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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53483 Date: August 22 2025

Title: Phenotypic screening of 32 West African Sorghum Genotypes for Drought Tolerance

Recommendation:
Accept as it is .....
Accept after minor revision.....
Accept after major revision .....
Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		X		
Techn. Quality		X		
Clarity			X	
Significance		X		

Reviewer Name: Dr Lakhdar Guerine **Date:**

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This study evaluated 32 West African sorghum genotypes under drought stress at panicle initiation. Significant variability in agro-physiological and yield traits was observed among genotypes. Drought reduced photosynthesis (−13%), transpiration (−40%), and grain yield (−47%). Genotype V26 combined high yield with low stress sensitivity, emerging as elite. Other tolerant but less productive genotypes may serve as reservoirs for breeding.

Strengths

1) Relevant study addressing climate resilience in sorghum.
2) Rigorous methodology with physiological, morphological, and tolerance indices.
3) Identification of elite and gene-reservoir genotypes for breeding.

Weaknesses

a) Single-site evaluation limits environmental extrapolation.
b) No genetic or molecular validation of tolerance mechanisms.

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c) Discussion could better integrate international comparisons.

Points to improve

1. Clarity and conciseness ; The manuscript is very detailed; the text should be streamlined to highlight the main findings.
2. International positioning ; Strengthen the discussion by comparing with similar studies in other regions (Asia, US, etc.).
3. Validation ; If possible, recommend or plan multi-location trials for broader applicability.
4. Language ; The English translation must be carefully revised for scientific style, clarity, and grammar.