



## **DLCO-EA NEWSLETTER**

### **CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE REGION**

#### **1. A REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON MIGRANT PESTS MANAGEMENT IN EASTERN AFRICA**

The Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA) organized a Regional Training Course on Migrant Pests Management in Moshi, Tanzania from 5th – 8th December, 2011.

The participants were the National Coordinators for the control of African Armyworm, Quelea birds and Locusts from Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. DLCO-EA Base Managers from Arusha, Dire Dawa, Kampala and Khartoum as well as one Pilot from DLCO – EA attended the training course.

A total of 26 participants (Ethiopia 3, Kenya 3, Sudan 3, Tanzania 9, Uganda 3, and DLCO-EA 5) attended the training course.

More participants from Tanzania attended the training course than the other countries since the training course was held in Tanzania.

The trainers were Senior Staff Members from DLCO-EA and Base Managers from Dire Dawa, Kampala and Khartoum DLCO-EA

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Bases. The training course was fully funded by DLCO-EA.

The main objective of the training course was to upgrade the capacity of the national coordinators of the Member Countries in the management of African Armyworm, Quelea birds and Locusts, and thereby prevent tremendous crop losses that are likely to be caused by the migrant pests in the region. The pre- and post-course evaluations conducted showed the training course was very successful. All the participants made a significant improvement in the post course evaluation.



*Group Photo of the Participants*

## 2. TRAINING ON THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES (RAMSES AND ELOCUST2 AND ELOCUST2 MAPPER) FOR DESERT LOCUST DATA MANAGEMENT

A training program on Reconnaissance And Management System of the Environment of Schistocerca (RAMSES), eLocust2 and eLocust2 mapper was organized for staff of the Eritrean Plant Protection Department and the DLCO-EA Caretaker in Hargeisa from 10 -11 December, 2011. The eLocust2 equipment is used during surveys while the RASMES database is used to store and dispatch Desert Locust information to organizations and countries dealing with the Desert Locust. Currently, all Desert Locust affected countries are using these systems in their Desert Locust management programs.

Consequently, four staff, 3 from Eritrea MoA and one DLCO-EA Caretaker in Hargeisa, Somaliland and participated in the training course. The training was conducted by two senior staff from the Information and Forecasting Division (Chief and Senior Information and Forecasting Officers) at the DLCO-EA Operations Office in Nairobi, Kenya. The budget for this training was fully covered by DLCO-EA.



Trainees on Practice



## REVIEW OF MIGRATORY PEST SITUATION

**October– December, 2011**

### Desert Locust

Due to poor rainfall Desert Locust numbers continued to remain low in the region during October - December. Low numbers of solitarious adults moved from the summer breeding areas in the interior of **Sudan** to the winter breeding areas in the Red Sea Coast. During November and December a few scattered adults were reported in the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea Coast in **Sudan, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia and Yemen**. Because of the light rain in December on the coast of Sudan, ecological conditions become favorable for Desert Locust breeding. Favorable conditions were also present along the Red Sea Coast in **Yemen**.

It is forecasted that small scale breeding is likely to occur in the above places and other areas that receive rainfall. These will cause locust numbers to increase slightly but remain below threatening level for the coming month. (FAO)

### Grain eating Birds (*Quelea quelea*)

Quelea bird infestations were reported in **Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia** where the birds were attacking cereal crops such as rice, wheat, barley, sorghum and millets.

During October low to high levels of Quelea outbreaks were reported in the Southern Nation, Nationalities and People's (SNNP), Oromiya, Amhara, part of Somali and Harari

Regional States in the Rift Valley parts of the country.

During November Quelea infestation was reported in Uganda in Iganga District(esp. Kimbimba area) in the east.

Upon the request of Member Countries, DLCO-EA Aircraft were deployed to control the infestations. Through these operations, millions of birds were controlled and many tones of crops were saved from destruction by the birds. This has assured farmers and Member Governments in saving their harvest, which could have been lost to birds.

### Armyworms

Except for the report of early armyworm infestation in early December in Kenya, the region remained free of armyworm outbreak from October to December 2011.

## ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY DLCO-EA

### OPERATIONS

DLCO-EA carried out several activities during the period under consideration, including combating the menace from Quelea birds which invaded farms in **Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia**.

During October, a DLCO-EA spray Aircraft conducted Quelea control operation in Tanzania in Kilimanjaro region. Four roosting sites on 70 ha of sugarcane having an estimated population of 11 million birds were successfully controlled during the operation. The birds were destroying irrigated rice in Moshi District. 400 liters of

Bathion (Fenthion) 60% ULV were sprayed achieving a 98% kill of the bird population.

During October, a DLCO-EA Aircraft was also deployed in Nyanza region to control Quelea infestations reported at Siaya and Kisumu

A DLCO-EA Aircraft was deployed to control the infestations which were reported from **Ethiopia** in October, 2011. A total of 16 million birds were controlled using 1,150 liters of Fenthion 60% ULV on 575ha starting from October 15, 2011 to November 26, 2011.

### DLCO-EA AIRCRAFT SITREP AS AT 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2011

A/C REG.	5Y-BCJ Beaver	5Y-BCK Beaver	5Y-BCL Beaver	5Y-KRD Beaver	5Y-DLA Caravan	5Y-DLD Baron	5Y-BBB Islander	5Y-DLD Turbo Beaver
<b>C OF A DUE DATE</b>	27/03/2012	08/02/2012	01/08/2012	IN PROGRESS	20/02/2012	IN PROGRESS	23/06/2012	17/04/2012
<b>CHECK III</b>	20/01/2014	IN PROGRESS	13/04/2013	IN PROGRESS	N/A	IN PROGRESS	15/07/2014	14/01/2014
<b>PROP. 5 YR OVERHAUL</b>	21/07/2014	17/11/2013	19/12/2012	IN PROGRESS	06/08/2012	IN PROGRESS	PORT:28/9/2014 STBD:28/9/2014	17/07/2012
<b>A/F HOURS</b>	125:50	388:05	31:00	154:35	1467:30	499:15	21:55	104:30
<b>ENGINE (S) HRS</b>	985:15	694:25	491:55	154:35	1294:40	PORT: 00:00 STBD: 00:00	PORT: 1540:25 STBD: 1540:25	206:45
<b>PROP. HRS</b>	4:10	388:05	491:55	503:25	2898:50	PORT: 1346:25 STBD: 1278:05	PORT:200:15 STBD:200:15	206:45
<b>LOCATION</b>	STANDBY NAIROBI	NAIROBI MAINTENANCE	STANDBY NAIROBI	UNDER ACCIDENT REPAIR	MWANZA UNHCR	NAIROBI MAINTENANCE	MWANZA UNHCR	STANDBY NAIROBI

**NB**



**IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**



**TO BE NOTED**

