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WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA  
SORGHUM RESEARCH NETWORK  
(WECASORN)  
SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

633.1  
WEC

(ALSO AVAILABLE IN SLIDES)

633.1  
WEC

## WECASORN

### HISTORY

- FIRST REGIONAL WORKSHOP  
27-30 NOVEMBER 1984  
IDEA OF NETWORK APPROVED
- 1985 WECASORN BECAME OPERATIONAL  
STEERING COMMITTEE FORMED
- SEPTEMBER 1, 1986. PHASE II OF  
SAFGRAD STARTED  
FUNDING OF WECASORN 1.6 MILLION  
DOLLARS BY USAID
- ICRISAT PROVIDES COORDINATOR  
SEPTEMBER 1986

# WECASORN

## MEMBER COUNTRIES

1. BURKINA FASO
2. CAMEROON
3. MALI
4. NIGER
5. NIGERIA
6. COTE D'IVOIRE
7. GHANA
8. BENIN
9. CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
10. CHAD
11. GAMBIA
12. GUINEA
13. GUINEA BISSAU
14. MAURITANIA
15. SENEGAL
16. SIERRA LEONE
17. TOGO

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# WECASORN OBJECTIVES

1. CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASE IN SORGHUM PRODUCTION
2. STRENGTHEN NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SYSTEMS (NARS)
3. DEVELOP IMPROVED SORGHUM VARIETIES AND HYBRIDS
4. DEVELOP IMPROVED AGRONOMIC/MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
5. REGIONAL TESTING OF IMPROVED GENOTYPES
6. DEVELOP AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH MANPOWER AT ALL LEVELS IN NARS
7. ORGANIZE WORKSHOPS AND EXCHANGE VISITS

**WECASORN**  
**MAJOR ACTIVITIES**

1. **STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
2. **TRAINING**
3. **REGIONAL TRIALS/NURSERIES**
4. **RESEARCH PROJECTS**
5. **MONITORING TOURS**
6. **REGIONAL WORKSHOPS**
7. **EXCHANGE VISITS TO NARS**

**WECASORN**  
**ACHIEVEMENTS: 1986-1992**

**1. POLICY**

**MAJOR DECISIONS TAKEN AT  
ELEVEN STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEETINGS**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- MALI (CHAIRMAN)
- BURKINA FASO
- CAMEROON
- SENEGAL
- NIGERIA
- CHAD

# WECASORN

## ACHIEVEMENTS: 1986-1992

### 2. TRAINING

- STRIGA CONTROL - 1987
- AGRONOMY/ON-FARM TESTING - 1989
- PLANT PROTECTION - 1991

### 3. REGIONAL TRIALS

- WEST AFRICAN SORGHUM VARIETY ADAPTATION TRIAL - EARLY DURATION (WASVAT-E) 1986-1992
- WASVAT - MEDIUM DURATION - 1986-1992
- WEST AFRICAN SORGHUM HYBRID ADAPTATION TRIAL (WASHAT) - 1986-1992
- WEST AFRICAN SORGHUM DISEASE RESISTANCE NURSERY (WASDRN) - 1987-1992
- WEST AFRICAN SORGHUM STRIGA TRIAL (WASST) - 1988-1992

## WECASORN

### ACHIEVEMENTS: 1986-1992

#### 6. REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

- 1988: IN CAMEROON, 52 PARTICIPANTS FROM 14 COUNTRIES
- 1991: IN NIGER, 20 PARTICIPANTS FROM 16 COUNTRIES

#### 7. EXCHANGE VISITS

- 1989: REPRESENTATIVE FROM MALI VISITED SENEGAL AND GAMBIA
- 1990: REPRESENTATIVE FROM NIGERIA VISITED GHANA
- 1990: REPRESENTATIVE FROM BURKINA FASO VISITED BENIN



## WECASORN

### ACHIEVEMENTS: 1986-1992

#### 4. RESEARCH PROJECTS IN LEAD NARS

- ANTHRACNOSE IN BURKINA FASO
- LONG SMUT IN NIGER
- HEAD BUGS IN MALI
- STRIGA IN CAMEROON
- WHEAT-SORGHUM FLOUR IN NIGERIA

#### 5. MONITORING TOURS

- 1986 (1): SIX PARTICIPANTS VISITED CAMEROON, GAMBIA,  
NIGERIA, SENEGAL
- 1986 (2): FIVE PARTICIPANTS VISITED BURKINA FASO
- 1987 : ELEVEN PARTICIPANTS VISITED BURKINA FASO
- 1988 : SEVEN PARTICIPANTS VISITED MALI, BURKINA FASO, NIGER
- 1991 : THREE PARTICIPANTS VISITED MALI

## WECASORN

# TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER - THE QUESTION OF IMPACT

### 1. VARIETY AND HYBRID TRIALS

- IN 1986 ALL ENTRIES IN WASVAT-E, WASVAT-M,  
WASHAT FROM ICRISAT
  
- BY 1991, 73% FROM NARS FOR WASVAT-E  
53% FROM NARS FOR WASVAT-M  
11% FROM NARS FOR WASHAT

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## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER - THE QUESTION OF IMPACT

### 1. VARIETY AND HYBRID TRIALS

(CONTINUED)

- 206 VARIETIES TESTED IN WASVAT-E AND WASVAT-M 1986-1992
- 35 (=17%) OF THEM IN VARIOUS LEVELS OF USE IN NARS
- 17 OF THE 35 FROM NARS, REMAINING 18 FROM ICRISAT
- 13 (37%) IN FARMERS FIELDS IN NARS
- 6 (17%) IN ON-STATION IN 3 NARS
- 1 (3%) IN DEMONSTRATION IN 1 NARS
- 1 (3%) IN MULTILLOCATION IN 1 NARS
- 8 (23%) IN PRE-RELEASE IN 5 NARS
- 1 (3%) RELEASED IN 1 NARS
- 20 (57% IN CROSSES IN 4 NARS
- 1 (3%) AS LOCAL DRINK IN 3 NARS
- 2 (6%) AS SOLID FOOD IN 2 NARS

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# TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER - THE QUESTION OF IMPACT

## 2. DISEASE NURSERY AND *STRIGA* TRIAL

- 15 VARIETIES RESISTANT TO LEAF ANTHRACNOSE
- 35 VARIETIES RESISTANT TO GRAY LEAF SPOT
- 16 VARIETIES SUPPORTED LOW STRIGA POPULATION

WECASORN  
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER - THE QUESTION  
OF IMPACT

3. PRE-RELEASED VARIETIES

CSM 388 (FROM MALI) IN GUINEA

CE 180-33 (FROM SENEGAL) IN SENEGAL

MALISOR 84-1 (FROM MALI) IN SENEGAL

ICSV 1063 BF (FROM ICRISAT) IN COTE D'IVOIRE AND MALI

ICSV 401 IN (FROM ICRISAT) IN MALI

ICSV 111 IN (FROM ICRISAT) IN GHANA

ICSV 16-5 BF (FROM ICRISAT) IN GHANA

4. RELEASED VARIETY

F2-20 (FROM SENEGAL) IN SENEGAL

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# TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER - THE QUESTION OF IMPACT

### 5. DISEASE RESISTANT VARIETIES

84 IN 848 (FROM ICRISAT) - GRAY LEAF SPOT  
TEST FARMERS' FIELDS IN GUINEA

IS 3443 (ICRISAT GERMPASM) - LEAF ANTHRACNOSE  
TEST FARMERS' FIELDS IN GUINEA

BF 83-3/48-2-1 (FROM BURKINA FASO) - GRAY LEAF SPOT  
TEST FARMERS' FIELDS IN GUINEA

*use of materials at some level in NARS*

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## RESEARCH PROJECTS

### SOME SIGNIFICANT RESULTS

#### 1. ANTHRACNOSE - BURKINA FASO

- 44 LOCAL VARIETIES RESISTANT TO LEAF, STEM AND GRAIN INFECTION
- 19 LOCAL AND THREE IMPROVED VARIETIES WITH RATE REDUCING-LIKE RESISTANCE

#### 2. LONG SMUT - NIGER

- LATE MATURING VARIETIES MORE SUSCEPTIBLE
- SPORIDIA MORE EFFECTIVE THAN TELIOSPORES FOR ARTIFICIAL INOCULATION

#### 3. HEAD BUGS - MALI

- POPULATION DYNAMICS; TWO PEAK PERIODS IN LATE SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER
- EARLY PLANTING = NO ATTACK. TWO GENERATIONS DEVELOPED ON LATE PLANTING SORGHUMS
- NINE VARIETIES RESISTANT AFTER ARTIFICIAL INOCULATION

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### RESEARCH PROJECTS

#### SOME SIGNIFICANT RESULTS

##### 4. WHEAT-SORGHUM FLOUR - NIGERIA

- 50% SORGHUM FOR BREAD, 60% FOR CONFECTIONERY
- ADDITION OF 0.5% CASSAVA FLOUR = MORE SPONGY BREAD
- WHEAT-SORGHUM BREAD MORE POPULAR AMONG LOW INCOME GROUPS

##### 5. STRIGA - CAMEROON

- 14 PROMISING LINES IDENTIFIED AFTER SCREENING IN SICK PLOTS



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### TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER - THE QUESTION OF IMPACT

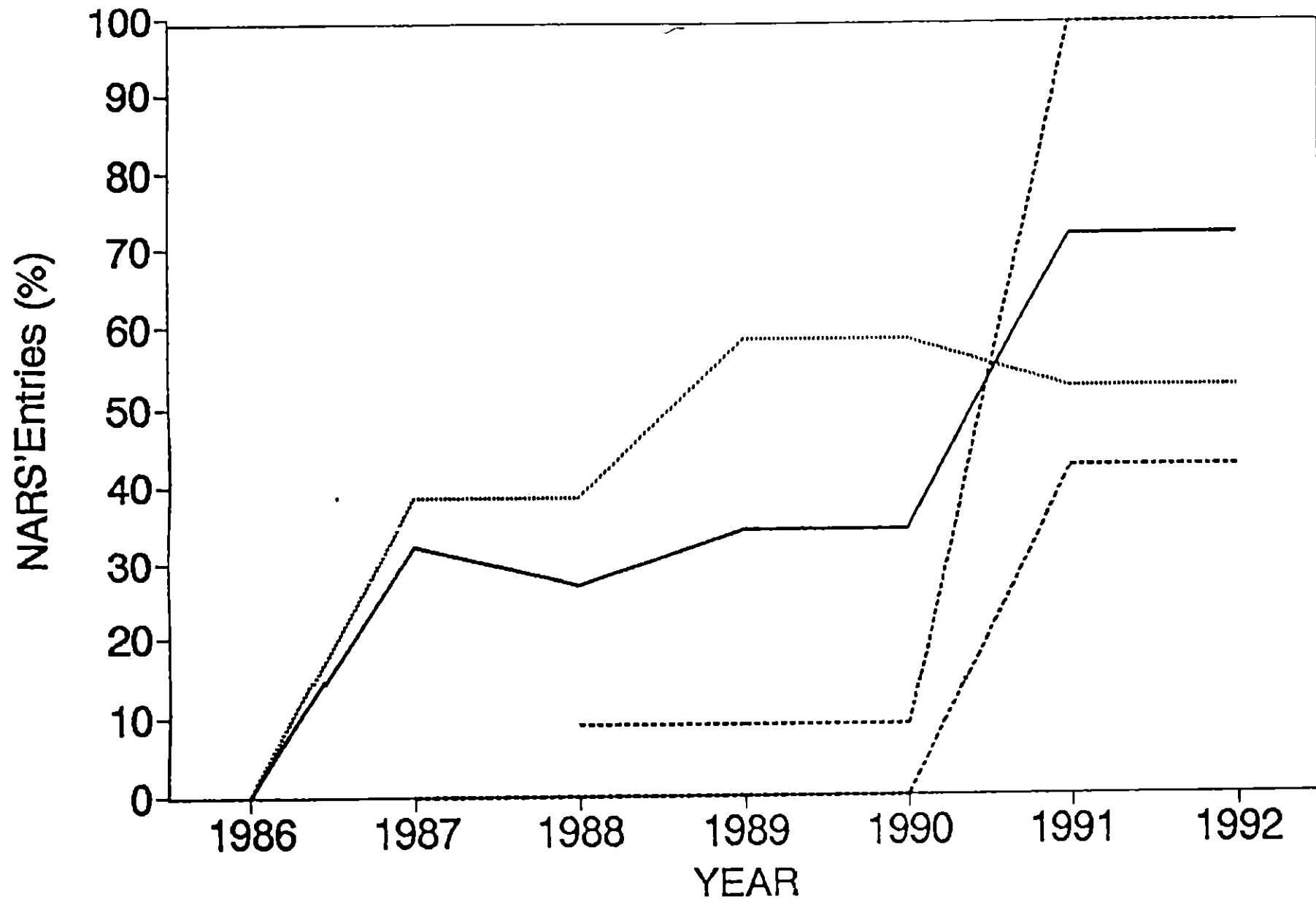
#### 6. VARIETIES WHICH SUPPORTED LOW STRIGA COUNTS

CS 95 (FROM CAMEROON) - TESTS FARMERS' FIELDS IN SENEGAL,  
IN CROSSES IN TOGO

CS 54 (FROM CAMEROON) - IN CROSSES IN SENEGAL AND TOGO

ICSV 1079 BF (FROM ICRISAT) - IN CROSSES IN MALI AND TOGO

ICSV 1078 BF (FROM ICRISAT) - IN CROSSES IN MALI AND TOGO



— Wasvat early    - - - - Wasvat medi    ····· Wasldn    ····· Striga

Figure 1 : Test entries from NARS in regional trials .

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**<http://archives.au.int>**

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Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA)

African Union Specialized Technical Office on Research and Development

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1986

# WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA SORGHUM RESEARCH NETWORK (WECASORN) SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

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