INTSORMIL

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INTSORMIL

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Sorghum and Millet

Sorghum and millet are poised to be the major grains of the 21st century. Significant research advances have been made with resultant technologies being exploited in pilot programs in Central America and Africa. Domestic markets for food and feed are increasing rapidly. Grain sorghum and pearl millet are grown in some of the harshest environments and about 800 million people living in these impoverished areas depend on sorghum and millet as their major food source. Increased production of high quality sorghum and millet is necessary to reduce hunger and poverty in these areas.

The INTSORMIL Program

The Sorghum, Millet and Other Grains CRSP (INTSORMIL) is funded by the United States Agency for International Development and collaborating organizations in the U.S. and in host countries. The Global INTSORMIL program involves 17 U.S. scientists at six universities and the USDA and 23 host country national research programs. The INTSORMIL mission is to use collaborative research to overcome constraints to sorghum, millet and other grains (fonio, tef and finger millet) production and utilization for the mutual benefit of agriculture in the U.S. and developing countries.

The INTSORMIL Approach

The focus is on increasing food security and promoting market development of sorghum and millet through targeted basic and applied research, education, short term training and technology transfer to promote adoption and economic impact. The approach involves regional, inter-disciplinary and multi-organizational teams.

Global Strategies

- Sustainable crop production systems
- Sustainable plant protection systems
- Germplasm enhancement
- Market-focus
- Crop utilization
- Technology commercialization
- Building national agricultural systems

Global Activities

INTSORMIL activities are regionally based in 18 countries in West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and in Central America.

West Africa

Countries and national programs: Burkina Faso (INERA, IRSAT), Ghana (SARI), Mali (IER), Niger (INRAN), Nigeria (Lake Chad Research Institute, University of Maiduguri) and Senegal (ISRA, ITA)

East Africa

Countries and national programs: Ethiopia (Axum University, EIAR), Kenya (KARI), Tanzania (Sokoine University, Ministry of Agriculture) and Uganda (NARO)

Southern Africa

Countries and national programs: Botswana (Botswana College of Agriculture), Mozambique (IIAM), Republic of South Africa (ARC, MRC, University of the Free State, University of Pretoria) and Zambia (ZARI, University of Zambia)

Central America

Countries and national programs: El Salvador (CENTA), Nicaragua (INTA), and Honduras (EAP)

Projects

- Breeding Pearl Millet with Improved Performance, Stability and Resistance to Pests (J. Wilson, USDA-ARS, Tifton, GA): Southern and West Africa
- Ecologically-Based Management of Sorghum and Pearl Millet Insect Pests in Africa and the United States (B. Pendleton, West Texas A&M University): Southern and West Africa
- Developing Sorghum with Improved Grain Quality, Agronomic Performance and Resistance to Biotic and Abiotic Stresses (M. Tuinstra, Purdue University): West Africa
- Enhancing the Utilization and Marketability of Sorghum and Pearl Millet through Improvements in Grain Quality, Processing Procedures and Technology Transfer to the Poultry Industry (J. Hancock, Kansas State University): West Africa and Central America