1 Phenolic profile and content of sorghum grains under different irrigation managem	agements
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Abstract:

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Sorghum grain is widely consumed in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, as a staple food due to its adaptation to harsh environments. The impact of irrigation regime: full irrigation (100%); deficit irrigation (50%); and severe deficit irrigation (25%) on phenolic profile and content of six sorghum grain genotypes was investigated by high performance liquid chromatography coupled with diode array detection and electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS). A total of 25 individual polyphenols were unequivocally or tentatively identified. Compared to the colored-grain genotypes, the white grained sorghum var. Liberty had a simpler polyphenol profile. The of the concentrations sorghum-specific 3-deoxyanthocyanidins luteolinidin and apigeninidin, were higher under deficit irrigation compared to the other two regimes in all genotypes. These findings will be valuable for the selection of sorghum genotypes for grain production as human food under water deficit conditions, since polyphenol levels can affect the grain's nutritional value and health properties.

Keywords: sorghum; genotype; irrigation; polyphenols; HPLC-MS

1. Introduction

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Sorghum (Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench) is the fifth most valuable global cereal crop, 34 35 widely grown in semi-arid and arid regions of the world because of its tolerance to drought and high temperatures (Taylor, Schober, & Bean, 2006). In many parts of 36 37 Africa and Asia, sorghum grain provides nutrients and energy for millions of local 38 people, whereas in the developed countries such as the USA and Australia, it is used 39 primarily as an animal feed or for biofuel production (Stefoska-Needham, Beck, Johnson, & Tapsell, 2015). However, the number of people consuming sorghum grain 40 41 is slowly but steadily increasing in developed countries mainly due to sorghum's 42 gluten-free property and antioxidant potential from polyphenolic phytochemicals 43 (Taylor et al., 2006). 44 Polyphenols have antioxidant activity due to their free-radical scavenging capability, and thus may protect against some chronic diseases, such as coronary heart 45 disease and type 2 diabetes (Dykes & Rooney, 2007). Polyphenols in sorghum grain 46 47 consist of simple phenolic acids (e.g. ferulic and *p*-coumaric 3-deoxyanthocyanidins, flavanones, flavones and other flavonoids, as well as 48 condensed tannins (Awika & Rooney, 2004). In particular, the 3-deoxyanthocyanidins, 49 including apigeninidins, luteolinidins, 5-methoxyluteolinidin 50 and 7-methoxyapigeninidin, are at high levels in some sorghum grain genotypes, but are 51 absent in other cereal grains (Awika & Rooney, 2004; L Dykes & Rooney, 2007). The 52 53 amounts and profiles of polyphenols in sorghum grain vary significantly between genotypes. For example, it has been reported that red and yellow sorghum genotypes 54

55 contained high amounts of flavones, and sorghum genotypes with pigmented testa have higher content of condensed tannins (Taleon, Dykes, Rooney, & Rooney, 2014; 56 Wu et al., 2016a). 57 Under a changing climate, annual mean precipitation is projected to decrease in 58 59 many mid-latitude and subtropical dry regions, in which crops, such as sorghum, 60 maize and pearl millet, will invariably suffer from moisture stress (Pachauri et al., 61 2014). Polyphenol content and antioxidant activity of plant materials may be affected by water deficit, and their changes depend on plant species (Cohen & Kennedy, 2010). 62 63 Tovar, Motilva, and Romero (2001) planted young olive trees under seven irrigation treatments. They found that the concentration of the dialdehydic form of elenolic acid 64 and oleuropein aglycon of the olive oils and the antioxidant activity significantly 65 66 increased as the amount of irrigation water decreased to deficit levels. Buendía, Allende, Nicolás, Alarcón, and Gil (2008) investigated the effects of regulated deficit 67 irrigation and full irrigation on polyphenols and antioxidant activity of peaches, and 68 69 reported that the content of phenolics, mainly anthocyanins and procyanidins, and antioxidants increased under regulated deficit irrigation. In another study, comparing 70 71 irrigated and non-irrigated grapevines, the levels of proanthocyanidins and flavonols 72 increased in fruit from irrigated vines (Zarrouk et al., 2012). There is little information in the literature from controlled studies investigating how level of irrigation 73 74 influences profile and concentrations of polyphenols of sorghum grain. In our recent 75 study, it was found that the levels of total polyphenol and antioxidant activity of sorghum grain significantly increased when the amount of water was reduced (Wu, 76

- Johnson, Bornman, Bennett, & Fang, 2017). However, individual polyphenols of sorghum grain were not measured in the previous study, and it is also still unknown
- 79 how irrigation treatment influences the profile of polyphenols in sorghum grain.
- Therefore, in the present study, using an as yet unreported trial, the effects of three
- 81 levels of irrigation treatments on the individual phenolic compounds of six different
- 82 sorghum genotypes were determined by the powerful analytical technique of high
- 83 performance liquid chromatography coupled with diode array detection and
- 84 electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (HPLC-DAD-ESI-MS).

2. Materials and methods

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- 2.1. Plant material and treatments
- 87 The sorghum field experiment was conducted at Curtin University's Field Trials
- Area, Western Australia (latitude 32°00/S, longitude115°53/E, altitude 20 m). Daily
- 89 rainfall and minimum/ maximum air temperature were obtained from the Perth
- 90 Airport Bureau of Meteorology weather station 9.6Km away from the experimental
- 91 site (Supplementary Fig S1) (BOM, 2013).
- 92 Six sorghum genotypes comprised of two hybrid lines ('Liberty' white pericarp and
- 93 'MR Bazley' red pericarp) and four inbred lines ('Alpha' red pericarp; 'IS1311C' and
- 94 'IS8237C' both brown pericarp; and 'Shawaya Short Black 1', dark red-black
- 95 pericarp). All seeds were provided from the Australian sorghum pre-breeding program,
- a partnership between the University of Queensland, the Queensland Department of
- 97 Agriculture and Fisheries and the Grains Research and Development Corporation,
- ourtesy of Professor David Jordan. All samples were planted in 1 m x 1 m fibre glass

pots with a depth of 0.5 m. One row each of three sorghum genotypes were planted in each pot, with a row spacing of 0.25 m. Each row was sown on 9th January 2014 with 10 seeds of the nominated variety and thinned to five plants spaced 0.2 m apart after two weeks. The experiment of 6 genotypes x three levels of irrigation was carried out in two replications with a randomised complete block design.

The potential reference crop evapotranspiration (PET₀) from the nearby weather station was 822.7 mm from sorghum sowing date to maturity 10th May. In the same period, the crop potential evapotranspiration under standard conditions (PET_c) was calculated from PET₀ and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) crop coefficient (Kc) for sorghum, giving a PET_c of 576.25mm (Allen, Pereira, Raes, & Smith, 1998). The experimental irrigation implementation was based on PET_c. Three irrigation regimes were applied: full irrigation (FI, 100% PET_c), deficit irrigation (DI, 50% PET_c) and severe deficit irrigation (SDI, 25% PET_c).

The sowing date was defined as 0 day after sowing, and all plants received unlimited water in the first two weeks. After that, all irrigation treatments were applied by hand watering. Sorghum was irrigated every 3–4 days with a total of 24 irrigations during the growing season. All grains were harvested at maturity, air-dried to a moisture content of around 10%, manually cleaned, vacuum packed and stored at -20°C until analysis.

118 2.2. Physical characteristics of grain

The Single Kernel Characterization System (SKCS 4100, Perten Instruments, Hägersten, Sweden) was used to evaluated the physical characteristics of sorghum grain, and all samples were evaluated in duplicate.

2.3. Phenolic extraction

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All sorghum whole grains were milled to pass 100% through a 500 µm sieve using a grain mill (CEMOTEC 1090, Foss Tecator, Hoganäs, Sweden). For free and bound polyphenols, extraction was conducted according to the method of Svensson, Sekwati-Monang, Lutz, Schieber, & Gänzle (2010) with some modifications. In brief, the 15 mL of 80% (v/v) aqueous methanol was mixed with around 2 g of the ground sample under N₂, and the mixture was shaken in the water bath at 25°C for 2 h. The supernatant was collected after centrifuging at 3,220 × g for 10 min at 4°C. The residue was extracted with 20 mL 80% (v/v) aqueous methanol two times more, and all supernatants were combined after centrifuging. Rotary vacuum evaporation was carried out to evaporate supernatants to dryness. The resulting solid was re-dissolved in 10 mL of methanol and stored at -20°C under N₂. The residue remaining after free polyphenol extraction was the used for bound phenolic extraction. For the extraction of bound phenolic compounds, the residue after free polyphenol extraction was mixed with 15 mL of 2 M hydrochloric acid (HCl) under N2 in the water bath at 100°C for 1 h. After hydrolyzing, the 15 mL ethyl acetate was added and thorough mixed. Then, the ethyl acetate fraction was collected after partitioning. The hydrolysate was re-extracted with the 15 mL ethyl acetate four times more, and all ethyl acetate fractions were combined and evaporated to dryness. The resulting solid was re-dissolved in 10 mL of methanol and stored at -20°C under N₂ before analysing.

143 2.4. HPLC-DAD-ESI-MSⁿ analysis

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An Agilent 1290 UHPLC system with diode array detector (DAD) and Agilent 144 6460 LC-QQQ LC-MS/MS System (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA, USA) were 145 used to separate polyphenols according to the procedure described in detail previously 146 (Wu et al., 2016b). Briefly, the Kinetex XB-C 18 reversed phase-HPLC column (5 μm, 147 148 250 × 4.6 mm, Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA) was used to separate individual phenolic compounds, and the scanning range of the DAD was set between 190 and 149 600 nm at steps of 2 nm. Solvent A was 0.1% formic acid in LC-MS grade water 150 151 (Honeywell Burdick & Jackson, Gillman, SA, Australia), and solvent B consisted of LC-MS grade acetonitrile (Honeywell Burdick & Jackson, Gillman, SA, Australia). 152 Extract (5 µL) was injected and the following linear gradient elution was used: 5%-15% 153 154 B (5 min), 15%-50% B (40 min), 50%-70% B (2 min), 70%-100% B (1 min), 100% B (7 min), 100%-5% B (1 min), 5% B (9 min). The rate of flow was 0.5 ml/min. 155 Mass spectra were performed in the ESI negative mode with a scan time of 2000 MS 156 under the following conditions: gas (N₂) 5 L/min at 300 °C, nebulizer 45 psi, sheath 157 gas (N₂) 11 L/min at 250°C, capillary voltage -3.5kV and nozzle voltage -500V. 158 159 Phenolic compounds were detected by full scan ranging from m/z 50 to 1300. 2.5. Quantification of polyphenols 160 The following individual authentic standards were used for quantitation. Ferulic 161 acid, caffeic acid, luteolin, apigenin, taxifolin and naringenin were purchased form 162 Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA). Luteolinidin chloride, and apigeninidin 163

chloride were purchased from Alsachim (Strasbourg, France). Results were expressed

as µg/g sample (db). All extracts were analysed in duplicate.

2.6. Statistical analysis

All data were reported as means \pm standard deviation (SD) using SPSS Statistics V20 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA). The main effects of genotype and irrigation and their interaction were analysed using a two-way ANOVA with Tukey post-hoc test. $P \le 0.05$ was considered significantly different. A principal components analysis was run on the complete dataset for each irrigation treatment using Statistica 10 (Dell Software., Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA). A correlation matrix across all the variables within an irrigation treatment was run to check if any of the variables were highly correlated with any of the other variables prior to running the PCA. A plot of principal components 1 and 2 (PC1 and PC2) for each irrigation treatment enabled the genotypes to be clustered into a number of groups based on their expression of the polyphenolic compounds. An analysis of variance was used to test the significance of these groups.

3. Results

3.1. Kernel physical characteristics

Genotype, irrigation regime and their interaction had a significant influence on weight and diameter of sorghum grain (Fig. 1) ($P \le 0.05$). The values of grain weight and diameter were significantly reduced when reducing the amount of irrigation in all sorghum genotypes. Sorghum Shawaya Short Black 1 had the highest values of grain weight and diameter under the three irrigation regimes, while the lowest values were in sorghum IS8237C under FI and DI regimes and Alpha under SDI regime.

3.2. Identification of polyphenols

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Individual phenolic compounds in the six sorghum genotypes from three irrigation 188 regimes were monitored by HPLC-DAD and mass spectrometry (MS) detection. 189 Representative HPLC chromatograms of phenolic compounds in the genotype of MR 190 191 Bazley are presented in Fig 1. The MS and UV characteristics of the chromatographic 192 peaks from all samples, along with their proposed structure, are shown in Table 1. The 193 25 different phenolic compounds were identified in the extracts. A total of eight individual polyphenols, including ferulic acid, caffeic acid, luteolin, apigenin, 194 luteolinidin, apigeninidin, taxifolin and naringenin, were unequivocally identified and 195 196 another 17 tentatively identified. 197 Peaks, 8, 9, 13, 16, 17, 21, 24 and 25 were identified by authentic standards based 198 on their chromatographic comparisons. Peaks 2, 5-7, 11, 14-15, 18-20 and 22-23 were identified in detail in our previous study (Wu et al., 2016b). Of the other peaks, Peak 199 200 1 represents an unknown complex polyphenol. It was noted that peak 3 had similar UV and MS spectra to peaks 18 and 19, and was tentatively identified as 201 1,2-O-dicaffeoylglycerol or 1,3-O-dicaffeoylglycerol isomer. Peak 4 had a 202 203 deprotonated molecule [M - H] ions at m/z 353, and prominent fragment ions at m/z191 and 173, corresponding to deprotonated quinic acid and caffeic acid fragments, 204 respectively. After comparisons with the literature (Han et al., 2008), peak 4 was 205 tentatively identified as chlorogenic acid (5-caffeoylquinic acid). Peak 10 had a 206 deprotonated molecule [M-H]⁻ at m/z 447. The [M - H- 162]⁻ ion at m/z 285 is typical 207 of that produced by the loss of a hexoside residue, and the prominent fragment ions at 208

- 209 m/z 285 would correspond to the deprotonated luteolin fragment. Hence, peak **10** was 210 tentatively identified as luteolin hexoside. Peak **12**, with a deprotonated molecule 211 $[M-H]^-$ at m/z 433, also lost a hexoside residue (433- 162) to produce the prominent 212 fragment ions at m/z 271, which could correspond to deprotonated naringenin 213 fragment. Therefore, peak **12** was tentatively identified as naringenin hexoside (Table 214 1).
- 3.3. Influence of genotype and irrigation regime on the profiles of polyphenols ofgrains
- 217 The representative HPLC chromatograms of free polyphenols in the MR-Bazley
 218 genotype are shown in Fig 1. The HPLC chromatograms illustrated that across all
 219 genotypes, irrigation treatments did not differ in the polyphenolic species present
 220 rather only altered their concentrations. The profiles of both free and bound forms of
 221 individual polyphenols of six sorghum genotypes under three irrigation regimes are
 222 shown in Supplementary Table S2.
- 3.4. Influence of genotype and irrigation on the individual polyphenol concentrationof grains

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It is important to understand the presence and concentrations of individual polyphenols for specific applications of the grain, such as for high antioxidant health foods (Yousif, Nhepera, & Johnson, 2012), as the antioxidant properties of sorghum grain relate to both polyphenol concentration and profile (Wu et al., 2016b; Wu et al., 2016c). In the present study eight phenolic compounds were quantified based on the availability of authentic standards. Based on their structural characteristics, the

quantified phenolics were classified into five groups and their concentrations determined.

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Hydroxycinnamic acids. The hydroxycinnamic acids quantified were caffeic acid and ferulic acid (Table 2). The free, bound and total levels of these compounds were significantly affected by genotype, irrigation regime and their interaction ($p \le 0.05$). Under the FI regime, the highest and lowest free and total caffeic acid concentrations were found in Alpha and IS1311C, respectively. For total ferulic acid concentration under the FI regime, IS8237C had the lowest while MR-Bazley had the highest. Water deficit treatments significantly increased the level of free ferulic acid as compared to the FI treatment. A reduction in the amount of irrigation water resulted in varying changes in both bound caffeic acid and ferulic acid concentration amongst the genotypes. Under the SDI regime, Liberty had the lowest concentrations of total caffeic acid and ferulic acid, while IS1311C and MR-Bazley had the highest total caffeic acid and total ferulic acid contents, respectively. 3-Deoxyanthocyanidins. The concentration of luteolinidin and apigeninidin is presented in Table 3. Again, the concentrations of these compounds were significantly influenced by genotype, irrigation regime and their interaction ($p \le 0.05$). Luteolinidin and apigeninidin were not detected in the white sorghum, Liberty. Otherwise the lowest detectable concentrations of free luteolinidin and apigeninidin were in MR-Bazley and Alpha under FI regime, respectively, while Shawaya Short Black 1 had the highest values of these two compounds. The intermediate DI regime

resulted in a higher concentration of luteolinidin than under the FI and SDI regimes.

The concentration of both bound luteolinidin and apigeninidin varied with decreasing water supply and genotype Shawaya Short Black 1 had the highest contents of total luteolinidin and apigeninidin under both FI and DI regimes, but became the lowest under SDI regime when compared with other genotypes.

Flavones. Two flavones were quantified in the samples namely luteolin and apigenin (Table 3), with significant changes in concentrations ($p \le 0.05$) due to genotype, irrigation regime and their interaction. No apigenin in free or bound form was detected in Liberty or Alpha under the three irrigation regimes. Free and total luteolin and apigenin concentrations were the highest ($p \le 0.05$) under the DI regime across all genotypes. Shawaya Short Black 1 contained the highest contents of free and total luteolin, but the lowest contents of free, bound and total apigenin under FI regime. However, differing irrigation regimes resulted in different levels of bound luteolin and apigenin concentrations. Compared to FI and SDI regimes, the higher contents of free, bound and total luteolin and apigenin were in all sorghum genotypes under DI regime. Irrespective of treatment, the lowest contents of free, bound and total apigenin were in Shawaya Short Black 1.

Dihydroflavonol and Flavanones. One dihydroflavonol taxifolin and one flavanone naringenin were identified and quantified, and their concentrations were significantly affected by genotype, irrigation regime and their interaction ($p \le 0.05$), as shown in Table 3. Free, bound and total taxifolin and naringenin concentrations were highest under the intermediate DI regime when compared to the FI and SDI regimes across all genotypes, with the exception of Liberty, where taxifolin and naringenin were not

detected. The lowest detected concentration of total taxifolin was in Alpha, while both IS1311C and IS8237C had the lowest detected concentration of total naringenin under the DI regime.

3.5. Principal component analysis (PCA)

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A PCA of the six sorghum genotypes using the quantitative polyphenolic variables found that 86.36%, 83.90% and 90.18% of the variation could be explained by the first three components under FI, DI and SDI treatments, respectively, (Tables S4-S6). A plot of PC1 and PC2 is shown in Figure 3, where it can be seen that a number of individual polyphenols form distinct groups under three irrigation treatments. Three, four and four groups were identified under FI, DI and SDI treatments, respectively. Under FI treatment (Fig 3a), Group B (Shawaya Short Black 1) has a high level of individual flavonoids, while Group A (Alpha and MR-Bazley) has high individual hydroxycinnamic acids. For DI regime, a high level of individual flavonoids is presented in Group B (Shawaya Short Black 1), but Group A (Alpha, MR-Bazley and IS8237C) has low levels of individual polyphenols. Group C (Liberty) has a low level of individual polyphenols, while a high level of some individual flavonoids is found in Group B (Shawaya Short Black 1) or Group D (IS1311C). To evaluate the significance of the groupings, an analysis of variance was run on both PC1 and PC2 with the groups listed above used as the treatment. Both PC1 and PC2 were shown to have a significant difference between the groups $(p \le 0.05)$, across all of the irrigation treatments.

4. Discussion

The processing quality of grain is principally contributed by grain physical characteristics. The range of grain weight and diameter in the present study was in the range of previous reports (Liu et al., 2013; Wu et al., 2008; Wu et al 2016c). However, both Liu et al. (2013) and Wu et al. (2008) reported that the values of grain weight and diameter were not significantly influenced by reduced irrigation levels. The differences recorded in this study may be caused by the severe water stress on the SDI treatment and the higher daytime temperatures present during the growing season (Supplementary Fig S1). Deficit irrigation had a significant influence on individual polyphenols. Some key enzymes involved in the biosynthesis of individual polyphenols, have been previously identified including phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL), chalcone synthase (CHS) and flavonoid-3'-hydroxylase (F3'H) (Cohen & Kennedy, 2010). Synthesis of 3-deoxyanthocyanidin has been previously shown to be catalysed by CHS and F3'H enzymes, and the synthesis of these two enzymes was reported to be enhanced under biotic stress in sorghum, which led to increased 3-deoxyanthocyanidin concentration (Boddu et al., 2004; Lo et al., 1999). In the present study, total 3-deoxyanthocyanidin concentration was the highest under DI regime across all genotypes when compared with other regimes. Therefore, it is proposed that more CHS and F3'H enzymes might be synthesized when irrigation level was reduced from FI to DI. However, more research work will be needed to confirm this hypothesis. Additionally, the effect of water deficit on the metabolic pathways of other individual polyphenols is still unknown in sorghum, so further research is required to understand these pathways.

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In the present study, some individual polyphenols significantly decreased in concentration when irrigation was decreased from DI to SDI regime. These findings contrast with other reports, in which polyphenol concentration increased when the level of irrigation decreased (Artajo, Romero, Tovar, & Motilva, 2006; Buendía et al., 2008; Martinelli, Basile, Morelli, d'Andria, & Tonutti, 2012; Tovar et al., 2001). Normal physiological and biochemical plant processes can be inhibited by severe water deficit through reduced cell elongation and reduced photosynthesis (Jahanzad et al., 2013; Saeed & El-Nadi, 1998). In the present study, sorghum grain yield was the lowest under SDI treatment (data not shown), with no sorghum grain set in sorghum IS8237C, which indicated that the SDI regime may have seriously inhibited physiological and biochemical processes compared with FI and DI regimes. It is proposed therefore that the synthesis of polyphenols might be also have been inhibited under the SDI regime. Temperatures above 35°C have also been reported to decrease the concentration of total and individual polyphenols in sorghum grain (Wu et al., 2016b; Wu et al., 2016c). The average maximum daytime temperature during the growth of the sorghum plants in the present study was in fact in excess of 35°C, (Supplementary Fig S1). As the sorghum was unable to regulate the severe water stress, the high temperature might also have decreased the biosynthesis of polyphenols, flavonoids and some individual polyphenols on the sorghum grain under the SDI regime. These findings might provide valuable information about polyphenol concentrations in plants grown under a Mediterranean climate, such as the Mediterranean Basin, and some regions of Australia, and North and South Africa, in

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which plant biochemical and physiological processes are mainly regulated by water deficit coupled with other interacting factors, such as high temperatures.

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The profiles of individual polyphenols in the sorghum grain varied among the different genotypes. Two different red sorghums: MR-Bazley and Alpha were planted in this study, but only Alpha lacked apigenin (Supplementary Table S1). Taleon et al. (2014) also supported that not all red sorghum genotypes contained luteolin.

The concentration of individual polyphenols determined in this study is in agreement with previous studies (Dykes et al., 2009; Taleon et al., 2012; Wu et al., 2016b). Black sorghum had the highest levels of 3-deoxyanthocyanidins when compared to other genotypes, suggesting that black sorghum is a predominant source of this group of compounds. Similar results have been reported by Taleon et al. (2012). The accumulation of 3-deoxyanthocyanidins in sorghum grain is regulated by P1, which is controlled by Yellow seed gene (Ibraheem, Gaffoor, & Chopra, 2010). As no 3-deoxyanthocyanidins were detected in white sorghum Liberty, it is proposed that Yellow seed gene might be absent in this genotype. The luteolin concentration of the two red genotypes, MR-Bazley and Alpha was significantly different from each other (Table 3). Previously published data on two other red sorghum genotypes, Tx2911 and 98CA4779 reported that they contained 10.8 and 13.4 µg/g luteolin, respectively (Dykes et al., 2009), more than about twice higher than our values, which indicates that the individual flavonoid concentration cannot be simply predicted by grain color. These results highlight that before producing sorghum products with target levels of specific polyphenols, such as 3-deoxyanthocyanidins for potential health benefits, it is

363 essential to evaluate the profile and concentration of the individual polyphenols in the genotype being used. 364 PCA is one of the oldest and most widely used techniques for reducing the 365 dimensionality and increasing the interpretability of large datasets (Jolliffe & Cadima, 366 367 2016). The success of PCA can be seen in Rodríguez-Delgado, González-Hernández, 368 Conde-González, & Pérez-Trujillo (2012), who used PCA to understand the polyphenol content of 55 samples of red wines from different locations, with all 369 samples separated into three groups according to geographical area of origin. In the 370 371 present study, classification of sorghum genotypes into several groups was possible 372 when a two-dimensional plot of the first two principal components was used to evaluate the scores of each sorghum sample. It is also noticed that three of six 373 374 genotypes always fall in to the same groups: Group A and Group B. However, the 375 levels of polyphenols vary depending on the irrigation treatment (Fig. 3), suggesting that irrigation treatment modifies polyphenol content of these genotypes. 376 Dietary 377 intake of whole sorghum grain with abundant levels of polyphenols has potential to reduce the risk of certain cancers, cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes, owning 378 379 to their antioxidant properties (Stefoska-Needham et al., 2015). The free, bound and total antioxidant capacity in sorghum grains as affected by irrigation treatments was 380 evaluated by 3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid diammonium salt (ABTS) and 381 the 2-2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) assays, and all data was presented in the 382 383 Supporting Information Table S3. In the present study, sorghum Shawaya Short Black

1 had the highest concentration of total polyphenols and flavonoids, followed by

IS8237C, a brown-coloured grain and these two genotypes also had higher concentration of antioxidant activity (Supplementary Table S2 and S3). Recently, several sorghum products, such as pasta (Khan, Yousif, Johnson, & Gamlath, 2013) and extruded snack food (Licata et al., 2015), have been developed to enhance antioxidant capacity of these food products. Khan, Yousif, Johnson, and Gamlath (2015) reported that in comparison with 100% durum wheat pasta and pasta containing 30% white wholegrain sorghum, the antioxidant status through increasing plasma polyphenols, antioxidant capacity and superoxide dismutase activity was increased post-prandially in healthy human participants after consuming pasta containing 30% red wholegrain sorghum flour. It was suggested that these differences may be due to the higher polyphenol content and the different profile of polyphenolic compounds found in red wholegrain sorghum flour compared to white wholegrain sorghum flour and durum wheat, probably due to the presence of 3-deoxyanthocyanidins in red wholegrain sorghum flour only (Khan et al., 2013).

5. Conclusion

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In conclusion, irrigation, genotype and their interaction had a significant influence on individual polyphenols, and most of them showed the highest concentration under the intermediate DI regime. The present study suggested that both irrigation regime and genotype should be considered when selecting sorghum genotypes to plant for the production of high antioxidant value health foods and/or nutraceuticals.

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526	

Figure Captions

- 528 Figure.1. Weight (a) and diameter (b) of sorghum grain as affected by irrigation
- 529 treatments.
- 530 ^{a-e} Values with different superscripts in the same irrigation treatment are significantly different
- 531 ($P \le 0.05$). A, B Values with different superscripts in the same genotype with different
- 532 irrigation treatments are significantly different ($P \le 0.05$).
- 533 Abbreviations: FI= full irrigation; DI= deficit irrigation; SDI=severe deficit irrigation

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527

- 535 Figure.2. Representative chromatograms of sorghum grain free polyphenols from
- 536 genotype MR-Bazley A: under full irrigation regime; B: under deficit irrigation
- regime; C: under severe deficit irrigation regime.

- 539 Figure.3. Variable projections after principal component analysis (PCA) on six
- sorghum genotypes a: under full irrigation regime; b: under deficit irrigation regime; c:
- under severe deficit irrigation regime.
- Abbreviations: Polyphenols (FCA = free caffeic acid; BCA = bound caffeic acid; TCA = total
- 543 caffeic acid; FFA = free ferulic acid; BFA = bound ferulic acid; TFA = total ferulic acid;
- 544 FLUT = free lutedinidin; BLUT = bound lutedinidin; TLUT = total lutedinidin; FAPI = free
- apigenidin; BAPI = bound apigenidin; TAPI = total apigenidin; FTA = free taxifolin; BTA =
- bound taxifolin; TTA = total taxifolin; FLU = free luteolin; BLU = bound luteolin; TLU =
- total luteolin; FNAR = free narigenin; BNAR = bound narigenin; TNAR = total narigenin;
- 548 FAP = free apigenin; BAP = bound apigenin; TAP = total apigenin); Genotypes (G1 = Liberty;

 $G2 = MR\text{-Bazley}; \ G3 = Alpha; \ G4 = IS1311C; \ G5 = IS8237C; \ G6 = Shawaya \ Short \ Black \ 1)$

Table 1. Identification of individual polyphenols in sorghum grains by HPLC-DAD-ESIMS fragmentation and in comparison with respective standards.

Peak	Rta	λ_{max} (nm)	$m/z [M - H]^{-}$	m/z MS ² (Abundance %)	Tentative identification
No.	(min)				
1	10.1	275	479	149 (4), 121 (8), 105 (4)	Unknown
2	10.9	280	577	425 (60), 289 (26)	Procyanidin B1
3	11.8	325, 300sh ^b	415	253 (100), 161 (11), 135 (85)	1,2-O-dicaffeoylglycerol isomer
4	12.3	330	353	191 (100), 173 (48), 85 (7)	Chlorogenic acid
5	13.1	326, 298sh	253	179 (1), 161 (100), 135 (65)	2-O-caffeoylglycerol
6	13.5	280. 310	137	109 (35)	Protocatechuic aldehyde
7	14.4	326, 298sh	253	179 (1), 161 (100), 135 (65)	1-O-caffeoylglycerol
8	15.0	297, 322	179	135 (100)	Caffeic acid (std ^c)
9	16.1	280, 490	269	241 (11), 225 (27), 169 (19), 133 (30)	Luteolinidin (std)
10	17.0	290	447	285 (45)	Luteolin hexoside
11	17.7	310	237	163 (20), 145 (50), 119 (31)	2-O-p-coumaroylglycerol
12	18.0	285	433	271 (86);151 (56)	Naringenin hexoside
13	18.3	275, 470	253	225 (10), 209 (70), 179 (40), 117 (65)	Apigeninidin (std)
14	19.1	283	433	287 (100), 151 (59)	Eriodictyol deoxyhexoside
15	19.2	310	163	119 (100)	p-coumaric acid
16	20.8	295, 325	193	178 (42), 134 (100)	Ferulic acid (std)
17	21.6	288	303	285 (100), 217 (9), 177 (18), 125 (35)	Taxifolin (std)
18	28.5	326, 300sh	415	253 (100), 179 (100) , 161 (11), 135 (85)	1,2-O-dicaffeoylglycerol
19	29.4	326, 300sh	415	253 (100), 179 (100) , 161 (11), 135 (85)	1,3-O-dicaffeoylglycerol

				135 (85),	
20	30.6	287	287	151 (10)	Eriodictyol
21	31.1	252, 347	285	241 (1), 217 (3), 199 (3), 175 (3), 151 (17), 133 (13),	Luteolin (std)
				107 (3)	
22	33.3	219, 315	399	253 (80), 235 (11), 179 (25), 163 (86), 145 (35), 119	Coumaroyl-caffeoylglycerol
				(100),135 (27)	
23	34.2	325, 295sh	429	253 (70), 235 (11), 193 (100), 175 (32), 161 (53), 135	Feruloyl-caffeoylglycerol
				(81)	
24	35.9	266, 322	269	225 (21), 201 (10), 183 (10), 149 (32), 117 (100)	Apigenin (std)
25	36.3	295	271	177 (10), 151 (50), 119 (20), 107 (10)	Naringenin (std)

^a Rt = Retention time ^b sh = shoulder ^c std= standard

Table 2. Free, bound and total contents of hydroxycinnamic acids ($\mu g/g$ dry basis) of six genotypes of sorghum grain grown under three irrigation treatments.

		Genotype					
		Liberty	MR-Bazley	Alpha	IS1311C	IS8237C	Shawaya Short Black 1
Caffeic acid							
Free	FI	7.18±0.29 ^{eB}	5.04±0.10 bA	12.55±0.29 ^{fA}	4.51±0.38 ^{aA}	5.54±0.26 ^{cA}	6.49±0.53 ^{dC}
	DI	10.64±0.82 ^{cC}	9.84±0.21 bC	19.76±0.67 ^{eC}	9.34±0.62 ^{bB}	14.97±0.25 ^{dB}	5.08±0.17 ^{aA}
	SDI	6.44±0.18 ^{bA}	6.78±0.32 bB	13.00±0.18 ^{dB}	11.38±0.48 ^{cC}	No data	5.44±0.08 ^{aB}
Bound	FI	5.76±0.38 ^{cA}	9.54±0.11 ^{dB}	10.47±0.34 ^{eC}	$4.63\pm0.10^{\text{ bA}}$	4.18±0.09 ^{aB}	5.03±0.21 ^{cA}
	DI	9.97±0.53 ^{dC}	7.20±0.23 ^{cA}	7.56±0.10 ^{cB}	$10.38\pm1.17^{\text{ dB}}$	3.66±0.12 ^{aA}	5.13±0.10 ^{bA}
	SDI	6.98±1.03 ^{aB}	14.71±0.88 ^{cC}	6.97±0.28 ^{aA}	$15.59\pm0.88^{\text{ cC}}$	No data	10.05±0.49 ^{bB}
Total	FI DI SDI	$12.94 \pm 0.68^{\text{ dA}}$ $20.61 \pm 1.40^{\text{ dB}}$ $13.42 \pm 1.21^{\text{ aA}}$	14.58±0.01 ^{eA} 17.04±0.43 ^{bB} 21.48±0.57 ^{dC}	23.21±0.77 ^{fB} 27.49±0.70 ^{eC} 19.98±0.05 ^{cA}	9.14±0.28 ^{aA} 19.73±1.79 ^{dB} 26.97±1.90 ^{eC}	$9.72\pm0.16^{\text{ bA}}$ $18.62\pm0.16^{\text{ cB}}$ No data	11.55±0.76 ^{cA} 10.13±0.34 ^{aA} 16.11±0.70 ^{bB}
Ferulic acid				1. A	4.6	1. 4	- 4
Free	FI	1.18±0.20 ^{aA}	1.98±0.13 ^{dA}	$1.58\pm0.21^{\text{ bA}}$	2.03±0.01 ^{dA}	$1.55\pm0.12^{\text{ bA}}$	$1.65\pm0.10^{\text{ aA}}$
	DI	1.97±0.11 ^{aC}	2.87±0.01 ^{cC}	$2.78\pm0.16^{\text{ cC}}$	4.83±0.20 ^{dC}	$2.34\pm0.24^{\text{ bB}}$	$2.36\pm0.07^{\text{ bB}}$
	SDI	1.82±0.06 ^{aB}	2.31±0.13 ^{bB}	$2.46\pm0.03^{\text{ cB}}$	2.48±0.22 ^{cB}	No data	$2.97\pm0.21^{\text{ dC}}$
Bound	FI	45.87±2.14 ^{cB}	82.60±3.57 ^{eB}	60.47±1.70 ^{dB}	38.11±5.68 bA	$28.87\pm0.75^{\text{ aA}}$	46.91±2.29 ^{cA}
	DI	50.97±1.78 ^{bC}	78.75±2.10 ^{dA}	40.56±0.77 ^{aA}	114.82±3.59 eC	$52.69\pm2.23^{\text{ bcB}}$	55.18±0.69 ^{cB}
	SDI	35.51±3.15 ^{aA}	100.23±1.20 ^{eC}	42.66±0.59 ^{bA}	61.01±1.67 cB	No data	66.85±2.49 ^{dC}
Total	FI	47.05±2.33 ^{cB}	84.58±3.43 ^{eB}	62.48±1.82 ^{dC}	40.14±5.69 bA	30.43±0.83 ^{aA}	47.87±2.94 ^{cA}
	DI	52.94±1.89 ^{bC}	81.62±2.11 ^{dA}	43.17±0.75 ^{aA}	119.65±3.79 eC	55.03±2.47 ^{bcB}	57.72±0.76 ^{cB}
	SDI	37.33±3.22 ^{aA}	102.54±1.37 ^{eC}	45.26±0.58 ^{bB}	63.49±1.45 cB	No data	70.61±3.32 ^{dC}

a-f Values with different superscripts in the same row are significantly different ($P \le 0.05$). A, B, C Values with different superscripts in the same column in the same dependent variable are significantly different ($P \le 0.05$).

Table 3. Free, bound and total individual flavonoid content (μg /g, dry basis) of six genotypes of sorghum grain grown in three irrigation treatments.

			Genotypes						
Flav	Flavonoids		Liberty	MR-Bazley	Alpha	IS1311C	IS8237C	Shawaya Short Black 1	
3-De	eoxyantho	cyanidins							
		FI	nd	$0.26\pm0.04~^{\mathrm{aB}}$	0.48 <u>±</u> 0.09 bA	1.58 <u>±</u> 0.08 ^{cA}	4.81 ± 0.18 dA	$13.44 \pm 0.76^{\mathrm{eB}}$	
	Free	DI	nd	1.29±0.11 ^{aC}	2.30 ± 0.04 bC	2.42 ± 0.44 ^{cB}	$6.90\pm0.13^{\text{ dB}}$	18.25 ± 0.98 eC	
		SDI	nd	$0.04\pm0.01~^{\mathrm{aA}}$	$1.61\pm0.20^{\text{ dB}}$	$1.49\pm0.20^{\text{ cA}}$	No data	$1.34\pm0.10^{\text{ bA}}$	
Lut		FI	nd	3.31 ± 0.16^{dB}	0.71 <u>±</u> 0.05 ^{aA}	0.84 ± 0.06^{bC}	$2.15\pm0.04^{\text{ cA}}$	11.72±0.73 ^{eB}	
Luteolinidin	Bound	DI	nd	8.91±0.57 dC	$3.11\pm0.24^{\mathrm{bB}}$	0.66 ± 0.15^{aB}	$4.41\pm0.10^{\mathrm{cB}}$	11.60±1.40 ^{eB}	
		SDI	nd	2.86 ± 0.13 cA	$0.68 \pm 0.10^{\text{ bA}}$	0.30±0.02 ^{aA}	No data	0.34±0.07 ^{aA}	
		FI	nd	3.56±0.20 cA	1.20±0.05 ^{aA}	2.41±0.01 bB	5.95±0.21 dA	25.16±0.04 eB	
	Total	DI	nd	10.21±0.23 bВ	5.41±0.20 °C	3.08±0.59 ^{aC}	$7.36\pm0.21^{\text{dB}}$	29.98±0.51 ^{eC}	
	10141	SDI	nd	2.90 ± 0.55 ^{cC}	$2.33\pm0.12^{\text{ bB}}$	1.79 <u>±</u> 0.22 ^{aA}	No data	1.73±0.21 ^{aA}	
		FI	nd	1.02 <u>±</u> 0.11 ^{bВ}	$0.68\pm0.07^{\mathrm{aB}}$	1.63±0.11 ^{cB}	5.17 ± 0.09^{dA}	16.42±0.35 ^{eB}	
	Free	DI	nd	$3.67\pm0.18^{\mathrm{bC}}$	$0.39\pm0.02^{\mathrm{aA}}$	3.96 ± 0.30^{bC}	8.17 ± 0.15^{cB}	18.89 ± 0.28 dC	
Ą		SDI	nd	0.08 ± 0.02 aA	1.41±0.14 ^{cC}	1.37±0.16 ^{cA}	No data	1.18±0.08 bA	
Apigeninidin		FI	nd	10.49±0.37 ^{eC}	$4.42\pm0.30^{\mathrm{cB}}$	1.71±0.39 aA	$3.09\pm0.03^{\mathrm{bB}}$	9.04 ± 0.35^{dB}	
	Bound	DI	nd	$9.62\pm0.49^{\mathrm{bB}}$	15.66±0.44 °C	19.62±0.93 dC	1.29 ± 0.06^{aA}	$9.85\pm0.43^{\mathrm{bC}}$	
din		SDI	nd	$2.53\pm0.13^{\text{ bA}}$	3.85 ± 0.24 cA	9.70 <u>±</u> 1.74 ^{dB}	No data	1.26±0.10 ^{aA}	
	TF 4 1	FI	nd	11.51 ± 0.48 dB	5.22 <u>±</u> 0.46 bA	3.34 ± 0.28^{aA}	$8.25\pm0.13^{\text{ cA}}$	$25.26 \pm 0.86^{\mathrm{eB}}$	
	Total	DI	nd	13.28±0.31 bC	$16.05 \pm 0.41^{\text{ cB}}$	23.57±1.23 ^{dC}	9.47 ± 0.08^{aB}	28.95±0.88 ^{eC}	

		SDI	nd	2.61±0.11 ^{aA}	5.19±0.24 bA	11.07±1.89 ^{cB}	No data	2.49±0.21 ^{aA}
Flave	ones							
	Free	FI DI SDI	0.38±0.06 ^{aA} 0.74±0.13 ^{aC} 0.67±0.04 ^{aB}	3.48±0.10 ^{cA} 6.62±0.04 ^{cC} 4.08±0.02 ^{cB}	1.98±0.08 bA 3.37±0.16 bB 1.94±0.13 bA	8.20±0.04 ^{dB} 10.79±0.13 ^{dC} 7.33±0.08 ^{eA}	15.11±0.03 ^{eA} 19.14±0.09 ^{eB} No data	12.59±0.54 el 19.74±1.23 et 5.59±0.08 dA
Luteolin	Bound	FI DI SDI	1.72±0.08 ^{bВ} 3.83±0.22 ^{сС} 1.41±0.12 ^{сА}	3.58±0.30 ^{cB} 5.53±0.09 ^{eC} 1.71±0.19 ^{cA}	0.38±0.02 ^{aA} 0.55±0.01 ^{aB} 0.86±0.12 ^{aC}	0.40±0.08 ^{aA} 1.35±0.13 ^{bC} 1.09±0.06 ^{bB}	4.13±0.13 ^{dA} 3.61±0.09 ^{cB} No dataa	3.23±0.23 ^{cB} 4.37±0.25 ^{dC} 1.49±0.32 ^{cA}
	Total	FI DI SDI	2.10±0.02 ^{aA} 4.57±0.35 ^{bB} 2.07±0.16 ^{aA}	6.06±0.40 ^{cB} 12.15±0.13 ^{cC} 5.78±0.17 ^{cA}	2.33±0.12 bA 3.92±0.18 aC 2.79±0.01 bB	8.60±0.13 ^{dA} 12.14±0.26 ^{cB} 8.42±0.14 ^{eA}	19.24±0.10 ^{eA} 22.75±0.17 ^{dB} No data	15.82±0.30 ^e 24.11±0.98 ^e 7.07±0.40 ^{dA}
Anigenin	Free	FI DI SDI	nd nd nd	2.16±0.24 ^{bA} 4.97±0.35 ^{bB} 2.10±0.31 ^{bA}	nd nd nd	2.28±0.26 bA 6.04±0.54 °C 4.61±0.17 cB	4.59±0.11 ^{cA} 6.70±0.19 ^{dB} No data	0.98±0.35 ^{aA} 1.94±0.39 ^{aB} 0.92±0.13 ^{aA}
	Bound	FI DI SDI	nd nd nd	8.97±0.08 dB 23.14±1.34 dC 7.05±0.35 cA	nd nd nd	3.39±0.24 bA 5.71±0.46 bC 4.03±0.08bB	7.48±0.22 ^{cA} 13.60±0.37 ^{cB} No data	1.83±0.51 ^{aC} 1.08±0.40 ^{aB} 0.91±0.36 ^{aA}
	Total	FI DI SDI	nd nd nd	11.13±0.32 ^{cB} 28.10±1.73 ^{dC} 9.15±0.04 ^{cA}	nd nd nd	5.67±0.02 bA 11.74±1.00 bC 8.64±0.05 bB	12.07±0.33 ^{cA} 20.30±0.37 ^{cB} No data	2.81±0.88 ^{aB} 3.02±0.78 ^{aC} 1.83±0.49 ^{aA}

Dihy	droflavon	ol						
		FI	nd	6.93 ± 0.08 bB	9.35 ± 0.24^{dC}	5.43±0.06 ^{aA}	8.19 ± 0.30^{cA}	$14.56 \pm 0.34^{\mathrm{eB}}$
	Free	DI	nd	11.47±0.31 bC	8.20±0.21 aB	28.64±1.03 eC	14.93±0.27 ^{cB}	16.02 ± 0.57 dC
	1100	SDI	nd	0.31±0.04 ^{aA}	$3.01\pm0.11^{\mathrm{bA}}$	11.18±0.36 dB	No data	8.86 ± 0.25 cA
Ta		FI	nd	2.41±0.40 ^{aA}	6.12±0.14 dA	4.53±0.47 bA	5.11±0.29 cA	10.92±1.14 ^{eB}
Taxifolin	Bound	DI	nd	9.58 <u>±</u> 0.69 ^{aC}	9.73±0.20 aC	12.33±1.34 bC	16.48±0.29 cB	18.50 ± 0.30^{dC}
olin	Dound	SDI	nd	$6.53\pm0.13^{\ bB}$	8.51 ± 0.54^{cB}	10.24 <u>±</u> 0.59 ^{bВ}	No data	4.67 ± 0.43 aA
		FI	nd	9.34±0.32 ^{aB}	15.50±0.13 ^{cB}	9.96 <u>±</u> 0.53 ^{aA}	13.30±0.56 bA	25.48 ± 0.82 dB
	Total	DI	nd	21.05±1.00 bC	17.93±0.01 ^{aC}	40.97 ± 2.34 dC	31.41 ± 0.02 ^{cB}	34.52 ± 0.26 °C
		SDI	nd	6.83±0.17 ^{aA}	$11.34 \pm 0.80^{\mathrm{bA}}$	21.41 ± 0.23 dB	No data	13.53 ± 0.67 cA
Flav	anone							
		FI	nd	$1.70\pm0.06^{\text{ aB}}$	15.66 ± 0.05 dA	$5.80\pm0.42^{\mathrm{bA}}$	11.32±0.44 cA	$23.39\pm0.80^{\mathrm{eB}}$
	Free	DI	nd	$2.92\pm0.07^{\text{ aC}}$	31.88±0.11 eC	12.47 ± 0.31^{bC}	13.19±0.13 ^{cB}	30.60 ± 2.23 dC
		SDI	nd	$1.15\pm0.05~^{\mathrm{aA}}$	22.51 ± 0.07 dB	7.69 ± 0.87 bB	No data	17.63 ± 1.55 cA
Naringenin		FI	nd	3.48±0.25 ^{aB}	$5.54\pm0.19^{\mathrm{bA}}$	6.11 ± 0.28^{cB}	8.04 ± 0.10^{dA}	16.64 <u>±</u> 1.18 ^{eB}
ing	Bound	DI	nd	$4.07\pm0.22^{\text{ aC}}$	8.88±0.23 bC	9.09±0.31 ^{cC}	10.47 ± 0.21 dB	17.87±0.43 ^{eC}
enin		SDI	nd	$2.74\pm0.07^{\text{ aA}}$	6.96 ± 0.15^{cB}	$4.58\pm0.45^{\text{ bA}}$	No data	12.50 ± 2.11^{dA}
•		FI	nd	5.18±0.19 ^{aB}	21.14±0.29 cA	11.91 <u>±</u> 0.46 bA	19.36±1.13 ^{cA}	$40.02\pm1.62^{\text{ dB}}$
	Total	DI	nd	6.99 <u>±</u> 0.27 ^{aC}	40.76±0.31 dC	21.56 <u>±</u> 0.72 ^{bВ}	23.65 ± 0.07 ^{cB}	48.46 <u>±</u> 2.66 ^{eC}
		SDI	nd	3.89±0.12 ^{aA}	29.49 ± 0.10^{cB}	12.27 ± 0.66 bA	No data	30.13±1.86 ^{cA}

a-e Values with different superscripts in the same row are significantly different ($p \le 0.05$). A, B, C Values with different superscripts in the same column in the same dependent variable are significantly different ($p \le 0.05$). nd= not detected.

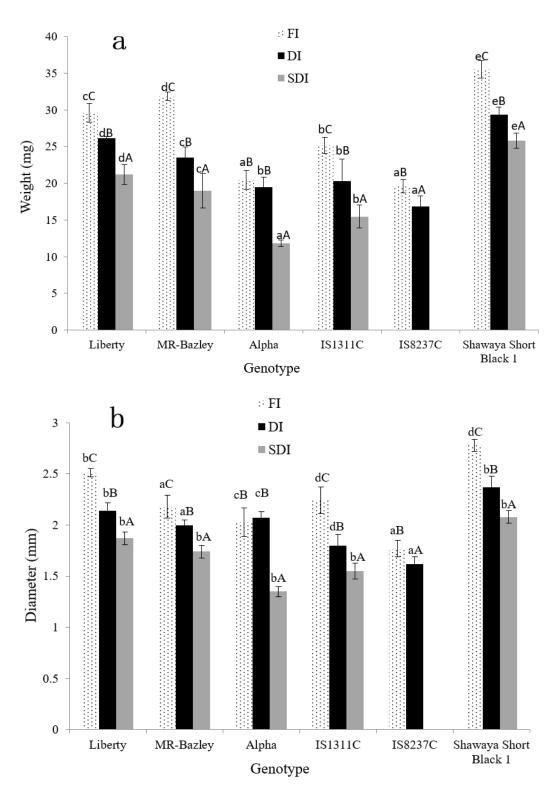


Figure 1

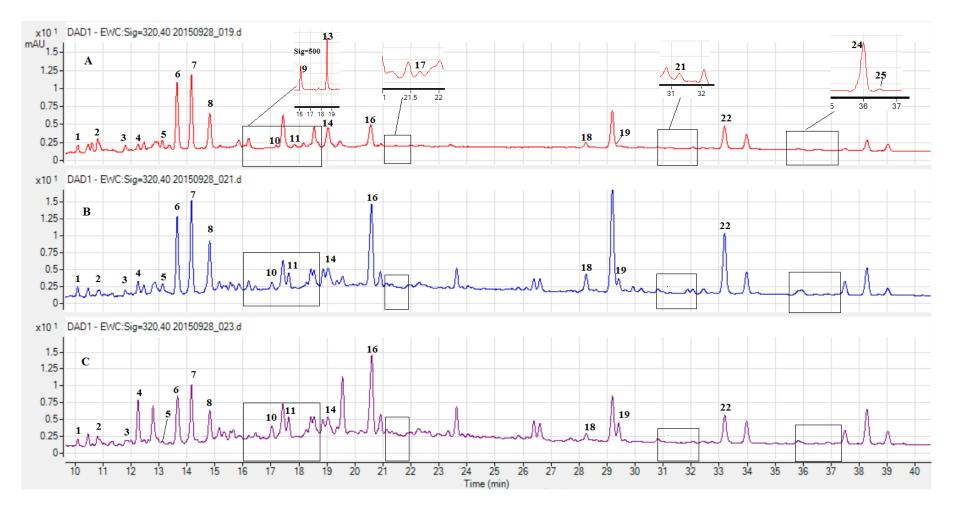
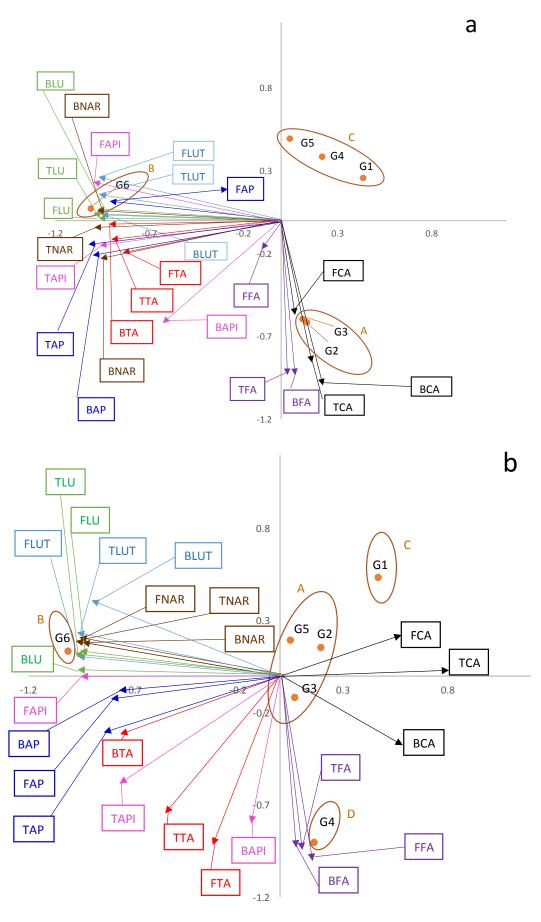


Figure 2



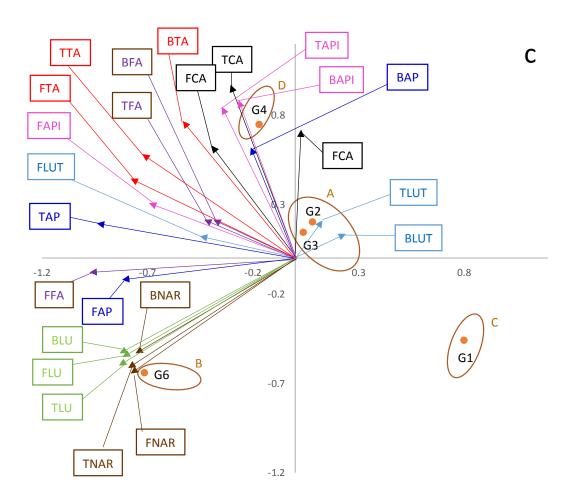


Figure 3