



# Intsormil

TRIP REPORT

BY

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STRIGA WORKSHOP  
August 8-26, 1983  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, North Carolina

CONTRACT NO.: AID/DSAN/XII-G-0149

- ☆ International Sorghum/Millet
- ☆ Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP)

A Research Development Program of the Agency for International Development, Participating Land-Grant Universities, Host County Research Agencies and Private Donors.



Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



## Report of INTSORMIL Sponsored Striga Workshop

August 8-26, 1983

Glen J. Vollmar  
Assistant Director, INTSORMIL

INTSORMIL sponsored a Striga research workshop in North Carolina, August 8-26, 1983. It was determined by the INTSORMIL Technical Committee at the Board of Directors that research support on the parasitic weed, Striga, should receive high priority. Striga is a constraint to sorghum and millet production of several of the Less Developed Countries, particularly in Africa.

North Carolina State University, the Department of Crop Science, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is the only University and USDA location in the United States that has field research experience and staff that have worked intensively with Striga problems. This pest problem, commonly called "witchweed", infested parts of North and South Carolina and has been brought under control. The infested area becomes smaller as control measures are applied. USDA-APHIS has two laboratories that have worked with the problem. They are the Whiteville Methods Development Center at Whiteville, North Carolina and the USDA Witchweed Research Station at Little Rock, South Carolina. Following Dr. Phil Upchurch's, then INTSORMIL Board of Directors Chairman, visit to North Carolina State University and discussion of workshop possibilities INTSORMIL invited the Crop Science Department at the North Carolina State University to give leadership to a Striga workshop. It was decided that the workshop would have as participants a relatively small group of scientists from the Less Developed Countries and the United States. INTSORMIL provided funding for the workshop. Dr. A. D. (Doug) Worsham was asked to plan and coordinate the workshop. Since the workshop would involve considerable input from USDA-APHIS, Dr. Robert Eplee, Center Director for the Whiteville Methods Development Center worked cooperatively with

workshop planning and coordination. ICRISAT staff also assisted with the workshop and participated.

The participants, a list is attached, included 17 participants with representation from 9 countries, ICRISAT and the United States. The participants were serious with their participation because the control of Striga in their home countries becomes almost a life or death matter.

The workshop included three weeks of study, research, literature review, presentations and discussion. One week was spent in the field at the Whiteville laboratory where the participants observed Striga control methods and had "hands on" experience with control techniques. The participants left the workshop with considerable printed information on Striga and related research procedures.

An evaluation of the workshop by the participants rated it overall as "excellent". The North Carolina State University administration and the USDA-APHIS staff did an outstanding job with the workshop. A list of Program Personnel is attached. Drs. Worsham and Eplee are to be commended for their efforts.

I would like to make two recommendations for future workshops of this kind. The first is that it be scheduled to avoid a conflict with related professional meetings such as the American Agronomy Society. The second is that we begin early in the selection process of participants.

PRELIMINARY LIST -- PARTICIPANTS

International Training Course on the Control  
of Striga in Cereal Crops

N. C. State University, August 8-26, 1983

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of Striga in Cereal Crops

N. C. State University, August 8-26, 1983

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