

Table 1 Mean square estimates and genetic components of variance from combining ability analyses for earliness characters and seed yield in sesame

Source	df	Days to initiation	flowering	Days to flowering	50% Days to maturity	Reproductive to period	Plant height (cm)	Seed yield/ plant
GCA	7	3.55**		3.43**	18.21**	14.47**	294.65**	39.19**
SCA	28	1.27**		1.42**	4.89**	8.82*	105.00**	27.82**
Error	70	0.38		0.33	0.14	4.80	9.58	7.69
<u>Components of genetic variance</u>								
σ^2_{gca}		0.46		0.40	2.66	1.14	37.94	2.28
σ^2_{sca}		0.90		1.09	4.75	4.01	95.42	20.13
Predictabilit y ratio		0.51		0.42	0.53	0.36	0.44	0.18

*, **, significant at 5 and 1 per cent levels, respectively