

Supplementary Table 1. Analysis of variance (mean squares values) showing the effect of seed priming and wheat varieties under tillering (D1) and anthesis (D2) drought conditions on transpiration rate (T), total chlorophyll content by SPAD, and relative water content (RWC).

Source of variation	DF	Mean Squares at D1		Mean Squares at D2			
		T	SPAD	RWC	T	SPAD	RWC
Variety (V)	3	0.8976 ^{ns}	26.99 ^{ns}	8.14 ^{ns}	118.82 ^{**}	27.57 ^{ns}	41.4 ^{ns}
Seed priming (P)	3	5.4882 ^{**}	155.05 ^{**}	157.20 ^{**}	257.67 ^{**}	198.14 ^{**}	331.0 ^{**}
Drought (D)	1	87.0395 ^{**}	2432.11 ^{**}	9415.10 ^{**}	2126.10 ^{**}	4290.70 ^{**}	22694.4 ^{**}
V x P	9	1.9053 [*]	9.13 ^{ns}	12.69 ^{ns}	2.45 ^{ns}	11.92 ^{ns}	16.1 ^{ns}
V x D	3	1.0329 ^{ns}	15.53 ^{ns}	1.86 ^{ns}	52.05 ^{**}	31.50 ^{ns}	64.9 [*]
P x D	3	1.6469 ^{ns}	75.25 [*]	30.40 [*]	15.78 ^{ns}	69.21 ^{**}	283.2 ^{**}
V x P x D	9	0.6640 ^{ns}	8.62 ^{ns}	4.82 ^{ns}	3.69 ^{ns}	4.56 ^{ns}	9.5 ^{ns}
Error	62	0.7387	22.53	8.80	6.47	14.59	18.1
CV (%)		15.93	8.45	3.61	17.36	7.37	5.57

*, ** and ^{ns}, denote significant at 5%, 1%, and not significant, respectively.

Supplementary Table 2. Analysis of variance (mean squares values) showing the effect of seed priming and wheat varieties under different drought conditions on tiller number/plant (TN), head number/plant (HN), grain number/plant (GN/plt), 1000-grain weight/plant (1000-GW), dry matter weight/plant (DMW/plt), and harvest index (HI).

Source of variation	DF	Mean Squares						
		TN	HN	GN/plt	1000-GW	GW/plt	DMW/plt	HI
Variety (V)	3	4.5897 [*]	6.8542 ^{**}	94611 ^{**}	325.35 ^{**}	413.86 ^{**}	87.336 ^{**}	0.04440 ^{**}
Seed priming (P)	3	24.4230 ^{**}	25.3773 ^{**}	113085 ^{**}	159.22 ^{**}	291.78 ^{**}	108.891 ^{**}	0.02872 ^{**}
Drought (D)	2	49.3819 ^{**}	97.6094 ^{**}	393851 ^{**}	5742.11 ^{**}	2663.27 ^{**}	804.788 ^{**}	0.35767 ^{**}
V x P	9	0.7363 ^{ns}	0.6628 ^{ns}	2097 ^{ns}	26.25 ^{**}	17.53 ^{**}	4.679 ^{ns}	0.00277 ^{**}
V x D	6	3.4977 [*]	4.2205 ^{**}	13868 ^{**}	12.88 ^{**}	36.00 ^{**}	23.458 ^{**}	0.00306 ^{**}
P x D	6	0.3449 ^{ns}	0.2506 ^{ns}	3686 ^{**}	11.09 [*]	4.99 [*]	7.912 ^{ns}	0.00611 ^{**}
V x P x D	18	0.7971 ^{ns}	0.6889 ^{ns}	1255 ^{ns}	1.55 ^{ns}	2.15 ^{ns}	3.899 ^{ns}	0.00065 ^{ns}
Error	94	1.1757	0.9766	1157	3.85	1.75	4.025	0.00086
CV (%)		9.99	9.74	8.62	5.07	8.23	10.79	6.62

*, ** and ^{ns}, denote significant at 5%, 1%, and not significant, respectively.