INTSORMIL/CENTA Sorghum Breeder Wins PCCMCA Award

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INTSORMIL/CENTA El Salvador scientist Salvador Zeledon (left with Rene Clara and Vilma Calderon) won first place for his paper presented at the 53rd annual meeting of the PCCMCA (El Programa Cooperativo Centroamericano para el Mejoramiento de Cultivos y Animales) held in San José, Costa Rica April 14-18, 2008. The theme of the meeting was “Global Changes, Tendencies, Effects and Perspectives for Agriculture in Mesoamérica and the Caribbean Towards 2020.” The meeting was attended by scientists from Asia, Africa, South and North America with most participants coming from the Caribbean Basin, i.e., Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Cuba and Haiti.

Salvador, an INTSORMIL/CENTA Plant Breeder won first place for his presentation on “Seed Production of the Grain Sorghum Hybrid ESHG3. “Salvador’s research was conducted in collaboration with René Clará coordinator of the INTSORMIL Program in Central America and Bill Rooney, INTSORMIL sorghum breeder from Texas A&M University.

Hybrid ESHG3 produced the highest yields in the regional PCCMCA hybrid performance trials in 2005 and 2006. It has excellent grain quality and good disease resistance and has recently been released for commercial production in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Salvador’s work leads to the profitable production of seed of ESHG3 and will thus provide economic benefits to producers, industrialists and consumers of sorghum in the Central America region.