

On the basis of the scanning micrographs the genotypes may be classified as highly glossy (IS 1096, IS 2205, IS 2312, IS 2396, IS 4776, IS 5282, IS 5567, medium glossy (IS 3962, IS 4663, IS 5282, IS 5359, IS 5484, IS 5692, IS 18390 and less glossy (IS 4661, IS 5622, IS 5642).

The intensity of platelike wax crystals varied among genotypes viz., IS 4661, IS 18390, IS 5484, IS 5622, IS 5642; but was sparse and widely spaced as in IS 4663, IS 5484, IS 2312, IS 2396, IS 4776 and IS 1054 (Plate 9.2).

Silica cells present on epidermal cells are dumbell shaped, bi- or trilobed varying in size and intensity in different genotypes. These are covered partially or heavily with amorphous or threadlike filaments (Plate 9.2).

Epicuticular wax content

Maiti *et al.* (1991) reported that glossy sorghum lines show variability in the contents of epicuticular wax, total, a and b chlorophyll and hydrocyanic acid at the seedling and adult stages suggesting that this variation in chemical components among glossy sorghum lines may be related to resistance to drought and insects. Variability in epicuticular wax among sorghum lines were also reported by Ebercon *et al.* (1977).

Epicuticular wax (EW) was found in trace amounts in all genotypes at 7th day. At 14th and 28th days the EW was higher in nonglossy line, (CSH 1), compared to that in glossy lines and showed a tendency to decrease with an increase in glossiness intensity (Table 9.5).

Table 9.5 Epicuticular wax content (EW/cm² leaf area) of 4 sorghum genotypes at 7, 14, 21 and 28 days after emergence (Score 1 = Highly glossy, 3 = Intermediate, 5 = Non-glossy).

Genotype	Score	Days after emergence			
		7	14	21	28
IS 18551	1	Trace	0.020	0.042	0.029
IS 1046	3	Trace	0.018	0.020	0.019
IS 1054	4	Trace	0.015	0.024	0.022
CSH1	5	Trace	0.025	0.032	0.032

The results show that the chlorophyll contents were slightly higher in nonglossy lines, but were significantly different among seedling stages for chlorophyll a, b and total. Therefore, the higher chlorophyll contents in nonglossy lines is responsible for imparting their dark green leaf color. This result coincides with the observation of García-Mendoza (1986) that nonglossy lines had higher chlorophyll content compared to glossy ones. The difference in chlorophyll content between glossy and nonglossy lines were reduced at advanced seedling stage.

Epicuticular wax structure

The reflectance of sorghum leaves at 500-2000 nm was found to vary with epicuticular wax content (Blum, 1975a), and their glossy appearance was found to be related to epidermal hairiness and degree of wax deposition (Traere *et al.*,

1989). The glossy appearance of the leaf was estimated by visual scoring or by observing sprayed water droplets under bright light (Maiti *et al.*, 1984; Traere *et al.*, 1989). The nature of the structure present on the leaf surfaces of sorghum genotypes varying in glossiness and their optical properties were studied. The genotypes used in the study had different glossy intensity: IS 18551 (1), IS 1046 (3), IS 1054 (4) and CSH 1 (5).

A comparison of micrographs before and after dewaxing revealed the presence of epidermal structures in all genotypes with variation in density. The aggregation of epidermal structures after dewaxing could be due to epidermal deformation as a result of chloroform treatment. These observations clearly demonstrate the possibility of the presence of epidermal structures which were not affected by organic solvents that look like alveolar material with waxlike appearance. The density of these epidermal structures decreased with the intensity of glossiness. (Plates 9.3 & 9.4).

It is possible to explain the difference in glossiness of various genotypes irrespective of the amount of the epicuticular wax content. When light falls on a relatively smooth leaf surface the wave length of the reflected light depends on the pigments in the leaf. However, if the leaf surface is rough it acts as a diffuser resulting in a uniform white appearance of the leaf surface together with the reflected wave lengths characteristics to leaf pigments. Thus glossiness is inversely related to the roughness of the leaf surface. Glossy leaves show higher reflectance and transmittance of light compared to nonglossy ones.

No specific relationship has been observed in EW content between glossy and nonglossy lines. Trace levels of EW were detected at the early seedling stages (7th day), but EW was higher in nonglossy lines compared to glossy ones at 14th day. It seems that EW is deposited in thick layer on the cuticular surface of the nonglossy lines and thin layers on glossy lines. Therefore, it is assumed that the presence of a thin film of EW on the cuticular surface in glossy lines contributes to shining appearance. More studies are needed for confirmation.

Differential resonance activity between glossy and nonglossy lines

Epicuticular substances, probably smooth waxy coating on glossy leaf surface, offer resistance to the penetration of light causing less resonance units without any change even at higher wave lengths. In the case of nonglossy lines, this substance is absent causing easy penetration of the wave length of light and higher excitation of cytoplasmic materials resulting in higher resonance units. These units decreased with an increase in wave length in nonglossy lines unlike that in glossy ones (Fig. 9.5; unpublished).

Variability in morphological, anatomical and biochemical characters

Epidermal trichomes: Many of the glossy lines possessed microscopic hairs (trichomes) on both sides of their leaf surfaces (Maiti and Bidinger, 1979). The trichomes are frequently pointed at the tip. The size and morphology of the trichomes differ from genotype to genotype (Maiti *et al.*, 1980). They are directed towards the base, with more of them on the upper than on the lower surface (Plates 9.5 & 9.6).

The density of trichomes on the leaf surface is highly variable, being maximum towards the tip, less at the base and intermediate at the mid portion. The trichome length varies from 20 to 55 μ m (Maiti *et al.*, 1980).

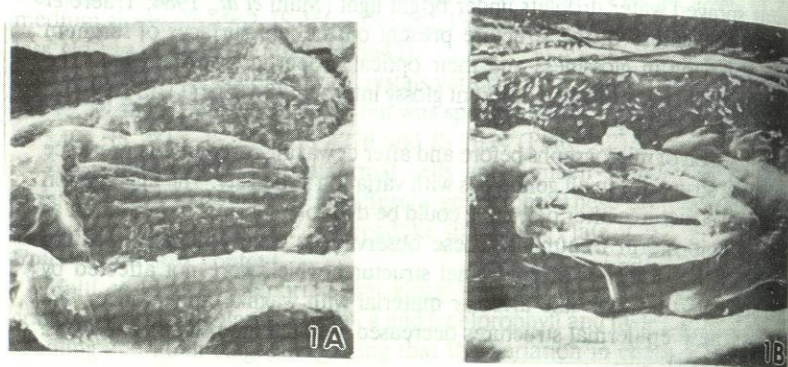


Plate 9.3 Scanning electron micrographs of adaxial surfaces of 4th leaves (suffices A and B refer to After and Before dewaxing): 1A/B) IS18551

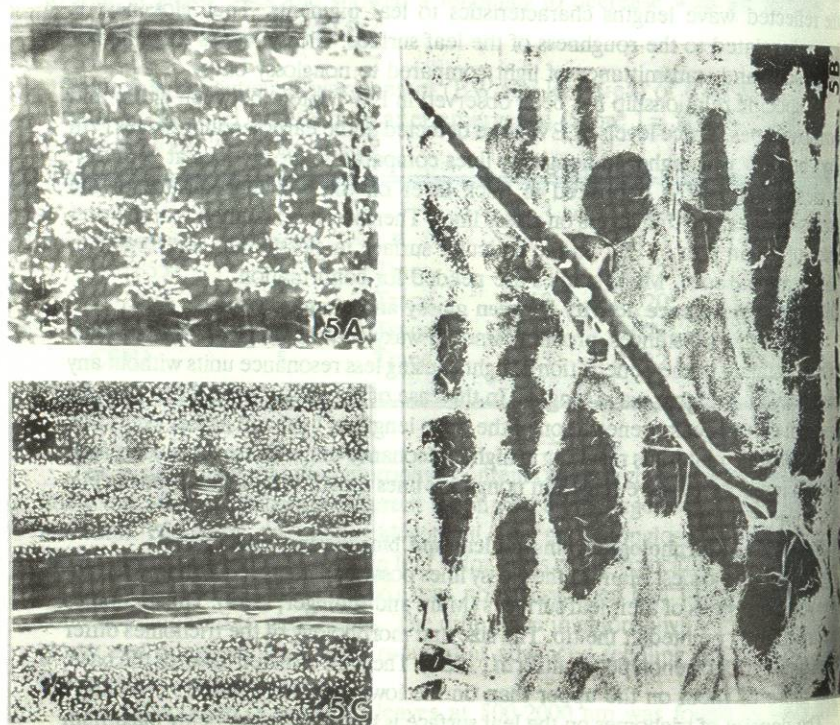
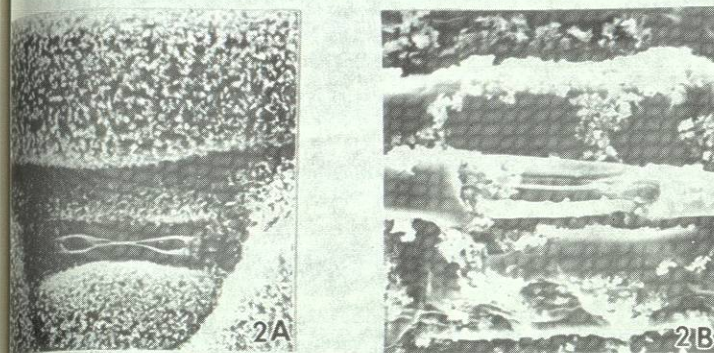


Plate 9.4 Sorghum CSH1: 5A) Sheath segment of 2 leaf (3rd leaf stage); 5B) Leaf lamina close to junction. 5C) Sheath segment after dewaxing.



2A/B) IS 1046.

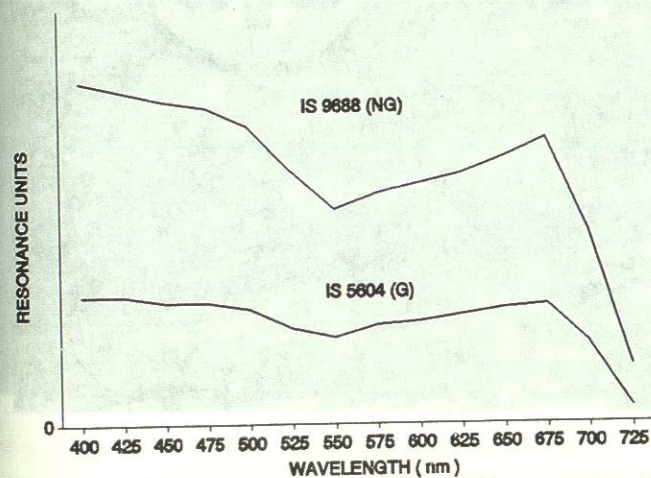
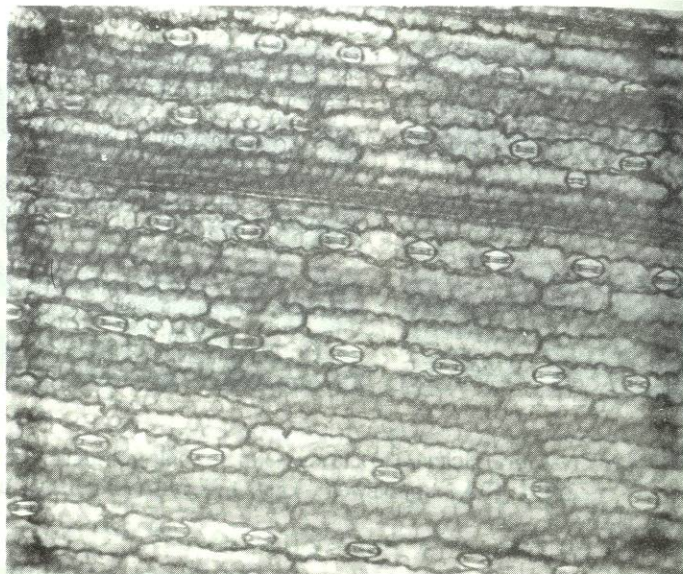


Figure 9.5 Photoacoustic response in glossy (G) and nonglossy (NG) sorghum leaves.

a)



b)

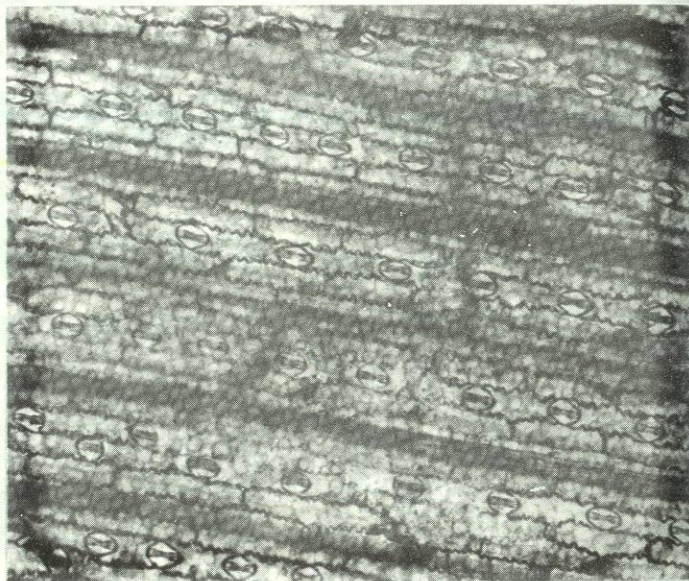
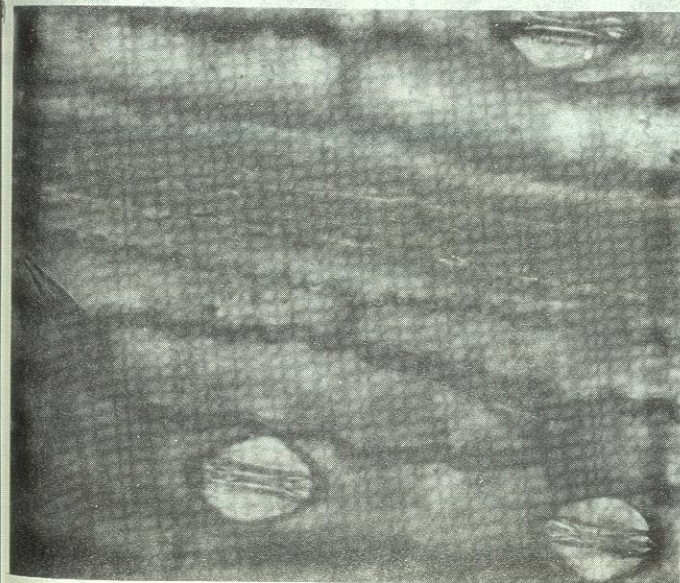
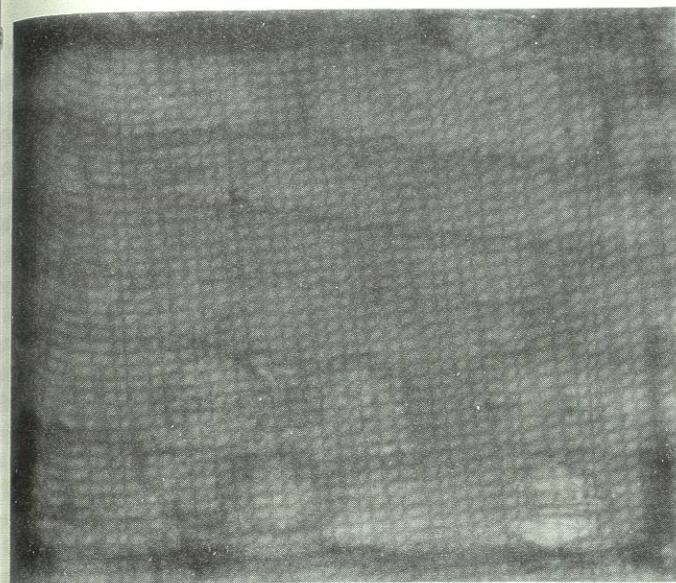


Plate 9.5 Variation in epidermal cell structures in glossy (G) and nonglossy (NG) sorghum genotypes. a) CSH1 (NG) showing general surface morphology and absence of nonglandular trichomes; b) IS 4664 showing general surface



morphology and presence of nonglandular trichomes; c) IS 1062, d) IS 1082 depicting the presence of nonglandular trichomes.

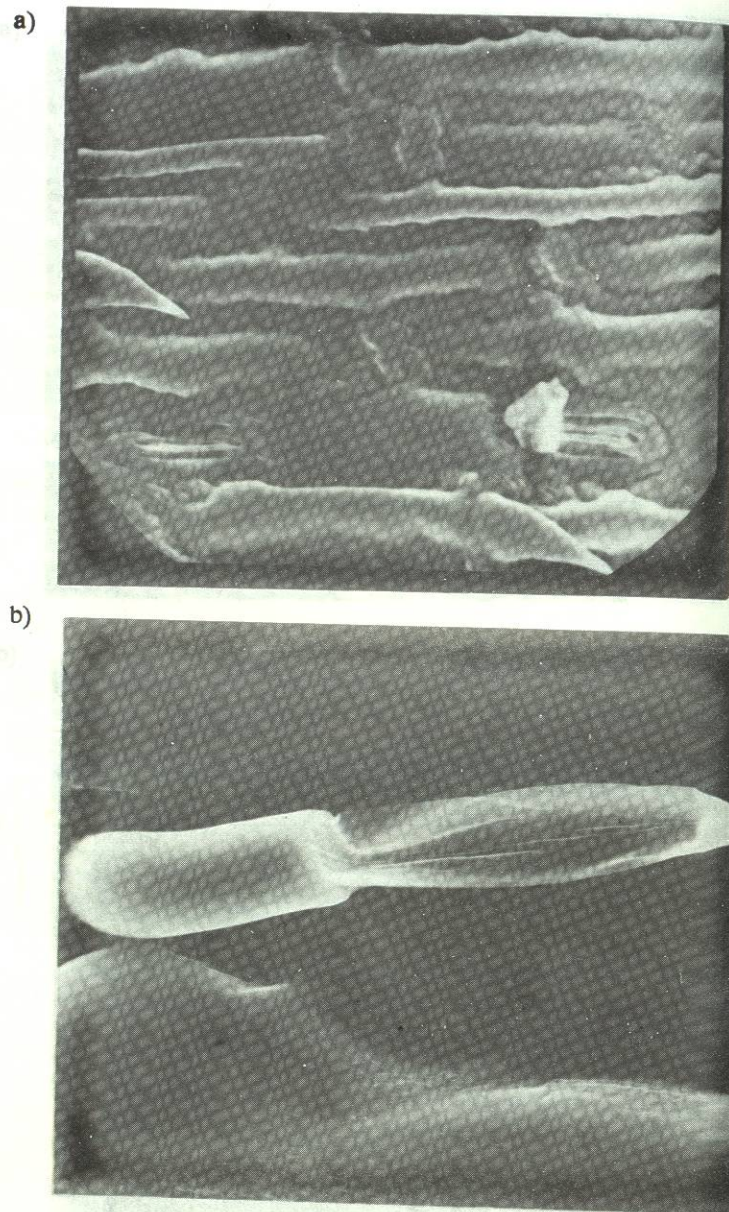


Plate 9.6 Variation in trichome morphology in glossy and nonglossy sorghum genotypes: a) M-35-1 (SEM) showing epidermal cells, stomata, silica crystals and pointed nonglandular trichomes; b) CSH1 showing bicellular trichomes, characteristic of nonglossy sorghum genotypes.

Out of 495 glossy lines, 272 lines had trichomes on both upper and lower surfaces and 169 lines had no trichomes. The leaf surface of only 50 sorghum lines (5 glossy and 10 nonglossy) were studied with scanning electron microscopy (SEM). The glossy lines possessed amorphous smooth waxy lines associated with a smaller number of large irregular crystals in contrast with irregular leaf surface and a large number of needle shaped crystals in the nonglossy lines (Maiti *et al.*, 1984). Nonglossy lines had a high density of needleshaped wax crystals unlike the irregular crystals reported by Tarumoto *et al.* (1981).

Crop age

Growth analysis indicated that leaf area, plant height and plant dry weight increased with age in both glossy and nonglossy lines. Glossy lines had larger and earlier plants with lower leaf area (García-Mendoza, 1986). There was not much difference in epidermal cell, stomata and trichome numbers between glossy and nonglossy lines. Glossy lines had predominantly nonglandular unicellular trichomes and the nonglossy lines bicellular glandular trichomes (Plates 9.5 & 9.6).

HCN content in glossy lines showed a slight decrease from seedling up to 45 days but a sharp reduction at 60 days (Fig. 9.6). Nonglossy lines showed a decrease at 30 days with an increase at 45 days and a drastic decrease at 60 days. Wax content increased at 30 days in both glossy and nonglossy lines, but decreased at advanced growth stages. Glossy lines showed higher wax content at 15 days compared to nonglossy ones (Fig. 9.7). Chlorophyll content increased with age in both lines, remaining stable at 45 days in glossy lines, but increasing in nonglossy lines. Chlorophyll content was always higher in nonglossy lines compared to glossy lines.

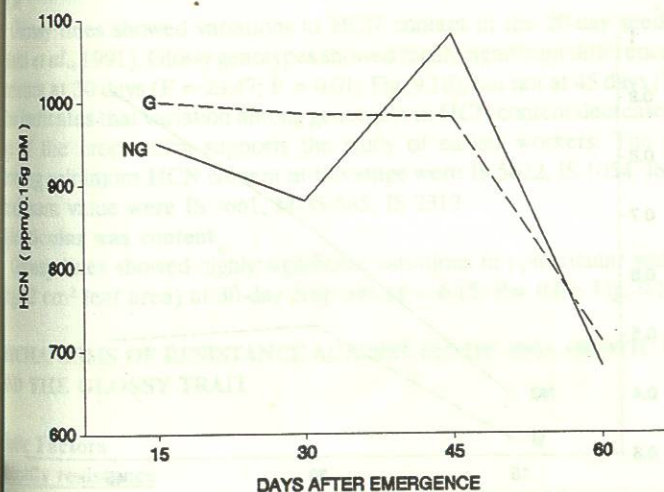


Figure 9.6 Average HCN content (ppm / 0.15 g DM) in glossy (G) and nonglossy (NG) sorghum at different crop age.

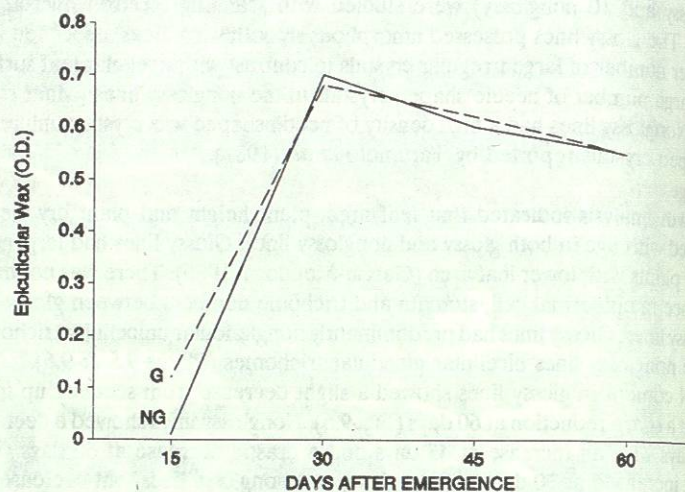


Figure 9.7 Average epicuticular wax content (OD) in glossy (G) and non-glossy (NG) sorghum at different crop ages.

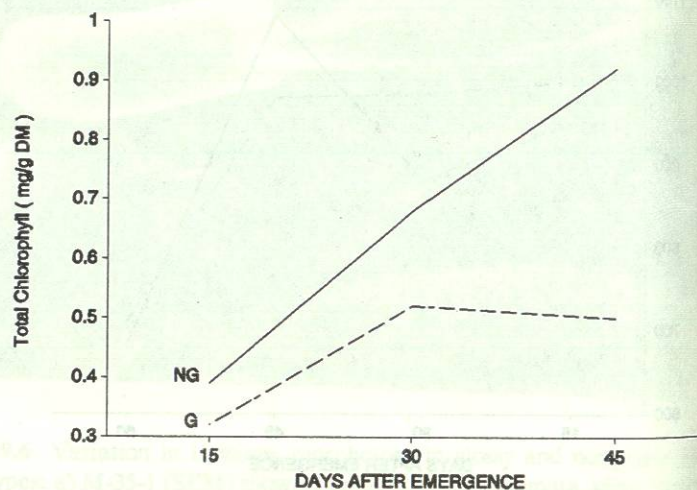


Figure 9.8 Average chlorophyll content (mg/g DM) in glossy (G) and non-glossy (NG) sorghum at different crop ages.

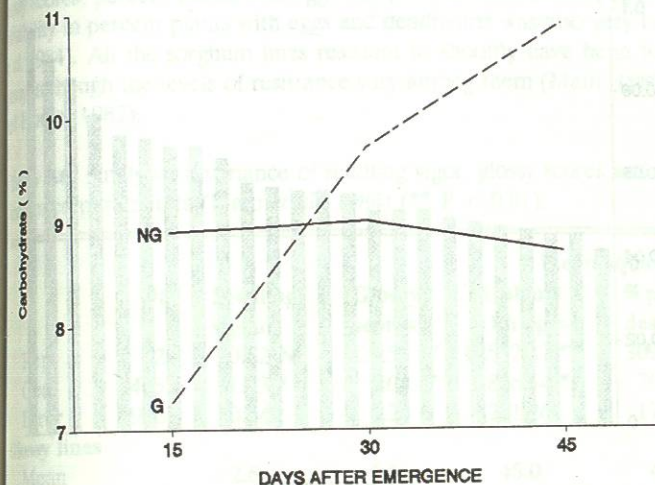


Figure 9.9 Average percentage carbohydrate content in glossy (G) and non-glossy (NG) sorghum at different crop ages.

at all growth stages (Fig. 9.8). Carbohydrate content was higher in nonglossy, but decreasing at subsequent growth stages, then it showed a sharp increase from 15 to 45 days in glossy ones (Fig. 9.9).

Glossy lines showed variations in HCN content in the 20-day seedling stage (Maiti *et al.*, 1991). Glossy genotypes showed highly significant differences in HCN contents at 30 days ($F = 23.47$; $P = 0.01$; Fig. 9.10), but not at 45 days ($F = 2.40$). This indicates that variation among genotypes in HCN content decreased with the age of the crop which supports the study of earlier workers. The genotypes showing minimum HCN content at this stage were IS 5622, IS 1054, IS 2205 and maximum value were IS 4661, M-35-585, IS 2312.

Epicuticular wax content

Glossy lines showed highly significant variations in epicuticular wax contents (mg/32 cm² leaf area) at 30-day crop age ($F = 6.15$; $P = 0.01$; Fig. 9.11).

MECHANISMS OF RESISTANCE AGAINST BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC FACTORS AND THE GLOSSY TRAIT

Biotic Factors

Shootfly resistance

Glossy sorghum genotypes (495) and 2 checks, CSH1 and Swarna were evaluated for resistance to shootfly during the post-rainy season, 1981 in India at CRISAT. Several shootfly incidence indices were recorded.



Figure 9.10 Average HCN content in glossy and nonglossy sorghum at 15 days after emergence (ordered according to increasing HCN contents).

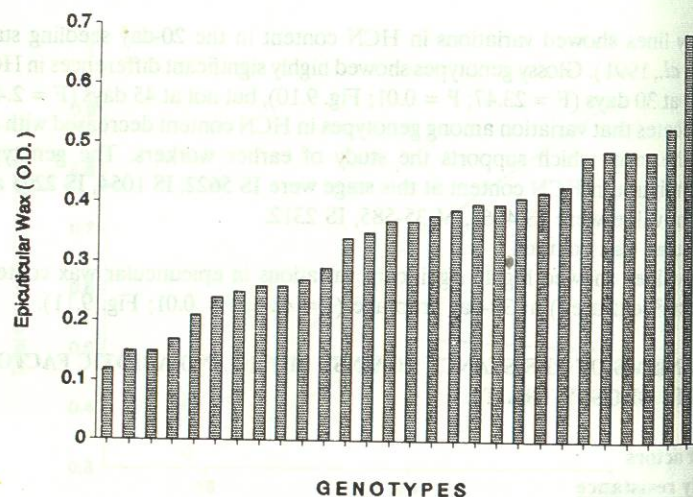


Figure 9.11 Average percentage epicuticular wax (EW) content in sorghum genotypes (ordered according to increasing EW contents).

Glossy lines showed highly significant differences among them for seedling vigor, glossy scores, percent plants with eggs and percent dead hearts (Table 9.6). The variability in percent plants with eggs and deadhearts was also very large (Maiti *et al.*, 1984). All the sorghum lines resistant to shootfly have been found to be glossy, although the levels of resistance vary among them (Maiti, 1980; Agrawal and House, 1982).

Table 9.6 Analysis of variance of seedling vigor, glossy scores and shoot fly incidence parameters (Maiti *et al.*, 1984) (** P < 0.01).

			Mean square		
	df	Seedling vigour	Glossy scores	% plants with eggs	% plants with deadhearts
Rep.	2	0.82 NS	25.56 **	12572.37 **	3095.9 **
Gen.	495	1.73 **	1.04 **	826.54 **	768.34 **
Error	988	0.54	0.26	221.26	174.64
Glossy lines					
Mean	2.6		1.5	45.0	40.2
Range	1.0-4.7		1.0-4.7	12.6-94.7	7.9-90.1
C.V (%)	28.5		32.9	33.0	32.9
Nonglossy lines					
CSH 1	4.0		5.0	80.1	80.8
Swarna	4.0		5.0	74.8	74.8

Mechanism of resistance to shootfly - Trichome presence and density

Many sorghum lines having some field resistance had trichomes on their abaxial surface. In a wider range of materials (germplasm and breeding lines) under varying shootfly pressures, trichomed lines suffer comparatively less (fewer dead hearts) than non trichomed lines (Maiti, 1980; Maiti and Bidinger, 1979; Agrawal and House, 1982; Maiti and Gibson, 1983; Gibson and Maiti, 1983).

The presence of trichomes on the lower surface appears to confer the following advantages: i- reduction in egg laying by the shootfly, and ii- reduction in the deadhearts with the presence of eggs.

Trichomes may be working as a mechanical barrier in the larval movement and causing death of the fly maggots. Therefore, their presence deters oviposition by shootflies. The correlation between trichomes and ovipositional nonpreference is nearly $r=0.8$ (Agrawal and House, 1982). Breeders have been able to reject susceptibles at all stages of testing of materials and finally increase the frequency of resistant genes (Agrawal and House, 1982).

Glossy trait

Glossiness is a monogenic recessive trait (Tarumato *et al.*, 1981). A set of genotypes with and without the glossy traits were tested 5 times for shootfly reaction under different fly pressures. Later, cluster analysis was done to categorize them into different groups based on deadhearts incidence. The frequency of glossy

lines in each group was calculated. There was a predominance of glossy lines in the group with the lower mean percentage of deadhearts (Maiti and Bidinger, 1979). With an increase in the level of susceptibility there was an increase in the number of nonglossy lines.

Differences in shootfly damage between glossy and nonglossy as well as trichomed and trichome free genotypes were always significant. At all fly pressures, glossy and trichomed lines overlap in the extent of shootfly damage indicating close association of these traits. Similarly, the differences between nonglossy and trichomefree lines were not significant. The correlations of trichome traits with shootfly indices were rather poor. This shows that the presence of trichomes imparts resistance to shootfly attack, but the increase in the number of trichomes was not seen to increase the level of resistance.

A principal component analysis on contribution of major factors to shootfly resistance, to trichome intensity, glossy intensity, eggs per plant and percentage dead hearts indicate that all traits are closely associated (Omori *et al.*, 1983). Both genotypic and phenotypic correlations made among these variables indicate a high degree of associations among them. Trichome intensity, glossy intensity and dead heart percentage are shown to be highly heritable traits (Agrawal and House, 1982). It is a monogenic recessive trait (Tarumato *et al.*, 1980). Shootfly incidence showed negative correlation with glossy and trichome intensity. These correlations were partitioned to show the contribution of individual trait by path coefficient analysis which indicated that high correlation is the result of exogenous traits and hence the glossy appearance may be an indicator to some other trait that contributes to resistance (Agrawal and House, 1982; Omori *et al.*, 1988). The genotypes showing a greater degree of intensity in glossiness were more resistant to shootfly. They were less affected by both shootfly egg laying and dead hearts (Maiti *et al.*, 1984). Omori *et al.* (1988) reported that trichome density contributed mainly towards genetic divergence in shootfly resistance, followed by glossiness. Heterosis for shootfly resistance was found to be associated with genetic divergence but not with geographic divergence.

There are several factors that contribute shootfly resistance, such as nonpreference for oviposition associated with the presence of trichomes on the leaf surface (Blum, 1968, 1972) and the glossy trait (Maiti and Bidinger, 1979). Similarly, the lignin and silica deposits may contribute towards the mechanical resistance of seedlings to penetration by larvae (Blum, 1968). Low leaf surface wetness (LSW) of the leaf whorl is an important factor in resistance to shootfly (Nwanze *et al.*, 1990). The susceptible lines show high LSW compared to the resistant lines. Glossy lines in general show less LSW depending of course on the intensity of glossiness (unpublished).

Quantitative relationship of morphophysiological traits with shootfly resistance

Some morphophysiological and anatomical traits of shootfly resistant and susceptible lines showed significant difference among them such as trichome number in the upper and lower surface. A correlation analysis has made among parameters determining resistance to shootfly deadheart in a set of lines. The parameters showing significant positive correlation with shootfly resistance (deadhearts) were: high glossy score, high seedling vigor, low leaf surface wetness, less

width and lower stomata number in the upper surface in sorghum genotypes. The trichome number in the upper surface showed significant negative correlation with shootfly deadhearts (unpublished).

Another study with 520 sorghum germplasm determined that intensity of glossiness and trichomes were directly related with shootfly resistance, and not seedling vigor (unpublished).

The distribution of traits for shootfly resistance such as glossy score (GS; 1 highly- to 5 non-glossy), seedling vigor (SV; high or low) and trichomes (T; none, upper leaf surface, upper and lower leaf surfaces) were studied among sorghum genotypes (1992, unpublished). The results indicated that intense glossiness (GS 3-5) persisted in the resistant (against shootfly and deadhearts) and moderately resistant categories, whereas 80 to 95 % of the genotypes of the susceptible classes showed lower glossiness (GS 3-5). This clearly establishes that the intensity of glossiness is positively associated with the level of resistance against shootfly. Similarly, the genotypes with highly vigorous seedlings resulted in plants resistant and moderately resistant to shootfly and deadhearts, whereas those genotypes with less vigorous seedlings resulted in susceptible or moderately resistant plants. The resistance of the genotypes was also directly related to the presence and density of trichomes. In the resistant classes, the proportion of genotypes with trichomes on both the upper and lower surfaces was greater than in the susceptible classes both for oviposition and deadhearts.

A multiple regression equation was computed to determine the effect of the morphophysiological traits on oviposition and damage by shootfly (deadhearts). Up to 40% of the variability could be explained by these traits in the case of oviposition and about 47% in the case of deadhearts. The significant and negative regression coefficients of individual traits indicate that these traits substantially contributed in reducing shootfly damage.

Shootfly infestation was directly related to glossiness intensity score and was lowest in genotypes with high glossy score. Similarly, shootfly infestation increased in less vigorous genotypes and the lowest shootfly infestation was recorded when trichomes were present on both leaf surfaces followed by the presence of trichomes only on the upper surface. The highest infestation was recorded in the genotypes when the trichomes were absent on both leaf surfaces. Therefore, the presence of high glossy intensity and of trichomes on both surfaces of the leaf can be considered as reliable selection criteria in breeding for shootfly resistance.

Glossy characteristics and its role in genetic improvement in shootfly resistance

About 493 sorghum lines with varying glossy intensity were selected for their possible utilization in breeding for shootfly resistance. These genotypes were distributed in groups depending on their resistance (shootfly oviposition and deadhearts) and their characteristics of glossy intensity (GS 1-5), geographical origin and taxonomic group. None of the genotypes was highly resistant (< 10% infestation) to shootfly for any of the resistance parameters. The genotypes in the resistant and moderately resistant categories (which made up 63-73% of the genotypes) had GS 1 or 2, with just a few having GS 3-5 in the moderately resistant group. Almost all of the genotypes with GS from 3-5 belonged to the susceptible group (27-37% of the genotypes). Shootfly infestation increased as the

glossy intensity decreased. Genotypes with glossy score 1 had 40% oviposition and 35% deadhearts as against 74% oviposition and 69% deadhearts with glossy score 5. This establishes that the intensity of glossiness is positively associated with the level of shootfly resistance.

Of the Indian genotypes (83% of the genotypes), the majority were moderately resistant (47%) to shootfly, and moderately resistant to deadhearts (49%). Of the Indian genotypes, 24-36% were susceptible to shootflies and to deadheart damage. Half of the genotypes of African origin (12% of the genotypes) were susceptible for oviposition and deadhearts. Greater proportions of the genotypes of USA origin (5% of the genotypes) were either in the resistant or moderately resistant groups. The majority of genotypes with Indian and USA origin may be sources of higher resistance levels. The basis for the evolution of shootfly resistance is understandable, because shootfly has been a pest of sorghum in India since immemorial times. However, the sorghums genotypes of USA origin might not have exposed to insect infestations, since shootfly is absent in USA.

Considering glossy score, geographic origin and taxonomic race, minimum shootfly infestation was recorded in genotypes of USA origin and Bicolor race in glossy score 1. However in glossy score 2, Durra sorghums with Indian origin had the minimum shootfly infestation (Table 9.7). Maximum infestation was observed in Guinea sorghums of Africa, even with high glossy intensity, though the number of genotypes in this category were few (5). The variance ratio between genotypes and environment for shootfly resistant parameters viz. oviposition deadhearts among the glossy scores are shown in Table 9.7. The genotypes were significantly different for shootfly resistance parameters within each glossy score. Furthermore, genotype variation was higher for deadhearts compared to oviposition among the lines with high glossy intensity.

Table 9.7 Ratios of genotype to error mean squares (F ratio) for shootfly resistance parameters in different glossy score classes (** P=0.01; * P=0.05).

Glossy score	Resistance parameters	Geographic origin			Taxonomic races		
		Africa	India	USA	Bicolor	Caudatum	Durra
1	Oviposition	8.71**	3.26**	3.17**	3.56**	2.84	3.66**
	Deadhearts	9.54**	3.36**	5.32**	4.97**	3.36*	3.77**
2	Oviposition	2.48**	2.23**	-	1.41	5.84**	2.35**
	Deadhearts	3.56**	2.62**	-	2.29	8.34**	2.76**
3&4	Oviposition	1.57	2.76*	-	-	-	3.56*
	Deadhearts	2.05	3.66**	-	-	-	5.50**
5	Oviposition	-	2.84*	-	-	-	2.23
	Deadhearts	-	2.11	-	-	-	2.48

Correlation studies between oviposition and deadhearts in different geographic origin, taxonomic races and glossy scores showed that in all cases the coefficients were highly significant indicating close relationships between these shootfly resistance parameters (Table 9.8). Only in one case, no significant correlation was

between oviposition and deadhearts in genotypes of African origin with glossy scores 3-4.

Table 9.8 Correlations between oviposition and deadhearts in different geographic origin, taxonomic races and glossy scores (** P=0.01).

Glossy score	Geographic origin			Taxonomic race		
	Africa	India	USA	Bicolor	Caudatum	Durra
1	0.95**	0.85**	0.88**	0.85**	0.96**	0.86**
2	0.91**	0.84**	-	0.83**	0.96**	0.85**
3&4	0.71	0.91**	-	-	-	0.90**
5	-	0.93**	-	-	-	0.84**

In order to assess the advantage of glossy trait for breeding of shootfly resistance, heritability percentage was calculated under geographical and taxonomic classification of glossy scores. Among the geographical groups, the heritability (%) was positively related with the level of glossiness in the genotypes both of Indian and African origins. Glossy characteristics play an important role in improving the heritability component in shootfly resistance parameters. This suggests that genotypes of African origin with high glossy score are better for breeding programs improving shootfly resistance. Similar trends between glossiness and shootfly resistance parameters were observed for taxonomic groups. High glossiness contributes favorably for heritability improvement for both the resistance parameters in Caudatum and Bicolor races compared to Durra. But this needs further confirmation with a larger number of genotypes of the Caudatum and Bicolor races. Glossy Caudatum sorghum of African origin can contribute well in the breeding program for shootfly resistance.

Epicuticular wax (EW) structure (scanning electron microscopy, SEM) in relation to shootfly resistance

Sorghum genotypes with waxy bloom are reported to be drought and insect resistant (Blum, 1975b; Chaterton *et al.*, 1975), improving their productivity in arid and semiarid climates by reducing transpiration and increasing water use efficiency. Wax filaments types reported in *Sorghum bicolor* include tubular (Sánchez-Las *et al.*, 1972), and filament- and ribbonlike (Atkins and Hamilton, 1982). p-Hydroxybenzaldehyde, a chemical contained in the EW of sorghum seedling leaves is considered as major factor in reducing locust feeding, and related to the resistance to stem borer (Woodhead and Taneja, 1987). EW causes disorientation of stem borer larval movement (Taneja and Woodhead, 1989). Waxes with correct physical characteristics and chemical composition are effective against insects. Sticky waxes may stick the insect claws and feet to the leaf surface thus providing grip necessary to the insect to move around effectively (Atkin and Hamilton, 1982; Mauseth, 1988).

It was mentioned earlier that glossy genotypes vary widely in epicuticular wax structure. The smooth epicuticular waxy surface associated with trichome density