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| **Mathematical notation** | **Variance component name** | **Biological interpretation if multiple inbred lines are used in common garden (genetic variation removed within lines)** | **Biological interpretation if multiple wild-collected ecotypes are used in common garden (genetic variation not removed within ecotypes)** |
|  | Variation among genotypes | Reflects phenotypic variation due to genetic differences among inbred lines. Often interpreted as VG | Reflects phenotypic variation due to genetic differences among ecotypes. Not directly interpretable as VG |
|  | Residual variation (Variation within genotypes) | Reflects phenotypic variation within inbred lines due to environmental noise. Often interpreted as VE. | Reflects phenotypic variation within ecotypes due to environmental noise and genetic variation within ecotypes. Not interpreted as VE because it includes environmental noise and genetic variation (confounds them). |