



DLCO-EA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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PRESEDENT HOLDS TALK WITH DLCO-EA COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

President Isaias Afwerki of Eritrea received and held talks with the Council of Ministers of the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA).



In the course of the meeting at the State House, the President stressed that the activities of the Organization should be assessed vis-à-vis the need for achieving expanded membership. He went on to emphasize that the DLCO-EA should reinforce its work programs. President Isaias also voiced Eritrea's readiness to back the activities of the Organization.

The members of the DLCO-EA Council of Ministers on their part stated that their stay here has enabled them to get acquainted with Eritrea's right image. They further expressed satisfaction with President Isaias's constructive suggestions, and said that they would apply the proposals put forth by the President.

Present at the meeting were Mr. Gaspar Mallya, Director of DLCO-EA, Mr. Arefaine Berhe, Minister of Agriculture of Eritrea, and his counterparts from the Republic of Sudan, Uganda and South Sudan and the Executive Chairman, Mr. Komayombi Bullegeya.

DLCO-EA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

The 58th Regular Session of the DLCO-EA Council of Ministers was held in Asmara Palace Hotel, Eritrea from 10th - 11th October, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Honourable Bright Rwamirama, Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Uganda. All Member Countries were represented except Djibouti, Ethiopia and Somalia.

The main agenda items of the Council session were to discuss the activities of migrant pests, namely Desert Locust, Quelea birds and Armyworm in 2012/2013 and approve the work plan for 2013/2014. A number of administrative issues that are of paramount importance to smooth running of the Organization were also discussed and adopted. The Council of Ministers of the Organization decided to conduct its forthcoming meeting in Tanzania in September, 2014.

Prior to the council session DLCO-EA Executive Committee also held its deliberation in the same venue and deliberated on the progress report of 2012/2013 and the programme of work for 2013/2014.



58th Regular Session of the DLCO-EA Council of Ministers. held in Palace Hotel. Asmara. Eritrea

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY BASED ARMYWORM FORECASTING

A Regional Workshop on Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early warning (CBAMFEW) was held in Nazereth (Adama) Ethiopia from 4th – 6th November, 2013. The main objectives of the workshop were to review the implementation of year one milestones, the challenges faced and year two work plan.



Group Photo of Workshop Participants

A total of 10 participants attended the workshop. These were national Armyworm Coordinators (NACs) from Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania, DLCO-EA Base Managers from Kenya and Ethiopia, the Director of Plant Health Regulatory Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia, Director of DLCO-EA and two senior staff members from DLCO-EA.

The Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early warning is a three year project funded by USAID/ OFDA and implemented in Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

A REGIONAL REFRESHER TRAINING COURSE ON DESERT LOCUST MANAGEMENT

A Regional Training course on the Management of Desert Locust was held in Moshi, Tanzania from 9th – 13th December 2013.

The main objective of the training course was to upgrade the capacity of National Desert Locust Coordinators of Member Countries and to better prepare them to manage the Desert Locust threat in the Region.

There were 12 participants from seven DLCO-EA Member Countries, namely Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. DLCO-EA Base Managers also attended this training course.

The trainers were senior staff members from DLCO-EA Headquarters, Nairobi and Dire Dawa CRB.

The topics covered included reviewing a contingency plan prepared by DLCO-EA, organizing Desert Locust steering Committees and the Desert Locust survey and control methods.

MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION OCTOBER – DECEMBER, 2013

DESERT LOCUST:

The locust situation in Yemen remained serious. Swarms formed in the interior of the country in October moved from the summer to the winter breeding areas of the Red Sea coastal plains and Gulf of Aden began laying eggs and hoppers were seen forming groups. Small-scale breeding occurred on the central Red Sea coast. In late October, adult groups arrived on the southern coastal plains near Jizan in Yemen. In Sudan, there were early signs that an outbreak is developing in the summer breeding areas where hopper and adult groups and a few hopper bands formed. Adult groups moved to the northeast where breeding was already in progress and to the Red Sea Coast.



Desert locust situation, October, 2013, (FAO-DLIS)

In November the situation worsened in the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea, particularly in Yemen and Eritrea. An outbreak unexpectedly developed on the central Red Sea coast in Eritrea from undetected breeding. Ground control operation treated more than 10,000 ha of hopper groups and bands. Breeding increased on the Red Sea coast in Saudi Arabia where limited control operations were carried out against hopper and adult groups. In Sudan, ground and aerial control operations treated nearly 21,000 ha of hopper bands and groups of hoppers and adults that persisted in the summer breeding areas of the interior. A few swarms formed in Sudan and Yemen. Breeding was underway on the Red Sea coast and sub-coastal areas of Sudan where locusts were concentrating and gregarizing. A second generation of breeding started in Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Local breeding was also reported in eastern Ethiopia.



Desert Locust Situation November, 2013, (FAO-DLIS)

Locust situation continued to increase during December along the Red Sea Coastal plains in Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Eritrea where a second generation of breeding was underway, causing numerous groups of hoppers and adults as well as hopper bands to form. Swarms formed in Yemen and Saudi Arabia. One swarm reportedly crossed the border from Eritrea to Sudan while the others moved from Yemen to Saudi Arabia. As ecological conditions remained favourable

second generation breeding continued, causing more hopper bands and swarms. Numerous reports of locust infestations in Northern Somalia that could not be confirmed were received. Nevertheless, groups of adults and perhaps a small swarm are thought to have laid eggs on the northeast coast.



Desert Locust Situation, December, 2013, (FAO-DLIS)

GRAIN EATING BIRDS (*Quelea quelea*)

Ethiopia

During October, *Quelea* infestations were reported from Oromia and Amhara Regional States (Zeway/Meki, Fedis, Babile and Showa Robit).

Aerial control operations using a DLCO-EA aircraft were carried out starting from 19th of October.

Between 19th to 26th of October, about 14.5 million birds which were spread over 350 ha of Typha grasses were controlled with 700 liters of Bathion 60% ULV.

During November, the *Quelea* control operations conducted were as follows:

- **Oromiya/East Shewa** (Region/Zone):

On 1st, 11th, 13th and 15th of November, about 9.0 million birds in roosts and

colonies, on 200 ha of Typha grasses were controlled with 400 litres of Bathion 60% ULV.

- **Amhara/South Shewa** (Region/Zone):

On 3rd of November, about 0.2 million birds in roosts and colonies, on 50 ha of Typha grasses were controlled with 100 liters of Bathion 60% ULV.

- **Amhara/North Shewa** (Region/Zone):

On 5th, 8th, 17th, and 18th of November, about 4.8 million birds in roosts and colonies, on 190 ha of Sorghum, Typha grasses, Bamboo and Acacia trees were controlled with 378 litres of Bathion 60% ULV.

- **Amhara/Oromiya** Zone:

On 6th, 7th, 9th, 19th, 20th and 21st of November, about 5.9 million birds in roosts and colonies, on 222 ha of Sorghum and Typha grasses were controlled with 444 litres of Bathion 60% ULV.

Kenya

A DLCO-EA spray aircraft was deployed for controlling *Quelea* birds around **Kisumu** and **Dominion** areas during end of September and October, and details are presented below:

- **Kisumu**

On 29th, 30th September and 1st of October, 4.5 million birds on 120 ha of Sugarcane and Reeds grasses were controlled with 130 liters of Queletox. Birds were feeding on Rice crops.

- **Dominion farm**

On 4th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 11th. And 13th of October, 10 million birds which were roosting on 340 ha of Acacia and Eucalyptus trees, and Papyrus and Reeds grasses were controlled with 335 liters of Queletox. Birds were feeding on Rice crops and the area under threat was estimated at 2,600 ha.

TREE LOCUST

During December, a DLCO-EA aircraft was deployed in Turkana County, Kenya to control Tree Locusts infestation. The locusts were ravaging tree leaves, which are important fodder for animals. This is the second deployment of an aircraft to the area within 3 months.

DLCO-EA AIRCRAFT SITREP AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 2013

A/C REG.	5Y-BCJ Beaver	5Y-BCK Beaver	5Y-BCL Beaver	5Y-KRD Beaver	5Y-DLA Caravan	5Y-DLO Baron	5Y-BBB Islander	5Y-DLD Turbo Beaver
C OF A DUE DATE	15/04/2014	07/04/2014	20/11/2014	IN PROGRESS	19/02/2014	IN PROGRESS	24/11/2014	22/05/2014
CHECK III	20/01/2014	10/06/2015	21/08/2014	IN PROGRESS	N/A	IN PROGRESS	15/07/2014	IN PROGRESS
PROP. 5 YR OVERHAUL	28/07/2016	10/04/2018	10/02/2018	IN PROGRESS	28/05/2018	IN PROGRESS	PORT:28/9/2014 STBD:28/9/2014	21/07/2017
A/F HOURS	240:30	319:35	290:20	154:35	2617:00	499:15	37:10	251:45
ENGINE (S) HRS	1098:40	1055:05	747:35	154:35	2445:20	PORT: 00:00 STBD: 00:00	PORT: 1555:40 STBD: 1555:40	353:00
PROP. HRS	122:25	93:05	166:25	503:25	338:55	PORT: 1346:25 STBD: 1278:05	PORT:215:30 STBD:215:30	135:25
LOCATION	STANDBY NAIROBI	LOCUST SUDAN	STANDBY NAIROBI	UNDER ACCIDENT REPAIR	MWANZA UNHCR	NAIROBI MAINTENANCE	STANDBY NAIROBI	STANDBY NAIROBI

NB

 **IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

 **TO BE NOTED**

Checked by: - Chief Engineer

Address: Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA)
P. O. Box 4255
Phone: +251-11-6461477
Fax: +251-11-6460296
E mail: dlc@ethionet.et
Web: www.dlcoea.org.et
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia