



**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

## Morphological characters of different regions of cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* L.)

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**SUMMARY :** The cowpea, *Vigna unguiculata* (L.) WALP is an important grain legume crop in tropical and sub-tropical areas. Cowpea exhibits a considerable variation in leaf shape. Cowpea leaves are compound, having two asymmetrical side leaflets and one central terminal leaflet which is symmetrical. Typically, the central leaflet of the trifoliolate is used in classifying the leaf shape due to variability of the side leaflets. In the present work morphological characters of all the five cultivars are almost similar without much deviation. The average values of all the parameters studied did not reveal the differences among the cultivars. PEG induced drought tolerance in the cultivars indicated the differential sensitivity among the cultivars. The growth parameters like root length, shoot height, leaf length, leaf area etc., clearly differentiated the cultivars for their sensitivity to induced drought by PEG. The cultivar Gangothri is more resistant and Pusakomal is more sensitive to induced drought with PEG among five cowpea cultivars from Telangana.

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