



DLCO-EA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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FAO AND DLCO-EA WORKING TOWARDS THE MANAGEMENT OF FALL ARMYWORM IN EASTERN AFRICA

The Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO- EA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Sub regional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE) and the Ministries of Agriculture of implementing Countries: Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania are jointly implementing an USAID funded project titled “*Establishing an Emergency Community-based Fall armyworm Monitoring forecasting, Early Warning and Management System (CBFAMFEWS) in Eastern Africa*”

The project aims at stemming the scourge of the Desert Locusts and to spare farmers from the agony of DL outbreaks during the 2017/2018 season. The project is largely based on the experiences and lessons learnt from a previous successful USAID funded DLCO-EA project on the Community based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early warning (CBAFEW). The

project aimed at reducing the damage caused by the African Armyworm to crops and pastures and thereby improving food security and livelihoods of the rural communities in the high risk districts of Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania

While the foregoing efforts were being made there occurred new reports of severe outbreaks of the Fall Armyworm *Spodoptera frugiperda* in Southern Africa countries of Namibia, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe and Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda Ethiopia and South Sudan.

This invasive pest was first reported on the African continent in West and Central Africa by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and FAO in June 2016.

As part of an emergency response to the threat posed by the Fall Army Worm, FAO-SFE, DLCO-EA and CABI propose initiative to use an innovative community-based monitoring, forecasting, early warning and response to prevent further spread and crop losses in the sub region. The initiative will build on the success of a similar approach used for the African Army Worm in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania.

The outcome of the proposed project will be to prevent the build-up of the fall armyworm in the eastern African sub-region to avert production losses in the 2017/18 & 2018/19 cropping seasons for agricultural production, pasture land and natural vegetation covers. Villages will be monitoring the Fall armyworm situation and be able to detect the infestations early in their respective localities. Preventive and/or curative control interventions are will be launched on a timely basis and Fall armyworm damage minimized and/or avoided. The amount of food saved could feed hundreds of thousands of people for a year thus reducing costly food imports.

In this regard, FAO's Sub regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa and FAO Representative to AUC & ECA (SRC-SFE), Dr. Patrick Kormawa and the Director of DLCO-EA, Dr. Stephen W. Njoka signed a **Letter of Agreement (LOA)** to jointly implement the project to control the Fall armyworm.

The USAID funded project, is being implemented in five frontline states of the Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan). It will build the capacity of affected communities as well as strengthen Desert Locust information management and communication systems of these frontline states.

The FAO and DLCO-EA Leaders stressed the permanent threat of the Fall armyworm and the severe impact the transboundary pest can have on food security and livelihoods in the sub region. They both noted that early detection of the pest is of crucial importance for the effective control if the sub region is to achieve its vision to end hunger, enhance food security, improve nutrition and create better livelihoods.

DLCO-EA FEATURES AT THE PLANT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF ETHIOPIA (PPSE).

The Plant Protection Society of Ethiopia (PPSE) celebrated its 25th year Silver Jubilee together with the 24th Annual Conference from March 16th -17th, 2018 at Haramaya University. Haramaya is famed as the first and the oldest Agricultural University in the country and the pioneer in "building the basis for development".

The conference theme was "Emerging and re-emerging plant pests of Ethiopia: status, interventions and future prospects in a changing climate".

The DLCO-EA was invited and privileged to present two papers titled thus:

1. ***"Water hyacinth Control and Management: The Case of Lake Victoria"***. by Dr. Stephen W. Njoka, OGW (Director, DLCO-EA).
2. ***"Recent Surges of Migratory Pests in Ethiopia: The Case of Desert Locust"*** by Hiwot Lemma, Felege Elias, Zebdewos

Salato and Keith, Creesman.



The DLCO-EA Director Dr Stephen W. Njoka (right) accompanied by Dr Osman Abdalla (Chief Research Officer) and Ms Hiwot Lemma (Dire Dawa Base Manager) attended the Plant Protection Society of Ethiopia Annual Conference and Silver Anniversary at Haramaya University.

NATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON FALL ARMYWORM MANAGEMENT

Within the framework of the CBFAMFEWS project, DLCO-EA and Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania jointly organized four days National Training of Trainers (ToT) course on Fall armyworm management and establishment of Community based Fall army worm Monitoring, Reporting and Early warning System.

The trainings were conducted in Bishoftu (Ethiopia), Nakuru (Kenya) and Morogoro (Tanzania in February, March and April 2018

to improve early warning, early detection and early reaction systems for Fall armyworm control.

Participants were plant protection officers from five selected districts in each country, Zonal plant protection officers and plant health clinic staff.

A **total of 45** participants attended the training.



**26th – 28th March, 2018.
NAKURU, KENYA**



**March 29-April 02, 2018
BISHOFU, ETHIOPIA**



**Feb 27 – 1st March, 2018
MOROGORO, TANZANIA**

The trainers were Senior Staff Members from DLCO-EA, experts from FAO, MOA and other national/regional research institutions.

MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION JANUARY – MARCH, 2018

DESERT LOCUST

The Desert Locust situation remained calm during January to March, 2018 in all frontline countries except low numbers of solitary adults were present in a few places in Sudan and Yemen during January and February. However, the situation generally continued to remain calm during March as dry conditions prevailed in the main winter breeding areas



**Winter breeding situation
January, 2018. FAO-DLIS 3/2/2018**



**Areas showing some locust activities
in February 2018, FAO-DLIS 3/3/2018**



**Areas showing some locust activities
in March 2018, FAO-DLIS 3/4/2018**

GRAIN EATING BIRDS (*Quelea quelea*)

During January, flocks of birds were observed in Shinyanga and Mbeya regions posing threat to Sorghum and Paddy crops in Tanzania. Aerial Control started in February using DLCO-EA aircraft in Mwadiu and Igunga districts in Shinyanga region. A total of 7,144 hectares of sorghum crops, which were under the birds attack, were saved due to the control operation.

Survey operation was also conducted in Mombo area in Tanga region, where huge flocks of *Quelea* birds were reported threatening Rice and Sorghum crops in 7 Districts in the Lake Victoria zone, 5 in the Central zone and 2 in the Northern zone. Consequently, aerial control operation by DLCO-EA aircraft was conducted between 21st March and 2nd April on 9 sites mainly in the Lake Zone.

During the operation, 22 million birds roosting on 547.4 ha of Acacia trees, Reeds and Papyrus were controlled using 900 liters of Queletox.

AFRICAN ARMYWORM

During January, small outbreaks of the African Armyworm were reported in Shinyanga region on pastures posing less threat to field crops due to the crops maturity level. The Situation generally remained calm and no infestations were reported mainly in the primary breeding areas of Tanzania and Kenya.

FALL ARMYWORM

Fall Armyworm became an endemic pest in the region and infestations on irrigated and early planted Maize crops were reported in Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia and Eritrea during January, February and March.

19th AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT- ADDIS ABABA.

The DLCO-EA Director Dr Stephen W. Njoka (right) attended the African Union Summit in Addis from 27-29 January, 2018. **Food Security**, a key focus of the AU was addressed.

From left are Amb. Mahboub Maalim (IGAD Executive Secretary), Dr Mukhisa Kituyi (UNCTAD

Executive Secretary) and Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture Hon. Mwangi Kiunjuri.



BEREAVEMENT

The DLCO-EA Fraternity has learnt with deep shock and sorrow the passing on of Mr Hussein Amir of Djibouti. Until his demise the late Hussein served as an Executive Committee Member and often represented the Minister in the Council Sessions, He also served DLCO-EA as Base Manager of Djibouti Base.



May God grant his Family Peace and Mercy as they bear the dear loss of Hussein. . May he RIP. GOD IS.

DLCO-EA AIRCRAFT SITREP AS AT 31st MARCH 2018

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	06/06/2018	31/01/2019	10/10/2018	<i>UNDER MAINTENANCE</i>	28/02/2019	12/02/2019	DUE	DOCUMENTATION IN PROGRESS
AIRCRAFT CHECK III DUE	13/05/2020	16/12/2018	01/07/2018	<i>UNDER MAINTENANCE</i>	N/A	01/07/2018	DUE	DOCUMENTATION IN PROGRESS
PROP. S/No. 5YR O/H DUE	<i>EMA 1253</i> 12/02/2019	<i>EMA 1254</i> 04/10/2018	<i>EMA 1281</i> 10/2/2022	<i>- N/A -</i>	070914 28/5/2018	<i>(Port: ED 3415) (STD: ED 1769)</i> 01/07/2020	DUE	BUA 30776 02/02/2023
AIRCRAFT TSN - Hours	9,120.89	10,089.42	8,709.75	AOG	17,816.70	5,185:17	3174:15 (AOG)	13,364:20
ENGINE(S) TSN Hours	6810.65 <i>(TSO) 536.90</i>	9,630.01 <i>(TSO) 426.17</i>	8,7911.30 <i>(TSO) 00.00</i>	AOG	1,787.3	PORT: 1,772.09 STBD: 1,772.09	PORT: 2,370:45 STBD: 2,370:45	4,084:55 <i>(TSO) 480:20</i>
PROP(S). TSN HRS	1027.23	855.01	589.58	<i>- N/A -</i>	5605.9	PORT: 1298.09 STBD: 1298.09	PORT:216:00 STBD:216:00	449:50
LOCATION	STANDBY QUELEA CONTROL ETHIOPIA	QUELEA CONTROL MOMBO (TZ)	QUELEA CONTROL SIAYA (K)	<i>UNDER ACCIDENT REPAIR - (NRB)</i>	STANDBY - CHARTER OPS KENYA	STANDBY NAIROBI	MAINTENANCE NAIROBI	C OF A MAINTENANCE NAIROBI

NB

 **IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

 **TO BE NOTED**

 **(TSO) TIME SINCE OVERHAUL**

AOG AIRCRAFT ON GROUND

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