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Sorghum and millet research program receives grant

Staff Report | Posted: Monday, January 31, 2011 12:00 am

The International Sorghum and Millet Collaborative Research Support Program (INTSORMIL) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln recently received a \$1.1 million grant to work with Central American countries to increase sorghum foliage.

- News@DailyNebraskan.com

Sorghum is a cereal crop raised in warmer climates. It is the second major cereal crop in Central America and used for food and animal fodder. The foliage, which grows on the stalk of the plant, is used to feed cattle.

In South America, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama and Costa Rica. In the Caribbean, Haiti.

The study will focus on certain lines developed that will increase the digestibility of sorghum for grazing animals. Each country will test several varieties of seeds. In the three year study, the seeds will be tested for the first two years. In the third year, each country will provide seeds to small-scale farmers, who will be allowed to save the seeds for future seasons.

INTSORMIL is a collaborative research support program concerned about increasing food security, enhancing farm income and improving economy activity in sorghum and millet-producing countries in Africa and Central Africa. INTSORMIL management has been based at UNL for 31 years.