab | 48.5a-d | 48.6a-d | 47.7a-d | 50.2a | 49.6ab | 46.2 bcd | 45.5 cd | 3.86 |

*: Values within a column followed by same letter are not significantly different at LSD (P $\leq 0.05$ ). *: Refer to Table S2 for abbreviation description.

Table S4. Simple correlation analysis between VAR variables (phonological traits) and WITH variables (other investigated traits: agronomic traits, PY and HI) in 13 improved
rice cultivars.

| Correlation | LAI | LN | FLL | PL | PH | TTH | FTP | PM | TS | FSP | TGW | LSWP | PWP | LSWM | PWM | ALP | PY | HI |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DG | 0.21 * | -0.54** | $0.45 *$ | 0.14 | 0.15 | -0.56** | -0.12 | -0.58** | 0.71** | -0.22* | -0.35* | 0.19 | 0.39* | 0.08 | -0.03 | 0.19 | -0.10 | -0.03 |
| DTP | 0.10 | 0.64** | -0.37* | -0.23* | -0.62** | $0.44{ }^{*}$ | -0.22** | 0.41 * | -0.32* | -0.15 | $0.55{ }^{*}$ | 0.19 | -0.15 | 0.03 | 0.19 | -0.28* | 0.36 * | 0.07 |
| DT | $0.34 *$ | 0.16 | 0.02 | -0.06 | -0.34* | 0.14 | -0.13 | 0.13 | 0.27* | -0.18 | 0.19 | 0.08 | 0.19 | 0.10 | 0.06 | 0.13 | 0.25 * | -0.07 |
| DS | 0.14 | 0.54** | -0.60** | -0.43* | -0.75** | 0.50** | 0.05 | 0.50** | -0.34* | 0.05 | 0.11 | -0.01 | -0.25* | -0.18 | 0.13 | -0.15 | $0.24 *$ | 0.03 |
| DH | 0.36 * | -0.02 | 0.21 * | 0.33* | 0.03 | -0.34* | $-0.57^{* *}$ | -0.41* | 0.51** | -0.77** | 0.23* | 0.61** | 0.52** | 0.30* | -0.04 | -0.08 | 0.16 | -0.09 |
| DP | $0.37 *$ | -0.11 | $0.28 *$ | 0.33* | 0.06 | -0.41* | -0.55** | -0.48** | 0.60** | -0.77** | 0.17 | 0.60** | 0.56** | 0.31* | -0.05 | -0.04 | 0.12 | -0.08 |
| DPM | -0.05 | -0.15 | $0.49 * *$ | 0.44* | 0.13 | -0.33** | -0.29** | -0.36* | 0.58** | -0.83** | 0.07 | 0.45* | 0.63 ** | $0.36{ }^{*}$ | -0.01 | 0.19 | 0.27* | -0.05 |
| DHD | 0.07 | -0.02 | 0.21 | 0.12 | -0.02 | -0.26 * | -0.42* | -0.31* | 0.40 * | -0.72 ** | 0.18 | 0.59** | 0.50 ** | $0.45 *$ | -0.23 | -0.09 | 0.24* | -0.09 |

*: Refer to Table S2 for abbreviation description.

Table S5. Canonical correlations and their significant probability level.

| Canonical <br> variables | Canonical <br> correlation | Square of <br> canonical <br> correlation | Eigenvalue | Proportion | Cumulative | $\operatorname{Pr}>F$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 43.93 | 0.43 | 0.43 | $<0.0001$ |
| 2 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 27.69 | 0.27 | 0.70 | $<0.0001$ |
| 3 | 0.97 | 0.94 | 16.47 | 0.16 | 0.86 | $<0.0001$ |
| 4 | 0.94 | 0.89 | 7.92 | 0.08 | 0.93 | $<0.0001$ |
| 5 | 0.87 | 0.76 | 3.24 | 0.03 | 0.96 | 0.0071 |

Table S6. Correlation between the VAR variables (phonological traits) and the canonical variables of the WITH variables (other investigated: agronomic traits, PY and HI).

| Phenological traits <br> (Variables VAR) | Canonical variables (CV) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\mathrm{CV}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{5}$ |
| DG | $-0.45^{*}$ | $0.63^{* *}$ | 0.04 | $-0.44^{*}$ | $0.22^{*}$ |
| DTP | $0.85^{* *}$ | 0.09 | 0.19 | $0.25^{*}$ | $-0.28^{*}$ |
| DT | $0.22^{*}$ | $0.50^{* *}$ | -0.08 | -0.08 | 0.15 |
| DS | $0.53^{* *}$ | $0.37^{*}$ | -0.05 | $-0.46^{*}$ | $-0.39^{*}$ |
| DH | $0.22^{*}$ | $0.25^{*}$ | $0.82^{* *}$ | $-0.37^{*}$ | 0.06 |
| DP | 0.12 | $0.32^{*}$ | $0.78^{* *}$ | $-0.43^{*}$ | 0.09 |
| DPM | -0.03 | 0.17 | $0.79^{* *}$ | -0.13 | -0.07 |
| DHD | 0.14 | 0.11 | $0.72^{* *}$ | $-0.40^{*}$ | $-0.34^{*}$ |
| Standardized variance | 0.17 | 0.13 | 0.31 | 0.12 | 0.05 |

* and ** show the probability at 5 and 1 percent level, respectively.
*: Refer to Table S2 for abbreviation description.

Table S7. Correlation between the WITH variables (other investigated: agronomic traits, PY and HI ) and the canonical variables of the VAR variables (phonological traits).

| Other traits | Canonical variables (CV) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (WITH variables) | $\mathrm{CV}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CV}_{5}$ |
| LAI | $0.27^{*}$ | $0.43^{*}$ | 0.15 | -0.12 | $0.37^{*}$ |
| LN | $0.64^{* *}$ | -0.05 | -0.03 | $0.31^{*}$ | -0.09 |
| FLL | $-0.33^{*}$ | -0.07 | 0.17 | $-0.35^{*}$ | $0.21^{*}$ |
| PL | $-0.24^{*}$ | -0.18 | $0.49^{*}$ | 0.07 | $0.48^{*}$ |
| PH | $-0.54^{* *}$ | $-0.49^{*}$ | 0.18 | $-0.23^{*}$ | $0.31^{*}$ |
| TTH | $0.39^{*}$ | -0.10 | $-0.25^{*}$ | $0.50^{* *}$ | -0.12 |
| FTP | $-0.36^{*}$ | -0.07 | $-0.34^{*}$ | $0.43^{*}$ | -0.15 |
| PM | $0.34^{*}$ | -0.11 | $-0.29^{*}$ | $0.55^{* *}$ | -0.14 |
| TS | $-0.36^{*}$ | $0.44^{*}$ | $0.38^{*}$ | $-0.34^{*}$ | $0.20^{*}$ |
| FSP | 0.04 | $-0.20^{*}$ | $-0.82^{* *}$ | 0.07 | -0.02 |
| TGW | $0.78^{* *}$ | $-0.24^{*}$ | 0.02 | $-0.20^{*}$ | 0.14 |
| LSWP | 0.17 | 0.13 | $0.43^{*}$ | $-0.44^{*}$ | -0.10 |
| PWP | $-0.28^{*}$ | $0.21^{*}$ | $0.53^{* *}$ | -0.17 | 0.05 |
| LSWM | 0.02 | -0.09 | $0.22^{*}$ | $-0.34^{*}$ | $-0.21^{*}$ |
| PWM | $0.26^{*}$ | 0.12 | -0.04 | $0.26^{*}$ | $0.30^{*}$ |
| ALP | $-0.43^{*}$ | 0.15 | 0.11 | $0.36^{*}$ | 0.12 |
| PY | $0.24^{*}$ | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.09 | -0.12 |
| HI | 0.12 | -0.004 | -0.10 | 0.04 | -0.03 |
| Standardized variance | 0.14 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.10 | 0.04 |

* and ** show the probability at 5 and 1 percent level, respectively.
*: Refer to Table S2 for abbreviation description.


Figure S1. $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ changes due to the increased number of variables that affect yield.


Figure S2. Correlation between paddy yield (PY) with DS, FLL, THH, LSWP, DMA and HI.


Figure S3. The relationship between flag leaf length (FLL) and the number of days to stem elongation (DS).

## Results and discussion

## Mean comparison analysis (GLM) of investigated traits in 13 improved cultivars

According to the findings, the vegetative and reproductive periods of $c v$. 'Neda' were higher than other cultivars. In this term, cv. 'Shiroodi', cv. 'Dasht' and $c v$. 'Nemat' stood ranks next. The lowest growth periods were observed in cv. 'Pazhouhesh' (Table S3). Mean comparison of agronomic traits showed that among genotypes, $c v$. 'Fajr' had the highest LA ( $0.34 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ ) and LAI (8.6), but cv. 'Neda' demonstrated the most LN (107.5 leaves). The highest FLL and TS belonged to $c v$. 'Dasht', the main cause of which was the higher FLA of this cultivar. In addition, the highest BS belonged to cv. 'Amol 3'. Furthermore, $c v$. 'Pardis' and $c v$. 'Kados' had the highest FTP (99.3\%). The maximum TTH belonged to 'Pazhouhesh', Sahel and Neda cultivars. Between all cultivars, cv. 'Khazar' and cv. 'Kados' achieved the highest PL, SL and PH (Table S3). Mean comparison shows differences of all investigated traits between the three cultivars. Genotypes mean comparison showed that the highest TC belonged to $c v$. 'Phazhouhesh', cv. 'Sahel', and cv. 'Neda'. The high PM and TGW in cv. 'Sahel' has its genetic potential. The most TS (186 spikelets) was obtained in cv. 'Dasht', but FSP was highest in cv. 'Phazouhesht' (Table S3).
The highest LSWP, PWP, TW, and LSWM were observed for $c v$. 'Dasht'. The maximum PWM ( 40.5 gr ) was related to $c v$. Keshvari', but the highest ALP ( 0.24 gr ) was belong to $c v$. 'Amol 3 '. In addition, $c v$. 'Shiroodi' had the highest DMA ( 103.4 gr ). All the investigated cultivars were varied in terms of phenological traits, morphological indices, agronomic traits and PY components which cause variable function and PY (Table S3).
Mean comparison of cultivars showed that the highest PY ( $7365 \mathrm{~kg} \mathrm{ha}^{-1}$ ) and BY ( $8625 \mathrm{~kg} \mathrm{ha}^{-1}$ ) belonged to $c v$. 'Neda. In addition, cv. 'Shiroodi' and cv. 'Keshvari' got ranks next. The least PY ( $6063 \mathrm{~kg} \mathrm{ha}{ }^{-1}$ ) was attributed to $c v$. 'Ghaem' (Table S3). In terms of PY and BY, cultivars had a high variation. Mean comparison showed that $c v$. 'Sahel' had higher HI (50.2\%) (Table S3).

Correlation between the VAR variables (phenological traits) and the canonical variables of WITH variables (agronomic traits, PY, and HI)
From first to fifth variables was observed $17 \%, 13 \%, 31 \%, 12 \%$, and $5 \%$ of the variation in this group (Table S6). The highest correlation in the first canonical variable was related to DTP ( $r=0.85^{* *}$ ), and DS ( $r=0.53^{* *}$ ) got rank next. Moreover, the first canonical variable explained significant positive correlation with DT and DH, but DG $\left(r=0.45^{*}\right)$ revealed significant negative correlation. The maximum correlation in the second canonical variable was related to DG ( $r=0.63^{* *}$ ) and DT ( $r=0.50^{* *}$ ). The second canonical variables demonstrated significant positive correlation with DS, DH and DP (Table S6). The most correlation in third canonical variables was related to DH $\left(r=0.82^{* *}\right)$, DP $\left(r=0.78^{* *}\right)$, DPM ( $r=0.79^{* *}$ ), and DHD ( $r=0.72^{* *}$ ), respectively. The highest correlation of fourth and fifth canonical variables was related to DTP $\left(r=0.25^{*}\right)$ and DG $\left(r=0.22^{*}\right)$, respectively. The fourth canonical variables demonstrated significant negative correlation DG, DS, DH, DP, and DHD. The fifth canonical variables demonstrated significant negative correlation with DTP, DS, and DHD (Table S6).

## Correlation between the WITH variables (agronomic traits, PY, and HI) and the canonical variables of VAR variables (phenological traits)

This group revealed $14 \%, 5 \%, 11 \%, 10 \%$, and $4 \%$ of the variation from first to fifth variables (Table S7). The maximum correlation in the first canonical variable was related to TGW ( $r=0.80^{* *}$ ), and LN ( $r=$ $0.64^{* *}$ ) stood rank next. In addition, the first canonical variable explained significant positive correlation with LAI, TTH, PM, PWM, and PY, other traits (FLL, PL, PH, FTP, TS, PWP, and ALP) shows significant negative correlation. The highest correlation in the second canonical variable was related to TS $\left(r=0.44^{*}\right)$ and LAI $\left(r=0.43^{*}\right)$. These canonical variables showed significant positive correlation with TS, LSWP, and LSWM, but other traits (TTH, FTP, PM, and FSP) demonstrated significant negative correlation (Table S7). The highest correlation of fourth and fifth canonical variables was related to PM ( $r=0.55^{* *}$ ) and PL ( $r=0.45^{*}$ ), respectively. The fourth canonical variables showed significant positive correlation with LN, PM, PWM and ALP, but FLL, PH, TS, TGW, LSWP, and LSWM shows significant negative correlation. The fifth canonical variables demonstrated significant positive correlation with FLL, PH, TS, and PWM, but LSWM ( $R=-0.21^{*}$ ) shows significant negative correlation (Table S7).

## References

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