

**FLUCTUATING EXPRESSION FOR STERILITY  
IN CYTOPLASMIC MALE STERILE GRAIN  
SORGHUM LINES UNDER HIGH  
TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS**

**By**

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**THESIS**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements for the Degree of**

**MASTER OF SCIENCE**

**In**

**Agricultural Sciences  
(Agronomy)**

**Department of Agronomy  
Faculty of Agriculture  
Cairo University  
EGYPT**

**2018**



**APPROVAL SHEET**

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**Degree:** M.Sc.

**Title of Thesis:** Fluctuating Expression for Sterility In Cytoplasmic Male Sterile Grain Sorghum Lines Under High Temperature Conditions

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### ABSTRACT

The objectives of the present study were: (i) to estimate the effect of elevated temperature on the percentage of pollen sterility of cytoplasmic male sterile (CMS) A-lines and agronomic and yield traits of B-lines of grain sorghum (ii) to identify the A-lines that exhibit perfect or nearly perfect pollen sterility under elevated temperature and those exhibit fluctuation to fertility, (iii) to estimate heritability and genetic advance from selection for studied traits and (iv) to assess sorghum B-lines for yielding stability and adaptability. Twenty five CMS grain sorghum A-lines and their counterpart B-lines were evaluated under six environments differing in temperatures (Giza and Shandaweel in two years and two planting dates in Giza), using a randomized complete block design with three replications in each experiment. Results showed that across all A-lines, percentage of sterile pollen decreased as temperature increased; from 89.6% at maximum temperature of 35.2°C (at Giza 2012, 1<sup>st</sup> planting date) to 86.9% at maximum temperature of 40.8°C (at Shandaweel 2013). The tested A-lines for pollen sterility percentage were classified into five classes; 1<sup>st</sup> class showing 100% sterility (five lines), 2<sup>nd</sup> showing from  $\geq 99$  to  $<100\%$  (five lines), 3<sup>rd</sup> showing from  $\geq 98$  to  $< 99\%$  (six lines), 4<sup>th</sup> showing from  $\geq 96$  to  $< 98\%$  (six lines) and 5<sup>th</sup> showing only  $< 26\%$  (three lines). The latter three A-lines were considered to be converted into nearly male fertile lines under all temperature conditions and therefore should not be used anymore as seed parents in the sorghum hybrid breeding programs. Grain yield/plant and plant height traits indicated high heritability associated with high genetic advance from selection. Giza location (2<sup>nd</sup> planting date) was better environment than Shandaweel location in getting higher gain from selection. The two B-lines (ICSB-8001) and (BTX-407) displayed above average grain yield/plant (GYPP), regression coefficient ( $b_i$ ) value near unity and non-significant deviation from regression ( $S^2_d$ ) value near zero, indicating that these two genotypes are stable and widely adapted to different environments. Based on AMMI model, BTX TSC-20 followed by ICSB -1808 showed both high yielding and stability across the test environments. Based on GGE-biplot method, BTX TSC-20 was the winning genotype for the mega-environment which consists of E1 and E3, ICSB -14 (G 3) for the mega-environment (E2 and E4), while BTX 2-1 (G20) for E5 mega-environment, ICSB -88003 (G12) and ICSB-70 (G6) for the mega-environment E6.

**Key words:** Grain sorghum, CMS lines, Pollen sterility, Elevated temperature,  $G \times E$  interaction, Environment, Stability, adaptability.





## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thanks to **ALLAH** the most Merciful and the most Beneficial. I wish to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to **Dr. Ahmed Medhat Mohamed Al-Naggar** Professor of Crop Breeding, Agronomy Dept., Fac. Agric., Cairo University, and the Chairman of the supervision committee for valuable guidance, great help, devoted efforts and sincere concern for supervising the study and constructive guidance throughout the experimental work and the preparation of this manuscript.

Sincere thanks and grateful appreciation are extended to **Dr. Rabie Mohamed Abd El-Salam** Assistant Professor, Agronomy Dept., Fac. Agric., Cairo University, for his supervision, valuable guidance, great help, devoted efforts and sincere concern for preparation of this manuscript.

Sincere thanks and grateful appreciation are extended to **Dr. Mohamed Rizkalla Asran Hovny**, Chief Researcher, Sorghum Res. Dept., Field Crops Research Institute (FCRI), ARC, Egypt, for his supervision, valuable guidance, great help, devoted efforts and sincere concern throughout the experimental work and the preparation of this manuscript.

Sincere thanks and grateful appreciation are extended to **Dr. Naglaa Ashry**, Chief Researcher, Cell Research Dept., FCRI, Agricultural Research Center, Egypt, for her valuable guidance, great help, for the microscopic examination of pollen sterility in the experimental work and to **Dr. Abd El-Samad Mahmoud Younis**, Researcher, Field Crops Dept., National Research Center, Dokki, Egypt for his great help in the statistical analysis of AMMI and GGE-biplot stability models.

Grateful appreciation is also extended to all staff members of Agronomy Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, and Staff members of Sorghum Research Dept., Agricultural Research Center at Shandaweel and Giza Research Stations for their kind help throughout the field experimental work.



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