

Preliminary Results and discussions based on results from Malawi China Technology Centre in Lilongwe for two seasons

Resistance to Early and Late Blight of tomatoes

Result from the dry season evaluation indicated that none of the entries evaluated were resistant to late and early blight at the Malawi China technology Centre in Lilongwe. During the winter season, tomato variety LA 2820 was susceptible to early blight when compared to the rest of the varieties since they were moderately susceptible (Table 1). Regarding late blight, three local varieties (Rodale, Khama and Mbambande) and three introduced entries (LA4408, LA3474, and LA2356) showed moderate resistance to early blight (Table 2). With summer cropping

Table 1: Percent disease incidence (PDI) of early blight in the tomato during dry season (May to October, 2021)

Variety	Early Blight				Late blight			
	PDI at 56 DAT	PDI at 90 DAT	Score 90 DAT	Host reaction	PDI at 56 DAT	PDI at 90 DAT	Score 90 DAT	Host reaction
Rodade (C)	4.67 ^{ab}	39.33a	3	MS	6.67	50.00a	3	MS
Phindu (C)	7.67 ^{ab}	34.33a	3	MS	3.67	58.67a	4	S
Mbambande(C)	7.00 ^{ab}	28.00a	3	MS	8.33	42.33a	3	MS
Khama(C)	3.33 ^b	41.00a	3	MS	3.67	46.66a	3	MS
LA 4408	7.00 ^{ab}	41.67a	3	MS	9.33	49.67a	3	MS
LA 3474	5.33 ^{ab}	43.33a	3	MS	6.00	47.33a	3	MS
LA 3115	3.67 ^b	39.33a	3	MS	6.00	50.33a	4	S
LA 2912	8.33 ^{ab}	36.33a	3	MS	6.67	64.00a	4	S
LA 2820	4.33 ^b	52.33a	4	S	9.67	58.67a	4	S
LA 2819	15.67 ^a	43.67a	3	MS	4.33	55.66a	4	S
LA 2356	9.00 ^{ab}	27.67a	3	MS	4.67	42.33a	3	MS
LA 1802	7.67 ^{ab}	48.33a	3	MS	11.00	60.33a	4	S
LA 1792	10.00 ^{ab}	40.67a	3	MS	2.33	47.33a	3	S
P-value	0.042	0.299			0.103	0.614		
CV	10.44	13.21			11.07	12.07		

DAT means days after transplanting

In each column, values followed by the same letter are not significantly different