Grain sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*) is a major crop in Africa that is noted for its versatility and diversity. It is adapted over a wide range of precipitation and temperature and is produced at sea level to above 2000 m elevation. In eastern and southern Africa, it is primarily a crop of small-scale farmers and is typically produced under adverse conditions such as low input use and marginal lands. There are numerous biotic and abiotic constraints to production. The grain and stover are used in many different ways with localized preferences. Much information is needed to effectively address the problems and opportunities of this diverse crop. The *Atlas of Sorghum Production in Eastern and Southern Africa* presents information in maps and tables for 39 sorghum production areas in nine countries addressing production constraints, cropping systems, management, uses, preferences, gender roles, and marketing.

Most sorghum (61%) in eastern and southern Africa is produced in sole crop, which contrasts with western Africa where intercrop production of sorghum is more prevalent. The most important intercrop companion crops of sorghum are maize, cowpea and common bean.

Soil water deficit is the major constraint to production causing > 2 million Mg yr⁻¹ of yield loss for these nine countries. The stalk borer complex, (including Chilo partellus (Swinh.), Busseola fusca (Fuller), and Sesamia calamistis) is very important regionally with estimated losses of production potential estimated to be > 1.3 million Mg yr⁻¹. Nitrogen deficiency is a widely occurring with about 1.2 million Mg yr⁻¹ loss.

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