



INTSORMIL

Sorghum, Millet and Other Grains
Collaborative Research Support Program

Inside the Grain

Growing solutions to global hunger



Principle Investigator Meeting

INTSORMIL held a Principle Investigator meeting at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on May 11-12. This meeting was held as a four year review and to discuss the five year grant proposal to USAID due in August. The PI's were asked to consider the USAID Feed the Future initiatives when drafting their proposal reports.

The attending PIs presented an overview of what their research projects have accomplished in the last 4 years, and given another grant, what they would do in the future. Included in these presentations were the Feed the Future initiatives which focus attention on 20 target countries. Within these 20 countries there is a group of high priority countries such as Ghana, Tanzania and Bangladesh.

A major topic in all presentations was the importance of training students from host countries. There was much discussion as to where students should be educated; in the U.S. or in their home countries.

Harry Rea and Vern Long, the USAID representatives from Washington D.C., reassured the PIs that there was no question of the success of INTSORMIL in research and extension. They concurred that the CRSP was efficiently managed.

PIs who attended the meeting included Mark Erbaugh, Don Larson, Bonnie Pendleton, Joe Hancock, Vara Prasad, Scott Staggenborg, John Leslie, John Sanders, Mitch Tuinstra, Gary Peterson, William Rooney, Lloyd Rooney, David Jackson, Curtis Weller and Charles Wortmann. Also present at the meeting John Yohe, E.A. Short Heinrichs, Joan Frederick and Diane Sullivan, Vern Long, Harry Rea, Timothy Dalton, Yacob Zereysus, Deb Hamernik, Carolyn Johnsen, Nathan Meier and Carrie Wiese.



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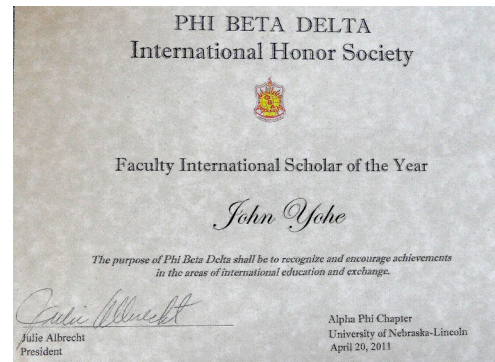
Dr. John Yohe Receives International Scholar Award

In April, Dr. John Yohe, INTSORMIL's program director, was honored as Faculty International Scholar of the Year by University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Alpha Phi Chapter of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society. According to the award description, "Candidates should have a high level of recognition and a record of sustained scholarly contributions and leadership in international teaching, research or outreach programs."

Yohe became Associate Program Director of INTSORMIL in 1980 and Director in 1987. He has been associated with INTSORMIL for 30 of its 31 years. Over the years he has helped INTSORMIL contribute to global agricultural development by guiding collaborators with his deft leadership.

"Yohe is a team worker, highly effective networker and master motivator. He is appreciated and admired by all INTSORMIL PIs in the U.S. and in national programs. More importantly, there are thousands of African and Central American farmers that are thankful daily for his contribution to their increased yields, income and food security," said colleague Dr. Short Heinrichs.

Yohe accepted his award in front of a room full of his colleagues and friends. In his acceptance speech he spoke about the many experiences he has had over his career.



LVII Annual PCCMCA held in El Salvador

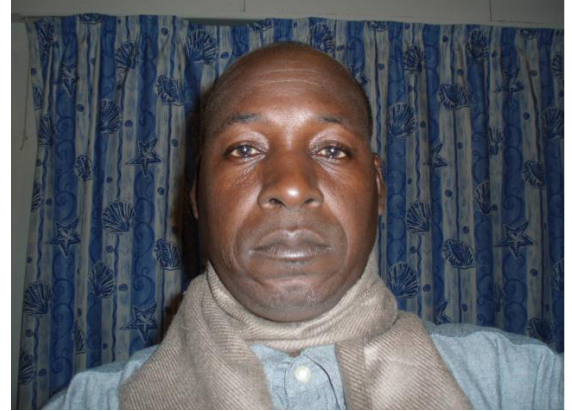
The LVII annual Programa Cooperativo Centroamericano para el Mejoramiento de Cultivos y Animales (PCCMCA) was held at Sonsonate, El Salvador, 25-29 April 2011. CENTA/INTSORMIL scientists and former INTSORMIL sponsored students Dr. Mario Parada Jaco (Vice Pres. Executive) and Vilma Ruth Calderon (Coordinator), served on the organizing committee. The Congress theme was "Technological Innovation before Climate Change: Challenge for Food Security." The program consisted of plenary sessions, poster sessions and paper presentations in the subject areas of Rice and Sorghum, Biotechnology and Bioenergy, Fruits and Vegetables, Legumes, Maize and Natural Resources and Cattle. INTSORMIL scientists Prof. Vara Prasad, Kansas State University presented a plenary lecture on Impact of Climate Change and Climate Variability on Productivity of Grain Crops



(see photo) and Prof. Lloyd Rooney, Texas A&M University on The Role of Sorghum in Food Security in Central America. INTSORMIL/ Central American collaborators presented papers in the rice and sorghum sessions. All presentations and posters on sorghum have been posted on the INTSORMIL website: <http://intsormil.org/smscientificpresentations.htm> and <http://intsormil.org/smposters.htm> respectively. INTSORMIL Assistant Director E. A. "Short" Heinrichs and Digital Director, Tony Michaelsen participated in the Congress and conducted video interviews with CA collaborators. video on 16 subjects were filmed and will be posted on the INTSORMIL website as YouTube clips

INTSORMIL Alumnus Hamé Kadi Kadi

Hamé Kadi Kadi, a citizen of Niger, came to the United States in 1996 to attend Texas A&M University. Working with his advisor Professor George Teetes. With funding from INTSORMIL he completed his master's degree in entomology. Kadi Kadi is currently working in his home country of Niger with INRAN. He is conducting entomology research to develop insect pest management strategies that employ both biological controls and cultural practices to improve yields, nutritional value and economic return from sorghum and pearl millet based cropping systems. One highlight of the INRAN/INTSORMIL collaboration has been the development of a sorghum midge (insects that feed



on the panicle) resistant variety. S5035, a sorghum midge resistant variety developed by INRAN improves yield up to 40 percent above that of the local sorghum variety of the region. Kadi Kadi currently collaborates with Dr. Bonnie Pendleton, INTSORMIL entomologist from Texas A&M University, in the development of grain storage and insect management strategies (see storage structure photo left).

INTSORMIL and IER Collaborate in Mali

Dr. Mamourou Diourte became involved with INTSORMIL in May 1984 when he went to Texas A&M University to study for his Master of Sciences in plant pathology under the guidance of Dr. Richard A. Frederiksen who is a former INTSORMIL's Principal Investigators. After graduation in 1987, Diourte became the corresponding PI of Dr. Frederiksen working on common research activities of interest for Mali. This work focused on sorghum long smut which was becoming a serious disease on sorghum in Mali and Niger in 1988. From 1988 until Diourte returned to Kansas State University to pursue his doctorate, he worked very closely through a multidisciplinary approach with entomologist Dr. Georges Teetes, breeder, late Dr. Darrell T. Rosenow and food technologist Dr. Lloyd Rooney. Working with these highly qualified colleagues helped Diourte pave his road to be a qualified scientist for IER.



These types of mentoring programs are not uncommon for INTSORMIL. INTSORMIL helps to connect scientists from National Agricultural Research Systems of developing countries over the world with established scientists at several universities in the United States. In Diourte's case the interdisciplinary and cooperative research in sorghum and millet which are in place at IER today are mainly due to the collaboration between INTSORMIL and IER.

This collaboration has developed multidisciplinary studies involving breeders, entomologists, patholo-

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Collaborate continued..

gists, food processing specialists, economists and agronomists. These studies are set in various climatic zones in Mali and at various critical stages of the plant growth and have developed varieties which have high grain quality and are resistant or tolerant to biotic and abiotic constraints.

In Africa, INTSORMIL operates in the West, East and Southern regions. Through the biannual meetings held by INTSORMIL and IER, scientists from across the continent are able to share their results, interact and network with each other. These connections create the possibility to have regional nurseries. During these meetings, other research institutions like ICRISAT are invited to share their experiences.

IER has obtained from INTSORMIL nine vehicles for domestic travel. These vehicles help the scientists conduct research activities across the country. Without these vehicles, the Sorghum Improvement Program would not have co-developed the various new improved varieties. INTSORMIL has provided equipment for research and technology transfer purposes to IER scientists.

In 2008, Diourte was appointed IER/INTSORMIL Coordinator. As the coordinator Diourte is the lead scientist of the Sorghum Improvement Program at IER. He is in charge of the orientation of the research being conducted on this cereal crop. Not only does he conduct research related to sorghum disease control, but he also supervises the research being conducted by other scientists such as breeders, entomologists, weed scientists and agronomists. Diourte also trains young scientists

from various universities. Currently he has supervised the research work of at least eight scientists from the University of Bamako, one of whom is currently finishing with his doctorate degree in plant pathology in Belgium.

In Mali, in addition to the Regional Program of INTSORMIL, there are 3 projects funded by the USAID Mali Mission; Production Marketing, Processing and Décrué Sorghum. Diourte works very closely with the Production Marketing team. The main goal of this project is to transfer technologies to farmers to promote production of improved sorghum and millet varieties as cash crops, pushing farmer's associations to produce clean grains for the processors and not to depend on cotton as the only cash crop. The Production-Marketing pilot project has been very successful these past three years. Diourte is also involved with the publicity of the project, and has produced a film related to the project.



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