



DLCO-EA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Immature swarm over Hargeisa northern Somalia on 28th March, 2014

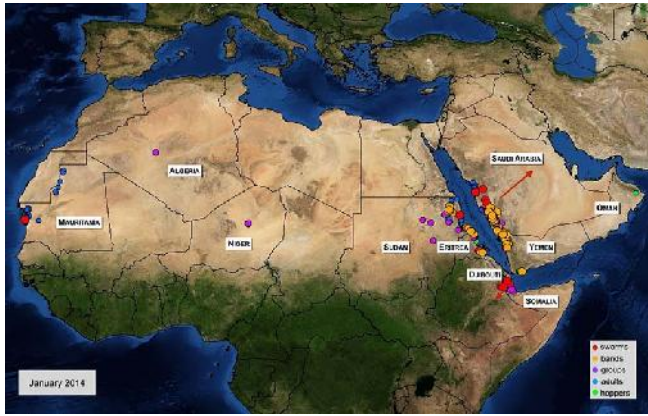
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MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION January - March, 2014

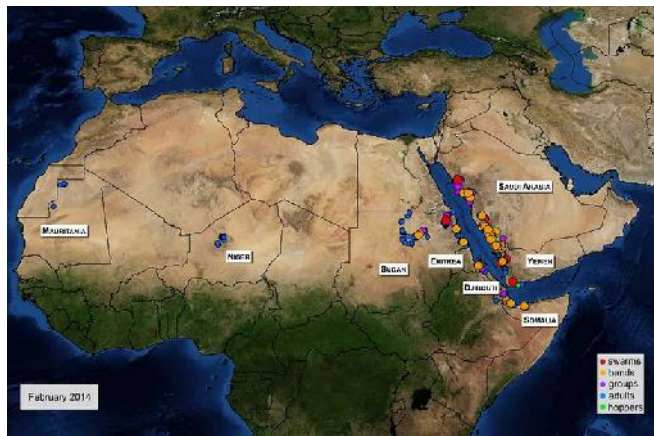
DESERT LOCUST:

The Desert Locust situation in the region remained alarming during January - March, 2014. A number of hopper bands developed in the northern and southern Red Sea coast of Eritrea, and the Northeastern Red Sea coast of Sudan. Consequently, some swarms have developed and started migrating within the areas and breed causing more hoppers to appear. Ground and aerial control operation continued in both countries and the situation started to decline. The Chief Information and Forecasting Officer of DLCO-EA conducted field assessment in the Red Sea coast of Eritrea to assess the situation. His report indicated that the situation was alarming and more breeding could continue as the weather and ecological conditions were very favourable for further breeding.



In Somaliland Desert Locust breeding and development continued in the coastal areas during winter from early November, 2013 until mid - March, 2014 when ecological conditions became largely dry.

The favorable environmental conditions that prevailed over the horn of Africa also initiated limited Desert Locust breeding in eastern Ethiopia, Shinile zone of the Somale region, where in November, 2013 ground control operation was done by MoA, Ethiopia on 4 ha



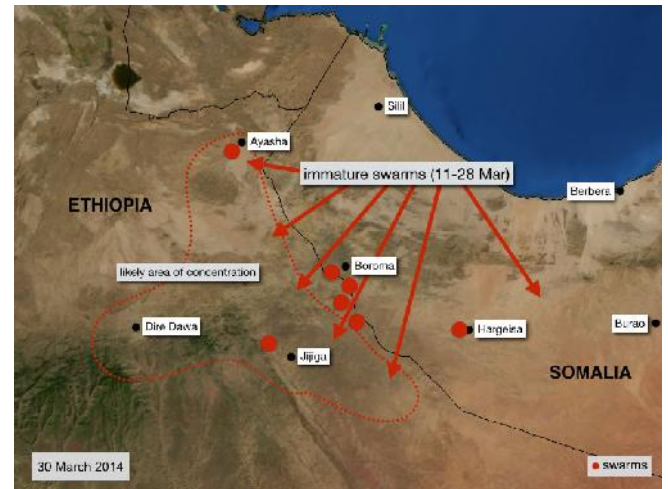
of hoppers infestation. In the same area, DLCO-EA carried out a demonstration on the use of Green Muscle (GM) (*Metarhizium anisopliae* var. *acridum*) as an effective bio-control agent against desert Locust.

Ground surveys for Desert Locust carried out in the Coastal plains and highlands of Northern Somalia on 14th - 22nd March, 2014. the coastal plains were found to be infected by hopper bands in their later instars. The highlands were free of infestation.

Demonstration on use of GM was also done in Northern Somalia on 80 ha infested with hoppers with recommendable success.

During the last week of March, 2014 several swarms originating from northwest coastal plains of northern **Somalia** started migrating towards eastern Ethiopia. The swarms are highly mobile and difficult to track and control. One DLCO-EA spray aircraft is on standby in Dire Dawa, **Ethiopia** and national ground teams have been mobilized to eastern areas. So far, control operations have been carried out on several swarms near Ayasha and Jijiga.

The prevailing winds are expected to concentrate the swarms on the plateau near Jijiga, in adjacent areas of the Harar Highlands, and along the railway area between



Dire Dawa and Ayasha. The adults are likely to mature in areas of recent rainfall or runoff and lay eggs in a few weeks. Swarm movements across the Somali plateau are likely to decline in the coming weeks.



Immature swarm over Hargeisa on 28 March, 2014

GRAIN EATING BIRDS (*Quelea quelea*):

During January - March, 2014 the situation in Member Countries remained calm except for some roosts reported in different locations in Kenya and Tanzania.

ARMYWORM (*Spodoptera exempta*):

Armyworm outbreaks:

During January - March, 2014 the situation in the Member Countries remained generally calm. However, some early infestations have been reported in the **Primary Breeding** areas in Tanzania and Kenya.

ACTIVITIES ON COMMUNITY BASED ARMYWORM MONITORING, REPORTING, FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING PROJECT

Activities of the second year of the Community Based Armyworm Monitoring Forecasting and Early Warning project started with the Training of Trainers Course in Kenyan which was held on 19th - 21st March, 2014 in Nakuru, Kenya. The Operation Coordinator and Chief Information and Forecasting Officer participated in this program. The training course was attended by 12 MoA staff including the training course organizers and facilitators.

Another activity carried out is district meetings which were held in 3 districts in each of project countries of Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania.

Participants in the meeting included district staff of the Ministries of Agriculture, Livestock production, farmers' representatives and other stake holders.

Objectives of the meetings were:

- To introduce the CBAMFEW initiative and explain the different steps involved in the implementation.
- To discuss roles of key stake holders in CBAMFEW.
- To discuss criteria for selection of sub-locations for the CBAMFEW initiative.

Among technical areas discussed in the district meetings included:

- Economic importance of Armyworms,
- Armyworm biology and migratory behavior.
- Importance of armyworm forecasting

At the end of each meeting, the participants were eager to implement this new initiative for armyworm forecasting, in their respective districts.

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL COMMITTEE (DLCC) MEETING ON THE FINANCING SYSTEM

The Director DLCO-EA participated in a 3 days DLCC meeting in Rome, Italy on 11th - 13th March, 2014.

The meeting was convened by the FAO on the recommendation of the 40th session of DLCC to: Organize a meeting in 2013 with some countries from the three Desert Locust affected regions, together with donors, in order to define more precisely and more particularly the financial tools that were earlier proposed by a study on Desert Locust control financial governance.

The scope of the meeting was to define financing instruments, outlining their objectives, total value and eligibility and triggering criteria, as well as financing, management and control methods. The purpose of the meeting was not to advocate for funding, rather to define a global framework for governance and financing of Desert Locust control with the relevance stockholders involved to provide a rapid and adequate response to a given locust situation in one or more countries that cannot cope alone.

The meeting was attended representatives from: **Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Jordan, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen**, the **Executive Secretariat of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in western Region (CLCPRO)**, the **Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region (CRC)** and the **Commission for controlling the Desert Locust in South -West Asia (SWAC)**, the **Representatives of French Agency for Development (AFD)**, **French Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, and the **USAID. Representatives of the Emergency Rehabilitation Division and the Food chain Crisis Management Framework of FAO** were also present.

DLCO-EA AIRCRAFT SITREP AS AT 31 MARCH, 2014

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	15/04/2015	07/07/2014	20/11/2014	IN PROGRESS	19/02/2015	IN PROGRESS	24/11/2014	22/05/2014
CHECK III	5/04/2017	10/06/2015	21/08/2014	IN PROGRESS	N/A	IN PROGRESS	15/07/2014	2/03/2017
PROP. 5 YR OVERHAUL	06/03/2019	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	12:20	401:30	333:00	154:35	2744:55	499:15	37:10	00:00
ENGINE (S) HRS	167:50	00:00	790:35	154:35	2582:15	PORT: 00:00 STBD: 00:00	PORT: 1555:40 STBD: 1555:40	332:05
PROP. HRS	12:20	145:45	209:25	503:25	483:45	PORT: 1346:25 STBD: 1278:05	PORT:215:30 STBD:215:30	115:30
LOCATION	QUELEA TANZANIA	ENGINE CHANGE NRB	LOCUST ETHIOPIA	UNDER ACCIDENT REPAIR	MWANZA UNHCR	NAIROBI MAINTENANCE	STANDBY NAIROBI	STANDBY NAIROBI

NB

 **IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

 **TO BE NOTED**

Checked by: - Chief Engineer

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