

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA  
(DLCO-EA)

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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PEST SITUATION REPORTS FOR  
September, 2006

**1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS**



In the **Central Region**, good rains fell in many parts of Sudan, Eritrea and from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia to nearly Aden, Yemen during the first decade. Less rain occurred during the second decade, falling mainly along the Yemen coast and near Qunfidah, Saudi Arabia, but improved slightly by the end of the month along the coast in Yemen and southern Eritrea. Nevertheless, ecological conditions remained favorable in summer breeding areas as well as on the eastern side of the Red Sea while they were improving in Wadi Diib and along the Red Sea coast in Sudan and Eritrea. (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 336*)

**1.1 Djibouti**

The northern and southern coastal areas, which border northern Somalia, received some shower rains.

**1.2 Eritrea**

The month of September was a transitional period of the rainy season where rainfalls were observed weakening. However, extended and widespread downpour of heavy rains occurred on the highlands and western lowlands and the heaviest rainfalls recorded are given below;

Locality	Rainfall (mm)	Date
Asmara (1520/3855)	94	04/09/2006
Gheleb (1543/3845)	110 (over 12 hrs)	4 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> 09/ "
Halhal (1558/3015)	62	04/09/ "
Ad Hawsha (1518/3856)	99	04/09/ "
Nakfa (1639/3825)	7.2	01/09/ "
	41	04/09/ "
Ghinda (1526/3910)	77	04/09/ "
Tsezega (1521/3855)	72	04/09/ "
	44	07/09/ "
Assab & surroundings (1302/4245)	25	04/09/ "
Sheib (1553/3904)	05	06/09/ "
Mensura (1535/3820)	31	07/09/ "
Goluj (1432/3664)	40	07/09/ "

Coastal and sub-coastal areas were reported flooded. The flooding of the coastal Wadis and rain, which occurred in Ghinda and Sheib will create favorable conditions for Locust breeding. Vegetation covers both in the high and western lowlands were very green and crops received abundant rainfalls, in which they were maturing and were almost ready for harvest.

Temperature: During September, average maximum and minimum temperatures recorded for Massawa and Assab were 39°C and 31°C, 40°C and 31°C respectively. Prevailing wind direction was Northerly at an average speed of 9 meters/second.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

September was the end of the long rain season and a decline of rainfall had been observed in eastern and northeastern parts of the country.

In DireDawa (0935/0412) light rainfalls were reported between 6<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of September and were recorded as follows;

Date	Rainfall (mm)
06/09/2006	2.4
07/ "/ "	11.9
10/ "/ "	5.6
11/ "/ "	4.0
12/ "/ "	6.8
13/ "/ "	15.3
15/ "/ "	9.8
17/ "/ "	6.2

Vegetation was observed green and soil was wet due to the seasonal rains over most parts of the country.

### 1.4 Somalia

In the northwest part of the country, good rains fell on the plateau between Hargeisa and the Djibouti border.

### 1.5 Sudan

Good rains fell during the first decade of September in the summer breeding areas as far north as 17N in North Darfur and North Kordofan, reaching the Baiyuda Desert south of Dongola and the Nubian Desert south of Egyptian border. These rains extended into central and eastern Sudan, reaching the western lowlands in Eritrea. Rainfall continued in the above areas during the second decade except for parts of North Darfur and Northwest Kordofan. Good rains fell during the first two decades in the Red Sea Hills and Wadi Diib/Oko. (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 336*)

Vegetation was green and ecological conditions remained favorable for breeding in some summer and most winter breeding areas.

### 1.6 Tanzania

Apart from the Lake Zone and the Northern Highlands, which had seasonal showers the rest of the country remained dry.

## **1.7 Uganda**

Irregular shower and thunderstorms were experienced across most parts of the country. A might Elnino is expected to increase the amount of rainfall in the country and extend up to January 2007.

Vegetation was green across the country.

## **2.0 Desert Locust**

### **2.1 Djibouti**

Locusts were not reported during the month.

### **2.2 Eritrea**

No Locusts were seen during ground survey conducted between 14-19 September in the summer breeding areas in the western lowlands of the country.

### **2.3 Ethiopia**

Ground surveys were conducted by Harar Plant Health Clinic staff from 28-30 September in Aysha (1044/3844), Biyogugur (1024/4240), Aydora (0951/4122), Erer (0934/4122), Dermeji (0952/4301), Enjabaryoo (0955/4259) and Shebekoo (0942/4308).

No Locust were found during the survey and no reports were received from other parts of the country.

### **2.4 Somalia**

A few isolated fifth instar hoppers and maturing solitarious adults were seen on the plateau near Hargeisa (0931N/4402E) on 2-1 September. (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 336*)

### **2.5 Sudan**

No locusts were seen during a survey on 1-3 September in North Kordofan near Umm Saiyala (1426/3112) and along the Nile south of Khartoum. (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 336*)

### **2.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda**

Were not affected by the Desert Locust.

### **2.7 Other Regions** (*extracted from FAO Desert Locust bulletin No. 336*)

**Central Region:** A few solitarious adults were present on the Red Sea coastal plains in southwest Saudi Arabia and in Yemen. Local breeding occurred on the plateau in northwest Somalia.

**Western Region.** Small-scale breeding occurred during the month in southern and central Mauritania and the Tamesna Plains in Niger where low numbers of solitarious hoppers and adults were present in both countries. The situation was probably similar in northern Mali but surveys could not be undertaken to confirm this. There is indications that breeding could be coming to an end in southern Mauritania but it is likely to continue in Niger where unusually heavy rains fell in August. As vegetation dries out in southern Mauritania, adults are likely to appear in northwest Mauritania and in western Sahara where good rains fell in September. Adults may also reach northern Mauritania as good rains also fell there. Upon arrival, adults are likely to mature and at least one generation of breeding could take place before temperatures become too cool. Ground teams treated 120ha of solitarious hoppers and adults in an irrigated agricultural area near Adrar, Algeria. Scattered adults may be present in northwest Libya.

**In the Eastern Region,** only scattered solitarious adults were reported in a few places in Rajasthan, India and in the Tharparkar and Cholistan desert in Pakistan.

### **3.0 Forecast until mid-November 2006** (*Forecast from FAO D.L. Bulletin No. 336 is sighted*)

#### **3.1 Djibouti**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.2 Eritrea**

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding on a limited scale in the western lowlands between 16N and 17N, including Khor Barka, and on the Red Sea coastal plains in areas of recent rainfall and runoff between Tio and the Sudanese border. Additional locusts could appear on the coast during the forecast period and breed.

#### **3.3 Ethiopia**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.4 Somalia**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.5 Sudan**

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding on a small-scale in North Darfur and North Kordofan and, to a lesser extent, in parts of the Baiyuda Desert, between Atbara and the Red Sea Hills, and between Kassala and Haiya. Consequently, locust numbers could gradually increase during the forecast period and concentrate in remaining areas of green vegetation. As early rains may have fallen in Wadi Oko/Diib and the Red Sea Hills, locusts could first appear and breed there as well as on the Red Sea coastal plains.

### **3.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda**

Are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestation.

## **4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS**

### **4.1 Red-billed Quelea birds (*Quelea quelea* sp.)**

#### **4.1.1 Kenya**

Aerial Quelea birds control operation conducted in Narok District and estimated of 10 million birds were killed during the operation.

4.1.2 Other member countries remained free from any infestation.

### **4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)**

4.2.1 Member countries remained free from any infestation.

### **4.3 Tse-tse fly**

#### **4.3.1 Uganda**

There was a report on resurgence and spread of Nagana and sleeping sickness in Northeastern Uganda, which indicates the increase of Tse-tse fly breeding in the area.

**SIFO**

**For Director,  
5<sup>th</sup> October, 2006**