

POTENTIAL OF CROP-TO-WILD GENE FLOW IN SORGHUM IN ETHIOPIA AND NIGER: A GEOGRAPHIC SURVEY. Tesfaye Tesso, Issoufou Kapran, Cécile Grenier, Gebisa Ejeta, Allison A. Snow, Jeffrey F. Pedersen, Gurling Bothman, David B. Marx, and Patricia M. Sweeney, EARO/MARC, Melkassa, Ethiopia; INRAN, Niamey Niger; Purdue Univ., West Lafayette, IN 47907; Ohio State Univ. Columbus, OH 43210; USDA, Univ. of Nebraska Lincoln, NE 68583; and ARC-Roodeplaat Pretoria, South Africa.

Cultivated sorghum is known to hybridize readily with its wild relatives. Surveys to determine the prevalence of wild and weedy sorghums in major sorghum growing areas were conducted in Niger and in Ethiopia. Data collected included date, location name, sorghum cultivar type/name, type of stand, presence of wild or weedy sorghum, incidence of wild or weedy sorghum within or near the field, habitat, synchrony of flowering, and tillering habit. These data demonstrate extensive overlap of distribution and flowering times of wild and cultivated sorghums. Considerable variability in weedy sorghum species was noted. Weedy sorghums were not identified by species, but were grouped into three distinct types based on morphology.