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TITLE: Genomics of sorghum local adaptation to a parasitic plant

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ABSTRACT:

Host-parasite coevolution can maintain high levels of genetic diversity in traits involved in species interactions. In many systems, host traits exploited by parasites are constrained by use in other functions, leading to complex selective pressures across space and time. Here, we study genome-wide variation in the staple crop *Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench and its association with the parasitic weed *Striga hermonthica* (Delile) Benth.*,* a major constraint to food security in many African countries*.* We hypothesize that sorghum landraces are subject to geographic selection mosaics within parasite-prone areas and selection against resistance where *S. hermonthica* is never found. Supporting this hypothesis, multiple independent loss-of-function alleles at sorghum *LOW GERMINATION STIMULANT 1* (*LGS1),* a locus known to impact resistance, are broadly distributed among African landraces and geographically associated with *S. hermonthica* occurrence, suggesting a role in local adaptation to parasite pressure. However, the low frequency of these alleles within *S. hermonthica*-prone regions and their absence elsewhere indicates potential trade-offs restricting their distribution. *LGS1* impacts stereochemistry of strigolactones, hormones controlling plant architecture, belowground signaling with other organisms, and abiotic stress tolerance. Supporting trade-offs, transcriptome profiling of nutrient-stressed roots revealed differential regulation of several strigolactone biosynthesis and signaling genes in *LGS1*-deficient sorghum compared to a susceptible line. Signatures of balancing selection surrounding *LGS1* and candidates from analysis of genome-wide associations with parasite distribution support long-term maintenance of diversity in parasite resistance genes. Our study of host resistance evolution across smallholder agroecosystems provides a valuable contrast to both industrial farming systems and natural communities.

KEYWORDS: species distribution modeling, environmental niche modeling, genotype-environment association analysis, Red Queen

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT:

Understanding co-evolution in crop-parasite systems is critical to management of

myriad pests and pathogens confronting modern agriculture. In contrast to wild plant

communities, parasites in agricultural ecosystems are usually expected to gain the

upper hand in co-evolutionary 'arms races' due to limited genetic diversity of host crops

in cultivation. Here, we develop a framework for studying associations between genome

diversity in global landraces (traditional varieties) of the staple crop sorghum with the

distribution of the devastating parasitic weed *Striga hermonthica.* We find long-term

maintenance of diversity in genes related to parasite resistance, highlighting an

important role of host adaptation for co-evolutionary dynamics in smallholder

agroecosystems.

INTRODUCTION:

Host-parasite interactions can be powerful and dynamic selective forces

maintaining genetic variation in natural populations (1). In wild plant pathosystems,

long-term balancing selection often maintains diverse resistance alleles in host

populations over evolutionary time (2–4). Resistance polymorphism can be maintained

by negative frequency-dependent selection, which drives cycling of resistance and

virulence alleles when rare alleles provide a selective advantage (i.e. fluctuating Red

Queen dynamics *sensu* (5)) (2, 6). Costs of resistance can also generate allele

frequency cycles and maintain diversity over gradients of parasite pressure (7).

In contrast to wild plant communities where fluctuating Red Queen dynamics

have frequently been observed, low host diversity in agricultural settings is often

assumed to permit runaway 'arms races' in fast-evolving parasites (4, 8). Relative to

smallholder farms, however, industrial scale farming accounts for a fraction of global

production for many food crops (9). The dynamics of host adaptation to parasites

across diverse smallholder agricultural systems remains poorly known, despite

relevance for identifying novel resistance alleles and managing crop genetic resources

(e.g. preserving germplasm both *ex situ* and *in situ*; Jensen et al. 2012). Are co-

evolutionary dynamics in smallholder farming systems more similar to natural plant

pathosystems, where high connectivity among genetically diverse patches can help

promote evolution of host resistance (11)?

Current approaches for identifying and studying the evolution of resistance

alleles often involve scoring large panels of diverse individuals (in genome-wide

association studies, GWAS) or many recombinant individuals deriving from controlled

crosses (in linkage mapping) and using DNA sequence information to identify genomic

regions associated with parasite susceptibility. These mapping studies have revealed

numerous insights to mechanisms of plant-pathogen dynamics (12), but require

extensive phenotyping and genotyping effort for adequate statistical power. To

understand the genetic basis of response to abiotic stress, another 'bottom-up'

approach is to leverage analysis of the extensive genetic variation present in landraces,

traditional crop or livestock varieties which have spread and subsequently adapted to

diverse agro-ecological environments following domestication (13–16). Compared to

modern improved varieties, which may have lost many resistances due to population

bottlenecks and selection for performance in optimal environments (17), landraces and

crop wild relatives may be a rich source of alleles conferring resistance to sympatric

parasites under a hypothesis of local adaptation to environment of origin. Furthermore,

landraces can be studied to test the hypothesis that a natural, putatively

environmentally-adapted allele identified from a limited set of experimental

environments and genetic backgrounds is indeed adaptive across a wide range of

similar environments and across diverse genetic backgrounds (14). Genotype-

environment association (GEA) analyses of georeferenced landraces have been a

powerful strategy for understanding the genetic basis of local adaptation to gradients of

abiotic stressors (14, 15). To our knowledge, similar approaches to investigate

adaptation to biotic stress at continent scale have yet to be exploited (but see (16) for

an example in Ugandan cattle).

In this study, we extend GEA to biotic gradients to evaluate the frequency and

distribution of alleles in genomes of sorghum that confer resistance to *Striga*

hermonthica (Delile) Benth., a root-parasitic weed native to Africa. *Sorghum bicolor* (L.)

Moench is the world's fifth most important crop and was domesticated from the wild

progenitor *Sorghum arundinaceum* (Desv.) Stapf in Africa more than 5000 years ago

(18). Sorghum is particularly important in arid and semiarid regions due to its drought

tolerance compared to maize and rice. While plant drought responses are influenced by

many processes, in recent years the role of strigolactones, plant hormones that regulate

shoot branching (19), root architecture (20) and response to abiotic stress (21), have

received particular attention. Strigolactones exuded into the rhizosphere, particularly

under nutrient limitation (22) and drought (23), promote interactions with beneficial

arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (24) and are also required as germination stimulants for

many root-parasitic plants. In addition to sorghum, *S. hermonthica* attacks maize, rice,

millet, sugarcane, and wild grasses and is considered one of the greatest biotic threats

to food security in Africa, costing billions of dollars (USD) in crop losses annually

through yield loss and abandonment of fields (25).

Here, we evaluate the hypothesis that a geographical selection mosaic across

gradients of biotic interactions maintains genetic diversity in *S. hermonthica* resistance

in sorghum landraces (26, 27). To identify genomic signatures of host adaptation to

parasites, we first develop species distribution models for *S. hermonthica* and search for

statistical associations between sorghum genotype and prediction from the parasite

model at collection location of each sorghum landrace. We characterize diversity and

geographic distribution of loss-of-function alleles at the sorghum resistance gene *LOW*

GERMINATION STIMULANT 1 (*LGS1*) (28). Loss of *LGS1,* a gene of unknown

function with a sulfotransferase domain, alters stereochemistry of the dominant

strigolactone in sorghum root exudates, from 5-deoxystrigol to orobanchol, which does

not strongly stimulate parasite germination (28, 29). Our ecological genetic analyses of

diverse sorghum landraces suggest that *LGS1* loss-of-function mutations are adaptive

across a large region of high *S. hermonthica* prevalence in Africa. However, we also

present evidence supporting potential trade-offs related to *LGS1* loss-of-function.

Because endogenous strigolactones are integral to host plant development, rhizosphere

communications, and stress response, we predicted that *LGS1* loss-of-function may

adversely impact fitness- or domestication-related traits through altered hormone

signaling and perception. We compare root transcriptomes of sorghum lines producing

high levels of 5-deoxystrigol or orobanchol to determine if structural variation in SLs

impacts expression of strigolactone biosynthesis and signaling pathway components.

After focused analyses on *LGS1,* we perform genome-wide tests of association with

parasite distribution. We investigate patterns of polymorphism surrounding candidate

resistance genes with evidence of locally-adaptive natural variation to determine

whether balancing selection has maintained diversity in *S. hermonthica* resistance over

evolutionary time.

RESULTS:

S. hermonthica *distribution model*

We predicted that host alleles affecting resistance or tolerance would be strongly

associated with the geographic distribution of parasites. To identify regions of likely *S.*

hermonthica occurrence in the absence of continent-wide surveys, we built MaxEnt

species distribution models (SDMs) (30). The optimal model showed good ability to

predict occurrence with an AUC value of 0.86 (Fig. 1). A high degree of overlap was

observed between models generated using all *S. hermonthica* records (n=1,050) and a

subset of 262 occurrences that were observed specifically in fields of sorghum

(Schoener's D = 0.82; I = 0.97). Annual rainfall and total soil N were the most

informative variables for predicting *S. hermonthica* occurrence (Table S1). Compared to

all cells in the study background, distributions of environmental values for locations with

high habitat suitability (HS) were generally restricted to a narrower range of intermediate

values of precipitation and soil quality (Fig. S1-2). Locations with the highest HS scores

exhibited mean annual rainfall ranging from ~500-1300 mm/year and soil nitrogen

ranging from ~400 – 1000 g/kg (10th-90th percentiles for all cells with HS >0.5, Table

S1). Soil clay content also contributed substantially to the sorghum-only model, and

clay content in locations with the highest HS scores ranged from 12-29% (10th-90th

percentile, HS > 0.5, all-occurrence model) or up to 36% (sorghum-only model, Table

S1).

LGS1 *associations with* S. hermonthica *occurrence*

We predicted that sorghum resistance alleles would be more common in

parasite-prone regions. Evaluating this prediction also allowed us to validate our SDM-

based genotype-environment association approach by characterizing associations

between *S. hermonthica* distribution and genetic variation at *LGS1*

(*Sobic.005G213600*), a known locus causing resistance to *Striga* spp. (28).

Using whole genome sequencing data (~25x coverage) from 143 sorghum

landraces, we found evidence for three naturally occurring mutations resulting in *LGS1*

loss-of-function (Fig. 2). Two ~30 kb deletions were identified between positions

69,958,377-69,986,892 (*n* = 5 accessions) and 69,981,502-70,011,149 (*n* = 4

accessions, Table S2; Fig. 2A). These two deletions appear to be identical to previously

described *lgs1-2* and *lgs1-3* (28), although breakpoint positions reported by our

structural variant caller differed slightly. No SNPs in a separate genotyping-by-

sequencing (GBS) dataset of >2000 sorghum landraces tagged *lgs1-2* or *lgs1-3* (Fig.

S3), and so we imputed large deletions identified from the WGS dataset to the GBS

dataset based on patterns of missing data (see Methods). Deletion call imputations

were validated by testing root exudate from a subset of sorghum accessions for their

ability to induce *S. hermonthica* germination (Fig. S4). We tested four genotypes with

likely deletion alleles, and these genotypes stimulated significantly fewer *Striga* seeds to

germinate compared to eight other genotypes that did not show strong evidence for

deletions (linear mixed-effects model with genotype random effect, deletion genotypes

stimulated germination of 8.43 fewer seeds out of 75 total, Wald 95% CI=1.49,15.36).

Two of the genotypes stimulated low germination (P721 and SC1439) and had all 14

GBS SNPs missing from *LGS1*, but SNP calls outside of the gene model were

inconsistent with *lgs1-2* or *lgs1-3* alleles, perhaps due to the presence of an additional

uncharacterized deletion allele.

In addition to *lgs1-2* and *lgs1-3*, we identified a previously unknown high-impact

two bp insertion resulting in a frameshift variant in the beginning of the *LGS1* coding

region (position 69986146, allele frequency in WGS dataset = 8%). The frameshift was

linked to a SNP genotyped in the GBS dataset (T/A at position 69,985,710; D' = 0.93, r^2

= 0.84, Fig. 2B). All nine accessions with the frameshift in the WGS dataset also shared

a 315 bp deletion (positions 69,984,268-69,984,583) overlapping 143 bp of the 3'

untranslated region in the 1580 bp second exon of *LGS1*.

Although our approach is not well-powered to detect heterozygous deletions or

small loss-of-function variants unlinked to SNPs in the GBS dataset, we find evidence

that at least three of six independent *LGS1* loss-of-function alleles characterized here

and elsewhere (28) are present at low to intermediate frequency. Among accessions

with SNP calls in *LGS1*, 7.0% of accessions exhibited SNP calls consistent with

homozygous *lgs1-2* and *lgs1-3* in the GBS dataset (Supplemental Data File S1).

Homozygous deletion frequency in African landraces for the GBS dataset was 7.5%

compared to 5.3% in non-African landraces. The SNP tagging the frameshift is present

at an allele frequency of 15% in the GBS dataset and is found in 16% of African

landraces but only 7% of non-African landraces. *LGS1* loss-of-function alleles were

found in diverse races and regions for both datasets (Fig. S4, Table S2, Supplemental

Data File S1), suggesting that these mutations have had time to spread and that their

benefit is not strongly masked by epistasis. Most landrace accessions with *LGS1*

deletions and botanical race assignments from the GBS dataset were guinea (12

accessions), caudatum (8 accessions), or durra-caudatum hybrids (17 accessions,

Table S2, Supplemental Data File S1).

LGS1 loss-of-function alleles were significantly more common among landraces

with high parasite HS scores (Fig. 2C-D). However, correlations with population

structure reduced power to detect associations with these resistance alleles after

accounting for kinship (Fig. S5). The median *S. hermonthica* HS score was 0.20 for

accessions homozygous for *lgs1-2,* 0.54 for accessions homozygous for *lgs1-3,* 0.25 for

accession with the frameshift, or 0.09 for accessions without evidence for *LGS1* loss-of-

function. The difference in *S. hermonthica* HS score between *lgs1-3* and *LGS1* intact

accessions was statistically significant before accounting for relatedness ($p < 0.001$,

Wilcoxon rank sum test vs. $p = 0.10$, MLM). Frameshift associations with HS were also

statistically significant prior to correction for relatedness ($p < 0.001$, Wilcoxon rank sum;

$p = 0.69$, MLM) and were stronger with the sorghum-only model compared to the all-

occurrence model ($p = 0.33$, MLM). We observed modest support for associations

between *lgs1-2* and *S. hermonthica* HS before correcting for relatedness ($p = 0.06$,

Wilcoxon rank sum test; $p = 0.53$, MLM), and stronger associations with the sorghum-

only model ($p = 0.26$, MLM).

Upregulation of SL biosynthesis pathway genes in an LGS1-*deficient line*

Changes in strigolactones (and indeed any hormone) are potentially pleiotropic

given the many known downstream functions of SLs, suggesting tradeoffs may be

associated with *LGS1* variation. We found multiple SL biosynthesis genes were up-

regulated in nutrient-stressed roots of a resistant sorghum line (SRN39), which

produces high levels of orobanchol, compared to a susceptible sorghum line (Shanqui

Red) that produces mainly 5-deoxystrigol (28), a dominant SL in sorghum root exudates

that strongly stimulates *S. hermonthica* germination (29). We first confirmed differences

in expression for genes located in the *LGS1* region deleted in SRN39. Two gene

models in the deletion region were differentially expressed with low expression in

Shanqui Red and no reads detected in SRN39 (*Sobic.005G213500*, p = 0.001;

Sobic.005G213700, p = 0.008). The two other gene models in the deleted region,

Sobic.005213766 and *Sobic.005213832*, had no reads detected in either line in roots

under nutrient stress. *LGS1* was differentially expressed between lines, with low

expression in the susceptible line and no expression in SRN39 (p = 0.03).

In *Arabidopsis* and rice, the strigolactone biosynthesis pathway undergoes

negative feedback regulation, in which low strigolactone levels stimulate upregulation of

several biosynthesis genes (31, 32). We asked if low endogenous 5-deoxystrigol might

also influence SL biosynthesis gene expression in high-orobanchol producing sorghum

genotypes. Four of eleven expressed SL biosynthesis genes had higher transcript

levels in the *LGS1*-deficient sorghum line SRN39 compared to the susceptible line (Fig.

S6, Table S3). These included two genes with homology to *NSP1* (*Sobic.001G341400*,

p < 0.001 and *Sobic.002G372100*, p = 0.03), *CCD7* (*Sobic.006G170300*, p <0.001),

and *LBO* (*Sobic.003G418000*, p = 0.01). Differences between lines in expression of

seven other SL biosynthesis genes were not statistically significant. Among 17 genes

with probable roles in SL perception and downstream signaling, *SMXL3*

(*Sobic.008G042800*) was differentially expressed between lines and was

downregulated in the *LGS1*-deficient line SRN39 (p = 0.03). This change in *SMXL3*

suggests possible downstream pleiotropy given that regulation of SL-dependent

processes such as shoot development and root growth depends on the ubiquitination

and degradation of SMXL repressor proteins (33, 34).

Overall, 2937 transcripts were differentially expressed in roots of the two lines

under nutrient stress. The majority of transcripts were more highly expressed in *LGS1*-

deficient line SRN39 compared to *Striga*-susceptible Shanqui Red (1290 downregulated

vs. 1647 upregulated, Supplemental Data File S2). No GO-term was overrepresented

among differentially expressed genes, but genes involved in response to a biotic

stimulus exhibited the highest enrichment score (GO: 0009607; uncorrected p = 0.002;

FDR corrected p = 1).

Parasite-associated SNPs across the sorghum genome

We performed genome-wide tests of association with predicted parasite HS

score. A scan of 317,294 SNPs across 2070 sorghum landraces revealed 97 loci

exhibiting significant associations with *S. hermonthica* distribution at a false discovery

rate of 5% (Fig. 3A, Table S4). Of SNPs exceeding the threshold for significance, 45

were present within 1 kb of a predicted gene model, and four were predicted to cause

an amino acid change (Table S4). Three outlier SNPs were in QTL previously

associated with *Striga* resistance (35) including one intron variant in the uncharacterized

gene model *Sobic.001G227800* (Table S4). Another outlier SNP was present in an

intron of *Sobic.007G090900*, a gene model with high homology to *SMAX1/D53*, which is

degraded in an SL-dependent manner to control downstream SL signaling and is

associated with tillering and height in rice (36). SNPs among those with the strongest

associations to parasite occurrence were also found in genes related to suberin and

wax ester biosynthesis (*Sobic.007G091200*) including phenylalanine ammonia-lyase

(*Sobic.006G148800*). Phenylalanine ammonia-lyase is highly upregulated in the

resistant rice line Nipponbare compared to a susceptible line during infection with *S.*

hermonthica (37) and is associated with increased lignin deposition and post-

attachment resistance (38).

Across all gene models tagged by SNPs in the genome-wide analysis, no GO

term met the threshold for significance after correction for multiple comparisons. The

strongest enrichment scores were in genes with GO terms related to cell wall

organization (GO:0071555; corrected p = 0.13, mean p score for 48 genes = 0.27), cell

wall (GO:0005618, corrected p = 0.17, mean p score for 70 genes = 0.29), and

pectinesterase activity (GO:0030599, corrected p = 0.22, mean p score for 39 genes =

0.26). The strongest SNP association to parasite occurrence in a pectinesterase gene

model was in *Sobic.002G138400* (SNP S2_21521798, Table S4). The allele associated

with parasite occurrence at S2_21521798 is not predicted to cause an amino acid

change, but was in strong linkage disequilibrium (r^2 >0.9) with SNPs up to 204.4 kb

upstream of the gene model, which encompasses a region of likely substantial structural

variation based on visual inspection of read alignments to the reference. Overall, SNPs

in genes related to SL biosynthesis and signaling (Table S3) showed a non-significant

enrichment for associations with *S. hermonthica* distribution (uncorrected *p* = 0.09).

Signatures of selection in candidate regions

We further investigated three candidate genes with polymorphism that exhibited

distinct geographic patterns and had known or potential roles in *S. hermonthica*

resistance. Elevated Tajima's D values can indicate an excess of shared polymorphism

across SNPs at a locus, expected for regions of the genome under balancing selection,

whereas strongly negative values can indicate an excess of low frequency

polymorphism, expected under either purifying or positive selection. Two 5 kb genomic

regions, spanning SNPs in *LGS1* (SNP S5_69986146 in gene model

Sobic.G005G213600) and a pectinesterase gene (SNP S2_21521798 in gene model

Sobic.002G138400, MAF=0.275) exhibited elevated values of Tajima's D compared to

1000 randomly sampled 5 kb windows containing or overlapping gene models (Fig. 4; *p*

= 0.06, *Sobic.G005G213600*; *p* = 0.02, *Sobic.002G138400*). Regions of elevated

Tajima's D were localized to relatively small windows centered on SNPs associated with

Striga habitat suitability, and larger window sizes produced weaker signals (data not

shown). We looked for evidence of trans-species polymorphism and found no reads

mapping to the pectinesterase gene and no evidence for the *LGS1* loss-of-function

alleles characterized in our study in previously sequenced accessions of *S. propinquum*

(Kunth) Hitchc. (*n*=2) and *S. arundinaceum* (as synonym *S. bicolor* subsp. *verticilliflorum*

(Steud.) de Wet ex Wiersema & J.Dahlb.) (*n*=2)(39).

We did not observe strong departures from the neutral expectation for the region

surrounding a gene with homology to *SMAX1* (gene model *Sobic.007G090900* tagged

by SNP S7_14459084, *p*=0.6). The minor allele at S7_14459084 was at low frequency

in the GBS dataset (MAF = 0.014) and most common in West Africa (Fig. 3C), which is

not well sampled in the WGS dataset. The signal of association with *S. hermonthica*

occurrence extended more than 7.5 Mb on Chromosome 7 (Fig. 3A), but we did not

observe evidence to suggest that S7_14459084 tags an incomplete or soft sweep in

either the GBS or WGS datasets according to the haplotype-based statistic nS_L (40).

DISCUSSION:

Pests, pathogens, and parasites threaten human health and food security in a

changing world but understanding mechanisms of resistance across diverse taxa

remains challenging. Here, we evaluate the hypothesis that geographic selection

mosaics maintain genetic diversity in host resistance alleles across gradients of parasite

occurrence in smallholder farming systems. We extended genotype-environment

association analyses to biotic environmental gradients using species distribution models

to model high resolution variation in parasite occurrence at continent scales. We report

strong associations with parasite occurrence for novel candidate resistance loci in the

sorghum-*Striga hermonthica* pathosystem and characterize diverse loss-of-function

mutations in the known sorghum gene *LGS1*. Geographic distribution of loss-of-

function alleles suggests that *LGS1*-conferred resistance is stable across environments

and genetic backgrounds. However, the intermediate frequency and paucity of *LGS1*

loss-of-function alleles outside of parasite-prone areas, combined with *LGS1*-associated

changes in sorghum strigolactone biosynthesis and endogenous signaling, suggest

there may be trade-offs associated with *LGS1* loss-of-function.

Our results support the hypothesis that spatial variation in selective pressures

controls geographic clines in the frequency of host resistance alleles. The patterns we

characterized are likely representative of long-term averaged conditions as opposed to

a snapshot of coevolution because our parasite distribution model used occurrence

records spanning more than 150 years, and the landraces we studied were collected

across the last several decades. Negative frequency-dependent selection and rapid

coevolutionary dynamics, for example, could decouple parasite abundance and the

frequency of host resistance alleles. Our approach may be helpful for identifying host

alleles whose resistance phenotype is conditional on local parasite genotypes (e.g. as

might be suggested by patterns of distribution for polymorphism in *SMAX1*, Fig. 3D).

Many parasites including *S. hermonthica* are highly genetically diverse, so that host

resistance phenotype differs depending on local parasite genotypes (41). This host by

parasite genotype interaction might obscure GWAS for host resistance depending on

the parasite genotype used (42). Combining knowledge of parasite population structure

with the spatial perspective of parasite-associated host genomic variation presented

here could facilitate complementary, inexpensive detection of genomic regions

contributing to resistance across diverse biotic environments.

Our study revealed evidence for locally-adaptive natural variation in genes

related to cell wall modification. Cell-wall modifying enzymes including pectinesterases

are highly expressed in the developing haustorium of parasitic plants and in the host-

parasite interface (43–46). Pectinesterases de-esterify pectin in plant cell walls, making

it accessible to other cell-wall degrading enzymes and loosening cell walls. However,

some studies have suggested that in the presence of Ca^{2+}, de-esterified pectin forms

egg-box structures and instead stiffens cell walls (47). Rigidification of sorghum cell

walls by their own pectinesterases (such as *Sobic.002G138400*, Table S4) or reduced

activity could help defend against parasitic invaders. Notably, Yang et al. (2015)

reported haustorium specific expression and positive selection on pectinesterase

inhibitors in parasitic plant lineages and a pectinesterase inhibitor showed exceptionally

high host species-associated expression in field populations of *S. hermonthica* (Lopez-

Perez et al., *in press*). Parasite pectinesterase inhibitors could interact with host

pectinesterases or help maintain integrity of parasite cell walls in the face of high

pectinesterase expression during haustorial invasion. The SNP in a pectinesterase

gene most strongly associated with *S. hermonthica* distribution does not code for an

amino acid change but is linked with other SNPs across a region spanning substantial

structural variation in the WGS dataset, potentially influencing sorghum pectinesterase

expression levels during haustorial invasion.

Our results also suggest that *LGS1* loss-of-function alleles may be adaptive in *S.*

hermonthica-prone regions, but that costs of resistance may limit their distribution.

Loss-of-function alleles are relatively uncommon but higher in frequency and broadly

distributed where parasites occur (Fig. 2C). Associations for the known locus *LGS1*

were not statistically significant after correcting for kinship, likely due to covariation with

genomic background (Fig. S4), which has been shown to substantially reduce power to

detect causal loci in locally-adapted sorghum landraces (14) and in simulations (48).

The diversity of loss-of-function variants reported here (Fig. 2A-B) and elsewhere (28),

their wide geographic distribution (Fig. 2C), and an excess of high frequency

polymorphism localized to *LGS1* (Fig. 4) are consistent with long-term maintenance of

LGS1 diversity under balancing selection. The underlying evolutionary processes

remain unknown but could include negative frequency dependent selection or

spatiotemporally variable selection favoring different alleles in different environments,

depending on the relative costs of resistance (4, 49). Costs of resistance linked to SL

structural changes could include the ability to interact with AM fungi, increased

susceptibility to other *S. hermonthica* ecotypes more sensitive to orobanchol (e.g. *S.*

hermonthica that parasitize rice, an orobanchol-exuder), or impacts on endogenous

strigolactone signaling. Consistent with the last hypothesis, we find increased

expression of SL biosynthesis genes in a sorghum line with low levels of 5-deoxystrigol

(5DS), one of the primary SLs produced by sorghum (29, 50). This result could suggest

transcriptional feedback in response to deficits in endogenous 5DS in sorghum, as

previously observed in *Arabidopsis* and rice in response to low overall SL levels (31,

32). Feedback regulation could be mediated by repressors of SL signaling such as

SMXL3, a homolog of which was downregulated in the 5DS-deficient line (Table S3).

Costs of resistance may also differ among particular loss-of-function alleles, depending

on biological pathways influenced by other genes in deleted regions.

Another factor potentially contributing to natural variation in SL biosynthesis and

signaling is the role of human selection against *S. hermonthica* resistant varieties during

domestication and diversification of cultivated sorghum. While impacts of SL structural

variation on endogenous function remain poorly known, natural variation in levels of

strigolactone production correlates with increased tillering in rice (51, 52), a trait subject

to strong selection over the course of cereal domestication (53). One of the most well-

studied domestication genes, *Teosinte branched 1 (Tb1)*, controls branching and was a

major target of selection during maize domestication (54, 55). *Tb1* activity is decoupled

from strigolactone signaling in maize, enabling strigolactone-independent branching

regulation (56). However, in pearl millet, signatures of selection on *Tb1* orthologs are

weaker (57), consistent with observations that *Tb1* orthologs do not act independently of

strigolactones in other cereals (58). There is also evidence that *Tb1* regulates the

maize domestication gene *Teosinte glume architecture 1* (59)*,* a homolog of which also

exhibited parasite-associated genetic variation in our study (Table S4).

Taken together, this study provides evidence of locally-adaptive natural variation

in sorghum parasite resistance genes across African smallholder farming systems. We

report long-term maintenance of diversity in known and novel candidates implicated in

pre- and post-attachment resistance to the parasitic plant *Striga hermonthica.* However,

the possibility of *LGS1*-driven tradeoffs or the existence of orobanchol-sensitive *S.*

hermonthica populations (for example, from rice) suggest potential pitfalls with

widespread deployment of the *LGS1* loss-of function allele in sorghum cultivation. Our

findings highlight the complexity of interacting abiotic, biotic, and human pressures

shaping genome polymorphism across environments in cultivated species.

METHODS:

Species distribution models

Genome-environment association approaches identify putatively locally adaptive

genetic loci where allelic variation is strongly associated with home environments (60).

To employ this approach with biotic gradients, we required information on local parasite

pressure for each sorghum landrace. We used species distribution models (SDMs) to

estimate habitat suitability of *Striga hermonthica* at the location of each georeferenced

sorghum landrace, under the assumption that modeled habitat suitability scores are a

reasonable proxy of parasite success averaged over the long term and in comparison

with sites where the parasite never occurs.

S. hermonthica SDMs were constructed with Maxent, a machine learning tool for

predicting habitat suitability for a species of interest given a set of environmental

variables and presence-only data (30). We compiled 1369 occurrence records for *S.*

hermonthica records downloaded from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility

(www.gbif.org), newly digitized records for specimens housed in the collections of the

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, the

French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development, the University of

Montpellier, and the Botanical Garden of Lyon, and observations from published studies

(61–76) (Supplemental Data File S3). Records within 0.01 degree (~1 km) of another

observation were excluded to reduce sampling bias. To characterize the background

environment across the study extent, we sampled 10,000 points at random from a 500

km radius surrounding locations of 1,050 occurrences in the final dataset. We also

created 'sorghum-only' models based on a subset of *S. hermonthica* records (*n* = 262)

that were annotated as occurring specifically on sorghum.

Environmental variables were chosen based on prior knowledge of the ecology of

S. hermonthica (61)*.* Bioclimatic and topographic variables (annual rainfall, mean

temperature of the wettest quarter, isothermality, potential evapotranspiration [PET],

and topographic wetness index) were obtained from CHELSA (77) and ENVIREM

datasets (78). Soil variables (clay content, nitrogen, and phosphorus) were based on

continental and global-scale soil property maps (79, 80). We explored additional

ecologically relevant variables but did not include them in the final model due to high

correlation across the study background with annual rainfall (correlated with soil PH,

aluminum, and precipitation seasonality) or soil clay content (correlated with sand

fraction) as indicated by Pearson coefficients ($|r| > 0.7$).

SDMs were implemented and evaluated with ENMeval, using the

'checkerboard2' method for data partitioning, which is designed to reduce spatial

autocorrelation between testing and training records (81). The distribution model with

the lowest ΔAICc was selected for further comparisons with genome variation in

sorghum. Two niche overlap statistics, Schoener's *D* (Schoener 1968) and the *I*

similarity statistic (83) were calculated for the all-occurrence and sorghum-only models

using the R package *dismo* (84)*.*

Sorghum LGS1 *loss-of-function alleles*

Fine-scale natural variation in sorghum *LGS1* was characterized using whole

genome sequencing (WGS) data from a set of 143 georeferenced landraces from the

sorghum bioenergy association panel (BAP) (85). The BAP includes both sweet and

biomass sorghum types, accessions from the five major sorghum botanical races

(durra, caudatum, bicolor, guinea, and kafir), and accessions from Africa, Asia, and the

Americas. The BAP accessions were sequenced to approximately 25x coverage and

genotyped as part of the TERRA-REF project (www.terraref.org). This whole genome

sequencing derived dataset is referred to throughout the manuscript as the 'WGS

dataset' to distinguish it from the GBS dataset used for the GEA.

We characterized three loss-of-function alleles in *LGS1* using data from the WGS

dataset. Frameshift and nonsense mutations were identified using *SnpEff* v4.3t for SNP

calls and small indels in *Sobic.005G213600* available from TERRA-REF (86). High

impact variants were manually checked to remove those near the 3' end of the coding

region and two linked variants that were present in the same lines and did not cause a

frameshift when combined. To characterize large deletion variants, we aligned quality

trimmed reads to the *Sorghum bicolor* v3.1 reference genome (DOE-JGI,

http://phytozome.jgi.doe.gov/) with BWA MEM v0.7.17 (87). Duplicates were removed

with SAMBLASTER v0.1.24 (88) and structural variants were called for each landrace

with LUMPY v0.2.13 (89). SVTYPER v0.6.0 was used to call genotypes for structural

variants ≤ 1 Mb spanning *Sobic.005G213600* (90).

Following characterization of *LGS1* deletion breakpoints using the WGS dataset,

we imputed deletion calls to the GBS dataset. We considered the *LGS1* region to be

deleted if at least one SNP was called in the 5 kb region flanking positions of deletion

breakpoints, but all data were missing between breakpoints. We considered the LGS1

region to be present if at least one SNP was called within the *Sobic.005G213600* gene

model. Fifteen low-coverage samples, with missing data extending 5 kb into flanking

regions, were excluded.

Experimental validation of LGS1 *deletion and frameshift alleles*

LGS1 loss-of-function alleles were validated by testing 12 accessions from the

Sorghum Association Panel (SAP) (91) for their ability to stimulate *S. hermonthica*

germination (Table S5). Three accessions were previously reported as resistant to *S.*

hermonthica, two accessions were susceptible, and seven accessions had unknown

resistance (28, 92). Root exudates were harvested 43 days after planting (see

Supplemental Materials & Methods for a detailed description of plant growth conditions).

Germination trials were conducted using seed of *Striga hermonthica* collected on

sorghum by Steven Runo (Kenyatta U) in western Kenya and assayed in the USDA

quarantine lab at UVa. Seeds were surface sterilized with 0.5% bleach, rinsed three

times with sterile distilled water, and 75 seeds were transferred with 500uL diH$_2$O to 12-

well microtiter plates. After 10 days of preconditioning in the dark at 30°C, 2.25 mL of

fresh root exudate was applied to each well. Exudate from five biological replicates

(sorghum individuals) per sorghum genotype, with three technical replicates (wells) per

biological replicate, were tested. GR24 at two concentrations, 1 ppm and 0.1 ppm, and

water were used as positive and negative controls. Germinated seeds were counted

under stereomicroscope after 66 hours incubation. We tested significance of deletion

alleles using linear mixed effects models in the R package lme4 (93), where deletion

was a fixed effect and genotypes were random effects.

LGS1 and expression of genes in strigolactone synthesis and signaling pathways

To assess the impact of putatively locally adaptive variation at *LGS1*, we studied

root transcriptomes of two lines segregating for presence/absence. We generated

TagSeq libraries using root tissue from five replicate individuals each of sorghum lines

Shanqui Red (PI 656025) and SRN39 (PI 656027), grown under nutrient deficient

conditions. Shanqui Red is susceptible to *S. hermonthica*, whereas SRN39 is resistant

as a result of a ~34 kb deletion spanning *LGS1* and four adjacent genes (28). Five

replicates of each line were grown under identical conditions as for root exudate

collection. Twenty-five days after planting, all potting components were carefully

washed from roots, and 2-5 ml of the fine root tissue was sampled, placed into labeled

vials and stored on ice for 1 day during shipment to U of Texas, where samples were

stored at -80°C until RNA extraction.

RNA extractions were performed with TRIzol Reagent after grinding root tissues

in liquid nitrogen using mortar and pestle. We used the 3'-TagSeq approach (94) with

several modifications to construct cDNA libraries. This method focuses on the 3' end of

transcripts enriched in a size range of 400-500 bp fragments.

cDNA libraries were sequenced on a single lane of an Illumina Hiseq-2500 analyzer at

the Genomic Sequencing and Analysis Facility at the University of Texas at Austin. We

recovered between 3 to 5 million raw single-end 150 bp reads per sample and

compared expression differences between SRN39 and Shanqui Red using the TagSeq

v2.0 pipeline (https://github.com/Eli-Meyer/TagSeq_utilities/). A detailed description of

the library preparation method and bioinformatic analysis is given in Supplemental

Materials & Methods.

Count data were analyzed in DESeq2 with FDR correction (α=0.05) (95).

Enrichment analysis was performed as for genome-wide association analysis, except

only the set of gene models with non-zero expression were used as the background.

Genome-environment associations

We performed a genome-wide scan for SNPs in the sorghum genome strongly

associated with values of habitat suitability estimated by our *S. hermonthica* distribution

model. Sorghum genotypic information was extracted from a public dataset of

accessions genotyped using genotyping-by-sequencing (GBS) (14, 96–98). This

dataset comprises a diverse set of worldwide accessions including germplasm from the

SAP (91), the Mini-Core Collection (99), and the Bioenergy Association Panel (BAP)

(85). Beagle 4.1 was used to impute missing data based on the Li and Stephens (2003)

haplotype frequency model (100). The average missing rate in the non-imputed dataset

is 0.39 (98). After excluding sorghum accessions with missing coordinates and SNPs

with minor allele frequency less than 0.01, the dataset, hereafter referred to as the 'GBS

dataset', included 1547 African landraces among 2070 georeferenced accessions total

genotyped at 317,294 SNPs. At each location of a georeferenced accession in the GBS

dataset, we extracted logistic output from the *S. hermonthica* distribution model

(Supplemental Data File S4-5) as the 'phenotype'. To account for regions where

predicted habitat suitability is high but *S. hermonthica* has not been recorded, we

cropped model predictions to within 200 km from any occurrence record and set values

outside of this range to zero to derive for each grid cell an *S. hermonthica* occurrence

score ranging from zero to one; more than half of sorghum accessions are from

locations with parasite HS scores greater than zero (Fig. 1B). Genome-wide

associations for each SNP with *S. hermonthica* occurrence were computed for the GBS

dataset using a mixed linear model (MLM) fit with GEMMA v0.94 (101). To take into

account relatedness among individuals, we used a centered kinship matrix (-gk 1)

generated from all 317,294 SNPs before calculation of p score statistics (-lmm 3). P

scores were adjusted for multiple comparisons using the Benjamini and Hochberg

(1995) procedure (FDR = 0.05). To visualize genomic regions previously implicated in

resistance to *S. hermonthica,* locations of QTL from Haussman et al. (2004) in the *S.*

bicolor v3.0 genome were downloaded from the Sorghum QTL Atlas

(http://aussorgm.org.au) (102). We tested for associations with *LGS1* loss-of-function

mutations using the same procedure and kinship matrix as for the genome-wide

association analysis.

We identified gene functions enriched for associations with parasite distribution

using the gene score resampling method in ErmineJ (103). This method places higher

value on gene scores than their relative ranking and does not require choice of a

threshold for significance. For each gene model, we used the lowest p score from

GEMMA of any SNP within 1 kb of gene model boundaries, and enrichment analyses

were performed using the mean of all gene scores in the gene set. Gene sets were

created using GO terms for all gene models in the *Sorghum bicolor* v3.0 genome

(annotation version 3.1). We also created a custom gene set comprising 30 gene

models implicated in strigolactone biosynthesis and signaling (Table S3). This gene set

included nine gene models annotated as belonging to Phytozome pathway Sbicolor

PWY-7101 (*D27*, *CCD7*, and *CCD8* homologs), and all sorghum gene models

annotated with best BLASTP hits to Arabidopsis *MAX1*, *LBO* (104), *AtD14, SMAX1,*

SMXL3/4/5/6/7, NSP1, and *NSP2* (105). Enrichment analysis was performed with

200,000 iterations, excluding gene sets with less than 5 or more than 200 genes.

Signatures of selection in candidate genomic regions

We predicted functional impacts for candidate SNPs of interest and performed

scans for selection in 1 Mb regions surrounding each focal SNP. Linkage disequilibrium

between sites was determined with vcftools v0.1.15 (--geno-r2 parameter). To identify

regions under balancing selection among a subset of African landraces, we used

Tajima's D calculated with vcftools in non-overlapping 5 kb windows, excluding SNPs

with more than 70% missing data. *P*-values for candidate regions under selection were

calculated based on the empirical distribution of Tajima's D for 1000 randomly sampled

5 kb windows that overlapped or fully encompassed gene models. We searched for

sweeps using the $n\mathrm{S_L}$ statistic with selscan v1.2.0a (106).

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 FIGURES:

Fig. 1: A subset of global sorghum landraces are from parasite-prone areas. A) *Striga*

hermonthica habitat suitability (HS) scores across Africa based on MaxEnt species

distribution model. B) Geographic distribution and frequency histogram of HS scores at

locations of 2070 georeferenced and genotyped sorghum landrace accessions. To

account for areas with high HS where parasites have not been recorded, HS for

accessions more than 200 km from any *S. hermonthica* record was set to zero. C)

Geographic distribution and frequency histogram of HS scores at locations of 1369 *S.*

hermonthica occurrence records.

Fig. 2. *LGS1* loss-of-function alleles are broadly distributed within parasite-prone

regions. Schematic of large deletion variants (A) and frameshift mutation (B) impacting

sorghum *LGS1*, a known locus involved in resistance to *Striga* spp. Grey shading

indicates position of gene models (A) or coding regions (B). Position of SNPs in the

GBS dataset is indicated by vertical black bars, and horizontal black lines denote 5 kb

flanking regions used to impute deletion calls. In B, vertical white bars show the

frameshift mutation (position 69,986,146) and the SNP at position 69,985,710 that tags

the frameshift in the GBS dataset. C) Geographic distribution of *LGS1* alleles in

sorghum landraces. D) Distribution of parasite habitat suitability (HS) scores at locations

of sorghum accessions with *lgs1-2* (*n*=25), *lgs1-3* (*n*=34), frameshift (*n*=131), or intact

LGS1 (*n*=785).

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Fig. 3: Sorghum genome-wide associations with parasite distribution implicate cell-wall and strigolactone signaling genes. A) Genome-wide association with parasite habitat suitability (HS) score, based on 317,294 SNPs with minor allele frequency (MAF) > 0.01 in 2070 sorghum landraces. SNPs in genomic regions linked to strigolactone (SL) biosynthesis/signaling (red), mechanical resistance (light blue), or low *Striga hermonthica* germination (orange) are indicated. The dashed line represents significance threshold at a false discovery rate of 5%. B) Geographic distribution of reference and alternate alleles for a SNP (S2_21521798) in a pectinesterase gene (MAF = 0.275). C) Distribution of parasite habitat suitability scores for sorghum accessions segregating for S2_21521798. D) Geographic distribution of reference and alternate alleles for a SNP (S7_14459084) in a gene homologous to SMAX1 (MAF = 0.014). E) Distribution of parasite HS scores for sorghum accessions segregating for S7_14459084.

Fig. 4. Signatures of balancing selection surround parasite-associated SNPs in a
pectinesterase gene (S2_21521798) and *LGS1* (S5_69986146). The region
surrounding a SNP in a gene homologous to *SMAX1* (S7_14459084, lower panel) is
also shown. Tajima's D was calculated in non-overlapping windows of 5 kb using data
from the WGS dataset subset to 143 African landraces. The dashed horizontal line
indicates the median value for 1000 randomly selected 5 kb windows overlapping or
encompassing gene models. Vertical grey lines indicate positions of the CDS location
for the gene containing the focal SNP.

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SUPPLEMENTAL DATA FILES:

Supplemental Data File S1: Sorghum accessions from the GBS dataset with predicted

LGS1 loss-of-function alleles. Botanical race is coded as 'NA' if accession was not

found in master list of accession annotations. Accessions with missing data at SNP

S5_69985710 tagging the frameshift are not included in this list

Supplemental Data File S2: Differentially expressed genes between nutrient-stressed

roots of *Striga*-susceptible sorghum line Shanqui Red and *Striga*-resistant line SRN39.

Supplemental Data File S3: *Striga hermonthica* occurrence records used for species

distribution models presented in this study.

Supplemental Data File S4: Raster file of MaxEnt logistic output for all-occurrence *S.*

hermonthica species distribution model.

Supplemental Data File S5: Raster file of MaxEnt logistic output for sorghum-only *S.*

hermonthica species distribution model.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL & METHODS:

Collection of sorghum root exudates.
Accessions were grown individually in two-gallon pots with 70% potting mix (Premier
pro-mix PGX) and 30% medium commercial grade sand in a greenhouse at 85°F during
the day and 75°F at night with a 16-hour photoperiod. Pots were fertilized with 1x
strength Miracle-Gro (Miracle-Gro® Water Soluble All Purpose Plant Food, The Scotts
Company, LLC., Marysville, OH) once at fourteen days after planting. Forty-three days
after planting, potting components were carefully washed from roots and whole plants
were placed in separate flasks with a 1:5 ratio of root:DI water (v/v). Flasks were sealed

956 with parafilm to prevent evaporation and placed into darkness at room temperature.
957 After 48 hours, root exudate from each plant was centrifuged at 9,000 rpm for 10
958 minutes before removing supernatant for germination assays.
959

Root RNA extraction and DNase treatment.
For RNA extraction, root tissues were ground in liquid nitrogen using mortar and pestle.
Ground tissue powder was homogenized using an equal volume (W/V) of TRIzol™
reagent (Invitrogen, Cat#15596018) and 1 mL homogenate was used in RNA extraction.
RNA extraction generally followed TRIzol™ Reagent user guide. In brief, 200 µL of
Chloroform:Isoamyl alcohol 24:1(Sigma, C0549) was added to 1 mL homogenate and
incubated for 10 min on rotator mixer at room temperature. The homogenate was
centrifuged at 12000 RCF for 15 min at 4°C. The clear upper aqueous phase was
transferred to new 1.5 mL Eppendorf tubes and combined with an equal volume (V/V) of
isopropanol to precipitate nucleic acid. Samples were mixed well by inverting the tubes
several times and centrifuged as described above to obtain RNA pellet. The
supernatant was discarded and the pellet washed with 75% alcohol. The pellet was air
dried for 10 min at room temperature and suspended in 30 µL of 10 mM Tris-Cl (pH
8.0). RNA samples were left overnight in 4°C refrigerator to dissolve the pellet. Further,
RNA samples were treated with DNase I (Ambion^{TM}, AM2222) to remove contaminating
DNA. In brief, 25 µL of RNA was incubated with 2 units of DNase I and 3 µL of 10X
DNaseI buffer for 30 minutes at 37°C using a water bath. The nucleic acid was re-
precipitated, air dried and dissolved in 25 µL of 10 mM Tris-Cl (pH 8.0). The RNA was
quantified using NanoDrop® ND-1000 Spectrophotometer and ~100 ng of RNA was
analyzed by 1% gel electrophoresis to verify that the RNA was intact and free of
genomic DNA contamination.
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Library preparation and sequencing.
We used 3'-TagSeq approach (Meyer *et al.,* 2011) with several modifications to
construct cDNA libraries. This method focuses on 3' end of transcripts enriched in a size
range of 400-500 bp fragments. Briefly, 1 µg of total RNA from each samples were
prepared in a volume of 10 µL and incubated with 8 µL of degradation buffer (0.5mM
dNTP mix, 1 mM DTT, 1X first strand buffer, 1 µM 3ILL-30TV oligo-dT primer to aim 3'
ends of cDNA) at 70°C for 16 min to achieve desire range of RNA fragments (300-600
bp). The entire fragmented RNA was further used in first strand cDNA (FS cDNA)
synthesis with RNA oligo primer (S-ILL-swMW) and SMARTScribe Reverse
Transcriptase (Clonetech). Then, cDNA was amplified with 16 cycles using Titanium
Taq Polymerase, 3ILL and 5ILL primers, and 10 µL of the FS cDNA as template. The
amplified cDNA products were purified using NucleoFast PCR Clean-up kit (Machery-
Nagel) and quantified using Qubit dsDNA High sensitivity Assay Kit (Invitrogen) on
Qubit® 2.0 Fluorometer.

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Further, 50 ng of purified cDNA from each sample was individually barcoded with four
cycles of barcoding PCR. We used Illumina specific barcodes (ILL-BC) and multiplexed
those using Illumina TruSeq universal adapters (TrusSeq_Un) for use on the Illumina
platform. An equal volume of barcoded cDNA libraries was pooled together and purified
using PureLink Quick Gel Extraction and PCR Purification Combo kit (Invitrogen). The
purified cDNA library pool was separated on 1.5% agarose in 1X TBE buffer (pH 8.2) to
excise the fragment in the 400-500 bp size range. The excised gel fragment was
purified using a gel extraction kit as mentioned above. The resulting library pool was
loaded into a single lane of an Illumina Hiseq-2500 analyzer at the Genomic
Sequencing and Analysis Facility at the University of Texas at Austin. We recovered
between 3 to 5 million raw single-end 100 bp reads per sample. All primers used in the
library preparation are given below.
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Bioinformatic analysis of TagSeq data.
Briefly, we excluded reads containing more than 20 bp with Phred quality scores <20,
homopolymer runs longer than 30 bp, or at least one 12-mer match to Illumina adaptor
sequences. Reads were trimmed to remove non-template bases introduced during
library prep, identified based on occurrence of a 'GGG' motif within the first 10 bp.
Reads were then mapped to the set of 34,211 primary transcripts from the *S. bicolor*
v3.1 genome with SHRiMP v.2.2.3 (David *et al.* 2011) and we kept only unique
alignments and those with more than 40 bp matching the reference.
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Oligos used in library preparations
TruSeq_Un1: AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACA TCA CGA CAC
TCT TTC CCT ACA CGA CGC TCT TCC GAT CT
TruSeq_Un2: AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACA CTT GAA CAC
TCT TTC CCT ACA CGA CGC TCT TCC GAT CT
ILL-BC (8 six-mer barcodes, here shown as NNNNNN):
CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGATNNNNNNGTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTC
TTCCGATC
S-III-swMW:
rArCrCrCrCrArUrGrGrGrGrCrUrArCrArCrGrArCrGrCrUrCrUrUrCrCrGrArUrCrUrNrNMW
rGrGrG
3ILL-30TV: ACGTGTGCTCTTCCGATCTAATTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTV
5ILL: CTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT
1032

1033   **References**
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1037   Meyer, E., Aglyamova, G. & Matz, M. (2011). Profiling gene expression responses of
1038   coral larvae (Acropora millepora) to elevated temperature and settlement inducers using
1039   a novel RNA-Seq procedure. *Mol. Ecol.* 20, 3599–3616.
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Supplemental Figures:

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Supplemental Figure S1. Response curves for 8 environmental variables in all

occurrence *S. hermonthica* distribution model. Curves represent the change in predicted

habitat suitability (y-axis) for each variable with all other variables held at a constant

value.

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Supplemental Figure S2. Distribution of environmental values for four variables with

permutation importance greater than 10% for the all-occurrence or sorghum-only *S.*

hermonthica SDMs. Distributions are shown for all grids cells exceeding habitat

suitability (HS) scores of 0.5 or 0.1, or for all grid cells in the background.

Supplemental Figure S3. Linkage disequilibrium with large deletion variants and the
frameshift mutation at position 69,986,146 on *S. bicolor* Chromosome 5. Shaded boxes
indicate positions of deletions (*lgs1-2*: 69,958,377-69,986,892*; lgs1-3*: 69,981,502-
70,011,149) and vertical line indicates position of SNP tagging the frameshift mutation
in the GBS dataset. For the WGS dataset, we excluded genotypes with depth of
coverage less than 5x and SNPs with >70% missing data. Due to large amounts of
missing data in the GBS dataset, r^2 was calculated based on imputed SNPs. An 18.8kb
deletion beginning at position 69,991,579 also occurs in accessions with the frameshift,
leading to missing data in this region for the non-imputed (WGS) dataset.

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1068 **Supplemental Figure S4.** Unrooted neighbor joining tree for *S. bicolor* chromosome 5

1069 based on 2070 georeferenced individuals and 5434 SNPs with MAF >1%, after

1070 removing SNPs with >30% missing genotype calls. Branches are color-coded according

1071 to LGS1 deletion allele (A) or botanical race (B).

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Supplemental Figure S5. Germination of *S. hermonthica* in response to root exudates

isolated from 12 sorghum varieties. Boxes show interquartile range and median,

whiskers show maximum and minimum. Predictions for LGS1 deletions are based on

genotypes from the GBS dataset.

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Supplemental Figure S6. Strigolactone biosynthesis and signaling pathway genes

differentially regulated between nutrient-stressed roots of *LGS1*-deficient

sorghum line SRN39 and *LGS1*-intact line Shanqui Red. Mean and standard

deviation of read counts from 5 biological replicates per line are shown. Asterisks

indicate significance following FDR correction. ***$p < 0.001$; **$p < 0.01$; *$p < 0.05$.

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Table S1. Environmental predictors for species distribution models. Core ranges are

given as the 10th and 90th percentiles for grid cell values within the study extent (18W

to 62E; 37S to 38N) with habitat suitability score >0.5 (all-occurrence and sorghum-only

models) or for all grid cells within the full study extent. Median values are shown in

parentheses. Models showed good discrimination ability with AUC values of 0.86 (all-

occurrence model) or 0.85 (sorghum-only model). Both models included linear,

quadratic, hinge, and product feature classes with a regularization multiplier of 1 for the

all-occurrence model or 4 for the sorghum-only model. PI: Permutation importance

Variable	Units	Source	PI, % (all-occurrence)	PI, % (sorghum-only)	Core range (all-occurrence	Core range (sorghum-only)	Core range (full extent)
Annual rainfall (Bio12)	mm/year	CHELSA	35.6	28.7	608-1307 (947)	543-1183 (871)	42-1665 (737)
Total nitrogen at 0-30 cm depth (NTO)	g/kg	AfSoilGrids250m	24.3	28.8	411-932 (559)	399-977 (575)	257-1449 (766)
Clay fraction at 5 cm depth (CLYPPT)	weight %	SoilGrids250m	4.6	24.0	12-29 (17)	13-36 (19)	5-34 (20)
Mean temperature of wettest quarter (Bio8)	°C	CHELSA	15.4	4.0	23.8-27.8 (25.9)	22.5-27.8 (25.3)	20.6-32.3 (24.7)
Isothermality (Bio3)	-	CHELSA	8.1	4.8	464-583 (485)	464-573 (486)	433-622 (491)
Topographic wetness index (topoWet)	-	ENVIREM	6.5	6.6	11.1-13.5 (12.5)	10.5-13.8 (12.5)	10.4-14.6 (12.6)
Potential evapotranspiration (annualPET)	mm/year	ENVIREM	4.0	2.9	1774-2044 (1937)	1789-2090 (1958)	1540-2126 (1821)
Total phosphorus at 0-30 cm depth	mg/kg	AfSoilGrids250m	1.6	0.2	117-426 (192)	119-465 (211)	63-653 (264)

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1097   Table S2. *LGS1* loss-of-function mutations for African landraces in the WGS dataset

Accession	Origin	Race	SV type	SV size (bp)	Start	GT
PI221651	Nigeria	Guinea	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI221651	Nigeria	Guinea	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1
PI329338	Ethiopia	Caudatum-bicolor	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI562781	Mali	Guinea	Deletion	29647	69981502	1/1
PI562971	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	28515	69958377	1/1
PI562981	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	28515	69958377	1/1
PI562982	Nigeria	Guinea	Deletion	28515	69958377	1/1
PI562990	Nigeria	Other	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI562990	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1
PI562991	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	28515	69958377	1/1
PI562994	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	28515	69958377	1/1
PI562998	Nigeria	Other	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI563002	Nigeria	Other	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI563009	Nigeria	Guinea-caudatum	Deletion	29647	69981502	1/1
PI563020	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	29647	69981502	1/1
PI563021	Nigeria	Unknown	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI563021	Nigeria	Unknown	Deletion	315	69984268	0/1
PI563022	Nigeria	Other	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI563022	Nigeria	Other	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1
PI585406	Nigeria	Guinea	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI585406	Nigeria	Guinea	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1
PI585448	Ghana	Guinea	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI585448	Ghana	Guinea	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1
PI585448	Ghana	Guinea	Deletion	29647	69981502	0/1
PI585452	Ghana	Guinea	Insertion	2	69986146	0/1
PI585452	Ghana	Guinea	Deletion	315	69984268	0/1
PI585467	Ghana	Guinea	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI585467	Ghana	Guinea	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1
PI585966	Togo	Guinea	Insertion	2	69986146	1/1
PI585966	Togo	Guinea	Deletion	315	69984268	1/1

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Table S3: Sorghum genes related to strigolactone biosynthesis or signalling. The
number of high impact variants with minor allele frequency (MAF) >5% in the WGS
dataset are shown. Gene models with less than 5 SNPs were excluded from Tajima's D
calculations. Expression for each gene model in root tissue of sorghum lines Shanqui
Red and SRN39 are shown as the mean count for reads mapped, with asterisks
indicating significant differences between lines. **adjusted p <0.001; *adjusted p <0.05

Homolog	Gene model	Function	Chr.	Pos.	Tajima's D	High impact variants (MAF >5%)	Expression
NSP1	Sobic.001 G341400	GRAS-family transcription factor	1	62,864,836-62,867,833	NA	0	21.3**
NSP2	Sobic.001 G428600	GRAS-family transcription factor	1	70,751,978-70,753,672	-0.51	0	3.0
D14	Sobic.001 G465100	α/β-hydrolase	1	73,888,745-73,895,024	0.96	0	253
NSP1	Sobic.002 G372100	GRAS-family transcription factor	2	73,049,658-73,053,841	-0.90	0	5.9*
CCD8	Sobic.002 G380550	carlactone synthase	2	73,655,874-73,656,496	-0.84	1	0
MAX1	Sobic.003 G269500	cytochrome P450	3	60,624,004-60,628,867	1.28	0	38.2
MAX1	Sobic.003 G269600	cytochrome P450	3	60,633,944-60,636,136	0.92	1	73.4
CCD8	Sobic.003 G293600	carlactone synthase	3	62,602,964-62,607,023	-0.23	0	24.0
LBO	Sobic.003 G418000	oxidoreducta se	3	72,382,455-72,384,461	3.80	0	60.6*
MAX1	Sobic.004 G095500	cytochrome P450	4	8,304,449-8,307,025	2.39	0	0.4
SMXL5	Sobic.004 G139900	Class I Clp ATPase	4	40,568,128-40,571,634	-0.07	0	1.5
SMXL3	Sobic.004	Class I Clp	4	51,922,148-	-0.19	2	1.9

	G168600	ATPase		51,925,516			
SMAX1	Sobic.004 G325000	Class I Clp ATPase	4	66,043,348- 66,044,531	0.54	0	57.0
SMXL7	Sobic.005 G002400	Class I Clp ATPase	5	190,488- 194,282	-0.64	0	3.9
CCD8	Sobic.005 G002500	carlactone synthase	5	202,329- 204,425	-1.41	4	0.26
SMXL3	Sobic.005 G043000	Class I Clp ATPase	5	4,061,603- 4,065,225[1]	0.74	3	24.3
CCD8	Sobic.005 G105700	carlactone synthase	5	19,797,305- 19,799,526	-2.15	0	1.4
D27	Sobic.005 G168200	β-carotene isomerase	5	64,672,109- 64,677,619	-0.88	0	3.0
LGS1	Sobic.005 G213600	sulfotransfera se	5	69,984,440- 69,986,256	0.19	3	1.1
SMXL3	Sobic.006 G074900	Class I Clp ATPase	6	43,746,994- 43,751,171	-0.13	0	4.5
CCD7	Sobic.006 G170300	β-carotene cleaving dioxygenase	6	52,713,305- 52,716,037[2]	0.47	2	9.6**
D27	Sobic.007 G016600	β-carotene isomerase	7	1,433,383- 1,435,073	-1.13	0	0
SMAX1	Sobic.007 G090900	Class I Clp ATPase	7	14,458,102- 14,461,202	2.31	0	80.6
CCD8	Sobic.007 G170300	carlactone synthase	7	60,503,029- 60,506,362	-1.03	0	17.2
SMXL7	Sobic.008 G002400	Class I Clp ATPase	8	219,391- 225,260	0.26	0	245.2
SMXL3	Sobic.008 G042800	Class I Clp ATPase	8	4,207,967- 4,210,364	NA	0	2.2*
NSP2	Sobic.008 G046700	GRAS-family transcription	8	4,591,222- 4,596,201	-1.58	0	0.4

[1] Overlaps with QTL05[1 (Yohannes et al. 2015)]
[2] Overlaps with QTL06 (Yohannes et al. 2015)

		factor					
D27	Sobic.009 G030800	β-carotene isomerase	9	2,741,604- 2,744,934	NA	0	13.9
MAX2	Sobic.010 G043000	F-box protein	10	3,312,894- 3,316,043	NA	0	222.1
MAX1	Sobic.010 G170400	cytochrome P450	10	50,177,361- 50,180,730	NA	0	33.7

D27: DWARF27; CCD7: CAROTENOID CLEAVING DIOXYGENASE 7; CCD8:

CAROTENOID CLEAVING DIOXYGENASE 8; MAX1: MORE AXILLARY BRANCHES

1; NSP1: NODULATION SIGNALING PATHWAY 1; NSP2: NODULATION SIGNALING

PATHWAY 2; LBO: LATERAL BRANCHING OXIDOREDUCTASE; LGS1: LOW

GERMINATION STIMULANT 1; SMAX1: SUPPRESSOR OF MAX2-1; SMXL7: SMAX1-

LIKE 7; SMXL5: SMAX1-LIKE 5; SMXL3: SMAX1-LIKE 3

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Table S4. Sorghum SNPs showing significant genome-wide associations with *S.*

hermonthica distribution (FDR correction at α=0.05). SNPs within 1kb of gene models

are annotated and are ordered according to genomic location. AF: reference allele

frequency; AdjP: P-value after FDR adjustment. For gene models with more than one

SNP, the highest scoring position is shown. SNPs predicted to result in an amino acid

change are shown in bold.

Chr	Position	AF	AdjP	Gene_model	Annotation
1	21828170[3]	0.292	0.046	Sobic.001G227800	Uncharacterized conserved protein, putative, expressed
1	50469815	0.035	0.037	NA	NA
1	54864458[4]	0.013	0.024	NA	NA
1	56800905	0.043	0.028	NA	NA
1	58808651	0.214	0.046	NA	NA
1	58837130	0.14	0.045	Sobic.001G304500	Os10g0551200 protein; GRAS domain family
1	64142276	0.052	0.024	NA	NA
1	64164495	0.054	0.004	Sobic.001G352600	Expressed protein
1	71929093	0.036	0.024	Sobic.001G441500	NA
2	12723171	0.028	0.035	NA	NA
2	21521798	0.275	0.013	Sobic.002G138400	Pectinesterase 14-related
2	68524689	0.018	0.049	Sobic.002G311400	Putative glucosyltransferase
3	1842885	0.011	0.045	NA	NA
3	2025341	0.012	0.002	Sobic.003G023500	Os06g0116300 protein; putative syntaxin
3	13445493	0.026	0.041	Sobic.003G139000	Os01g0290600 protein; putative L-cysteine desulfhydrase 2
3	51292869	0.012	0.023	NA	NA
3	56946323	0.055	0.043	Sobic.003G229700	glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase
3	59075308	0.018	0.008	Sobic.003G252200	HB1, ASXL, restriction endonuclease HTH domain (HARE-HTH)
3	62473154	0.077	0.002	NA	NA
3	62493603	0.093	0.028	Sobic.003G292500	ATP-dependent protease La (LON) domain-containing protein-like
3	62795897	0.012	0.002	Sobic.003G295900	Putative heat shock factor
3	67782723	0.012	0.008	Sobic.003G360200	WUSCHEL-related homeobox 9

[3] QTL from Haussman et al (2004) N13/E36-1
[4] QTL from Haussman et al (2004) N13/E36-1

3	70103330	0.055	0.017	Sobic.003G389700	Os01g0898800 protein
4	19466351	0.011	0.045	NA	NA
4	19724561	0.011	0.028	NA	NA
4	19735015	0.011	0.020	Sobic.004G132200	NA
4	20033536	0.014	0.040	NA	NA
4	20035072	0.012	0.027	NA	NA
4	20782140	0.012	0.012	NA	NA
4	23221234	0.041	0.012	NA	NA
4	60099891	0.012	0.002	Sobic.004G254500	Leafy cotyledon1
4	60767527	0.012	0.015	NA	NA
4	66105213	0.013	0.006	Sobic.004G325832	NA
4	66766354	0.03	0.040	NA	NA
5	1950501	0.087	0.045	NA	NA
5	1976589	0.086	0.013	Sobic.005G021400	NA
5	11089407	0.062	0.024	NA	NA
5	71122163	0.011	0.012	Sobic.005G224300	similar to O-methyltransferase
6	487441	0.086	0.040	Sobic.006G002900	similar to OSJNBa0094O15.15 protein; zinc/RING finger domain
6	15445897	0.011	0.046	NA	NA
6	42246344	0.129	0.028	NA	NA
6	43653802	0.022	0.018	Sobic.006G074300	similar to OSIGBa0092M08.2 protein; non-specific lipid transfer protein d6
6	51034850	0.028	0.033	NA	NA
6	51042152	0.079	0.050	Sobic.006G148800	Phenylalanine ammonia-lyase
6	52891272	0.087	0.004	NA	NA
6	59662162	0.012	0.042	Sobic.006G261700	similar to OSJNBb0004A17.4; Lactoylglutathione lyase
7	11575066	0.014	0.018	NA	NA
7	12044293	0.014	0.016	NA	NA
7	12094853	0.013	0.012	NA	NA
7	12891407	0.019	0.045	NA	NA
7	12895894	0.01	0.015	NA	NA
7	14193502	0.018	0.045	NA	NA
7	14220105	0.018	0.034	NA	NA
7	14279216	0.015	0.028	NA	NA
7	14459084[5]	0.014	0.007	Sobic.007G090900	ATP dependent CLP protease; SMAX1

[5] SL signaling (SMAX1 ortholog)

7	14942059	0.018	0.026	Sobic.007G091200	similar to H0117D06-OSIGBa0088B06.9 protein; Long-chain-alcohol O-fatty-acyltransferase
7	15219432	0.021	0.040	Sobic.007G091400	diacylglycerol kinase (ATP) (dgkA, DGK)
7	15254559	0.013	0.004	NA	NA
7	15325565	0.017	0.045	NA	NA
7	15359204	0.013	0.024	NA	NA
7	15532403	0.013	0.012	NA	NA
7	15534152	0.013	0.004	NA	NA
7	15554515	0.012	0.002	Sobic.007G092000	CCT/B-box zinc finger protein
7	15653673	0.019	0.046	Sobic.007G092200	aspartate carbamoyltransferase
7	15849206	0.014	0.027	NA	NA
7	15901805	0.017	0.026	NA	NA
7	15929687	0.019	0.018	Sobic.007G092600	Receptor-like kinase Xa21-binding protein 3-like
7	16293907	0.014	0.027	NA	NA
7	17082700	0.014	0.044	NA	NA
7	17092629	0.017	0.040	Sobic.007G093900	N-terminal acetyltransferase
7	17302379	0.019	0.045	Sobic.007G094600	Cytochrome P450 protein
7	17831891	0.019	0.040	Sobic.007G096200	Putative uncharacterized protein
7	17882047	0.018	0.028	NA	NA
7	17960172	0.018	0.018	Sobic.007G096800	Putative uncharacterized protein
7	18275486	0.012	0.018	NA	NA
7	18279010	0.013	0.015	NA	NA
7	18300164	0.012	0.024	NA	NA
7	18408217	0.012	0.015	NA	NA
7	19041599	0.011	0.037	Sobic.007G097400	sin-like protein conserved region containing protein
7	48195744	0.017	0.045	NA	NA
7	62605107	0.013	0.006	Sobic.007G193500	similar to Teosinte glume architecture 1
7	63109499	0.023	0.045	NA	NA
8	3177383	0.024	0.029	Sobic.008G034400	ATP-dependent RNA helicase, putative, expressed
8	13233629	0.016	0.018	NA	NA
8	60143889	0.012	0.026	Sobic.008G167300	Leucine-rich repeat-containing protein
8	61305329	0.014	0.043	Sobic.008G179600	similar to Expressed protein
9	1792519	0.011	0.017	Sobic.009G019900	NA

9	5744893	0.226	0.046	Sobic.009G056600	Putative uncharacterized protein
9	49976645	0.014	0.028	Sobic.009G142400	Putative gibberellin 20-oxidase
9	51474569	0.110	0.028	NA	NA
9	56421520	0.014	0.040	NA	NA
10	13677824	0.014	0.024	NA	NA
10	55681432	0.020	0.013	Sobic.010G213900	Receptor protein kinase PERK1-like
10	56006575	0.014	0.014	Sobic.010G216800	Putative uncharacterized protein
10	56761438[6]	0.026	0.018	NA	NA
10	59272319	0.016	0.028	Sobic.010G253700	NA

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[6] QTL from Haussman et al (2004) IS9830/E36-1

1122 Table S5. Accessions from the Sorghum Association Panel used in germination study.

Accession	Name	Origin	Reported Resistance	*LGS1* allele
PI 656027	SRN39	-	Resistant	Deletion
PI 533752	SC103 (54.K.94)	-	Resistant	Deletion
PI 533972	Dobbs	Uganda	Resistant	Intact
PI 656025	Shanqui Red	China	Susceptible	Intact
PI 656055	P721	US	Susceptible	Intact*
PI 656051	MR7323	Niger	Unknown	Intact
PI 642791	BTx640	US	Unknown	Intact
PI 534088	Za6	Nigeria	Unknown	Intact
PI 534092	Za71	Nigeria	Unknown	Intact
PI 533976	Framiola DL59/1539	South Africa	Unknown	Deletion
PI 656040	K886	-	Unknown	Deletion
PI 656081	SC1439	-	Unknown	Intact*

1123 *No data in coding region, although SNP calls inconsistent with breakpoints for *lgs1-2* or

1124 *lgs1-3*.

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