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Analysis of Morphological Characteristics and Compositional Changes of Naked Oat Grains According to Harvest Time in the Central Region of Korea

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[Introduction]

Hulless oats are generally harvested 45 days after heading(DAH). It is known that 1000 grain weight, the grain yield, and the germination rate are high at that time. In the central region of Korea, hulless oats were sown in the spring, and the change in grain characteristics and composition were evaluated to examine the appropriate harvest time.

[Materials and Methods]

This study was conducted in the field of Department of Central Area Crop Science of National Institute of Crop Science (NICS), Suwon, Gyeonggi province, Korea. On February 25, 2021, the early-ripening(Joyang, JY) and late-ripening (Daeyang, DY) hulless oat cultivars were sown with a ridge width of 25cm using a barley drill seeder. Cultivation management was performed according to the Rural Development Administration standard cultivation methods. After harvesting at intervals of 5 days from 40 to 55 days after planting, the grains were threshed and stored in a low-temperature storage (temperature: 5°C, humidity: 45%) and used for testing. Seed size (length/width/thickness), changes in grain components, and germination rate were investigated.

[Results and Discussion]

The grain length, width, and thickness of DY were 8.53 ± 0.82 mm, 2.48 ± 0.31 mm, and 1.96 ± 0.21 mm, respectively. And the grain length, width, and thickness of JY were 8.97 ± 0.84 mm, 2.52 ± 0.30 mm, and 2.02 ± 0.21 mm, respectively. The grain characteristics of hulless oat according to harvesting time, the length was the largest at the 40 DAH(8.86 ± 0.86 mm) and the smallest at the 55 DAH(8.65 ± 0.92 mm). However, width and thickness did not show any distinct trends. The germination rate of DY showed the highest at $97.4\pm1.34\%$ in the 55 DAH, and JY showed the lowest at $86.2\pm5.17\%$ in the 40 DAH. The avenanthramides (AVNs), which are known as a functional component of oats, showed higher contents in DY. And the AVN contents were increased according to harvesting time delayed after 45 DAH.

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