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**Rain tolerant and late maturing genotype of date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.)**

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Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) is considered as an ancient cultivated fruit tree in the world. It is believed to be indigenous to countries around the Persian Gulf. Date fruit is highly nutritious and used for fresh consumption as well as for making value added products. The maximum varieties of date palm have been introduced to India from USA, Pakistan, Egypt, Iraq and Middle East countries. Date requires dry hot climate for fruit growth, maturity and ripening. Under Indian climatic conditions, the maximum date fruits are harvested at *doka* (*khalal*) hard ripen stage due to early rains. There is no variety available in India, which is tolerant to rain. After three years of observation during 2017, one genotype has been identified, which could be utilized as a source of rain tolerant gene. In this genotype, spathe emergence/opening starts during February. Hand pollination was done with the pollens from local male plants. Berry colour of this genotype is red, medium in size and sweet in taste at *doka* stage. However, the sweetness of *doka* fruits was lower in comparison to commercial varieties. The fruit weight was 10- 12.4 g; size 3.28 x 2.20 cm and TSS 34- 380 brix. The late maturing, rain tolerant, red colour berry germplasm of date palm (CIAH/RSS/DP/S-01) was spotted at the Institutes farm. The plant is vigorous and erect growing. It produces 20-27 berries per strand. The average yield of *doka* fruits was recorded to be 40-50kg/tree. The mature *doka* stage red colour berry was observed at the end of August and early September. The IC No. 0624544 of this genotype was obtained for the specific traits from NBPGR, New Delhi. This promising germplasm could be a potential source of gene for tolerance to rain.