

# DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

.....DLCO-EA) .....



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## **DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER, 2011**



### **1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS**

**Central Region:** During September, rainfall was declined mainly in the summer locust breeding areas in Sudan. There was good rainfall occurred in the high and western lowlands of Eritrea and throughout Ethiopia, though coverage and intensity had declined during the second and third dekads of the month. Light to moderate and scattered rainfalls also occurred in the northern parts of Somalia. Good rains fell throughout the month on the Red Sea coast in Yemen, and at times on the coast of Saudi Arabia. Consequently ecological conditions in the summer breeding areas were reported somewhat favorable for locust breeding.

#### **1.1 Djibouti**

Report not received.

#### **1.2 Eritrea**

During the month, moderate rains fell mainly on the highlands and the southwestern lowlands. No significant rainfall occurred in the coastal areas.

On the Western lowlands and highlands, natural vegetation were observed very green and crops were maturing. On the coastal and sub-coastal areas, vegetation was drying out with the exception of tufts of Panicum vegetation, which remained semi-green along the large Wadis. Average maximum and minimum temperatures of Assab, Massawa and Tessenei were 35/24, 35/24 and 18/08 respectively. Prevailing wind was Northerlies at wind speed of 05m/sec.

#### **1.3 Ethiopia**

Almost all parts of the country had received moderate to heavy rainfall during the whole month of September. As a result, both annual and perennial vegetations were green and soil was wet, mainly in the locust breeding areas of the country.

#### **1.4 Kenya**

During September, warm and mostly cloudy weather conditions prevailed in the

coastal, mid-Rift Valley, Western and Northwestern parts of the country. Consequently, some scattered light to moderate rains fell in the above indicated areas. Vegetation remained green in wider areas where rainfall was occurred particularly, in the central part of the Rift Valley and the Central region.

## 1.5 Somalia

The highlands and the escarpments particularly north, east and south of Hargeisa received some localized and light amount of rainfall during the first half of September. However during the second half of the month, it was reported that light to heavy rains continued to fall in some of the above indicated places. Consequently, heavy rains that flooded the seasonal river banks in Agabar district, which is north of Hargeisa, swept away a passenger vehicle and thirteen people were reported killed and others injured. The coastal areas received some very light precipitation.

The following rainfalls were recorded in the below indicated rainfall stations;

**Rainfall (mm) September, 2011**

Date	Harg. (0934N/ 4400E)	Borama (0946N/ 4310E)	Togoch alle	Ballig ubadle	Qunu jeed
01	1.5	-	-	-	-
03	22.0	2.0	7.0	-	15.0
04	9.0	11.0	20.0	-	-
05	-	-	2.0	-	-
06	6.0	-		-	-
07	-	9.0	1.0	-	5.0
08	1.0	-	22.5	-	-
09	1.0	10.0	2.0	-	-
10	-	6.0	-	30.0	25.0
11	-	-	-	50.0	-
12	8.0	-	-	-	26.0
13	-	--	-	-	3.0
16	-	-	-	-	9.5
18	2.0	-	-	-	-
22	14.0	-	-	-	-
26	13.0	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>83.5</b>

Generally, except for some scattered green patches, perennial and annual vegetation were reported drying and dry in most parts of northern Somalia.

## 1.6 Sudan

During the first and second dekads of September, vegetation condition was reported green and soil was wet, in North Kordofan, White Nile, Khartoum and Northern States, and in the Red Sea coast. Some location in the above mentioned areas had received moderate rain on 13<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## 1.7 Tanzania

Most parts of the country continued to have dry and windy conditions. The Coastal Belt and Northern Zone received some rain.

## 1.8 Uganda

The Country continued to receive heavy rains accompanied with thunderstorms in many areas. As a result, several valuables and human lives have continued to be damaged and lost in the heavy rains. For example, in Moyo district, heavy rains destroyed crops and affected the livelihood of over 900 people. In Bulambuli District, 27 people were buried by landslides and over 1,300 acres of coffee plantations were swept away resulting in destruction of over 884,000 coffee trees.

The vegetation was reported very green across most parts of the country due to the continuous rainfall that was occurring.

## 2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

### 2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

### 2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were reported during September in the western lowlands.

### **2.3 Ethiopia**

No locusts were reported during September.

### **2.4 Somalia**

No locusts were reported during September.

### **2.5 Sudan**

Ground survey operations were carried out during 7 -10 September 2011, covering North Kordofan, White Nile, Khartoum and Northern States and the Red Sea coast. 30,600 ha was surveyed and found free of any infestation. Survey operations continued on 11-19<sup>th</sup> of the month, covering 46,500 ha in the summer breeding locations out of which 110 ha in N. Kordofan between Sodiri (1423N/2906E) and Umm Saiyala (1426N/3112E), in River Nile State near Ed Damer (1734N/3358E), and in Kassala State northwest of Kassala (1527N/3623E) and near Derudeb (1731N/3607E) were found infested with mature, solitary, isolated and scattered adults. Density range from 50- 200 individual/ ha.

### **2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions**

*(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 396)*

**Central Region:** Good rains fell on the Red Sea coast in Yemen where scattered adults are probably present, but surveys could not be carried out to confirm this. Locusts may appear and also breed in adjacent southern coastal areas in Saudi Arabia. No locusts were reported elsewhere in the Region.

**Western Region:** Low numbers of solitarious adults were present in parts of southern, central and western Mauritania. Breeding occurred in a few places but on a much smaller scale than in most years at this time. A similar situation was present in northern Mali and Niger although regular surveys were limited by persistent insecurity.

**Eastern Region:** Low numbers of solitary adults persisted along both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border in Cholistan, Pakistan and Rajasthan, India as breeding conditions remained favorable from the monsoon rains. Small-scale breeding was detected in Cholistan.

## **3.0 Forecast until mid-November 2011**

### **3.1 Djibouti**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.2 Eritrea**

As small-scale breeding is almost certainly in progress in areas of recent rainfall in parts of the western lowlands, locust numbers will increase slightly along Khor Barka. By the end of the forecast period, breeding is likely to come to an end and low numbers of adults will start to move towards the Red Sea coastal plains.

### **3.3 Ethiopia**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.4 Somalia**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.5 Sudan**

Small-scale breeding will continue in parts of North Darfur, North Kordofan, White Nile, River Nile, Northern, Kassala and Red Sea States but will be difficult to detect due to low numbers of locusts. By the end of the forecast period, breeding is likely to come to an end and low numbers of adults will start to move towards the Red Sea coastal plains.

### 3.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

The countries 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 Tanzania

Quelea infestation not reported.

##### 4.1.2 Kenya

A DLCO-EA Aircraft was deployed and had controlled 5 Quelea roosts in Eldoret at Elfam 1 and 2, Soi, and Ngutis 1 and 2 cereal farms.

Details of the report were as follow;

- On 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 350,000 Quelea birds, which were roosting on 9 ha of Reeds at Elfam 1 & 2, were controlled using 40 liters of Queletox. The birds were attacking Wheat crops and mortality was estimated 90%. Spray time was 0:20 hours.
- On 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 300,000 Quelea birds, which were roosting on 6 ha of Reeds at Soi, were controlled using 30 liters of Queletox. The birds were attacking Wheat and Barley crops and mortality was estimated 85%. Spray time was 0:45 hours.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> September, 340,000 Quelea birds, which were roosting on 7 ha of Reeds at Ngutisi 1 & 2, were controlled using 30 liters of Queletox. The birds were attacking Wheat crops and initial mortality was estimated 50% therefore, a re-spray was done. Spray time was 1:20 hours.

##### 4.1.3 Ethiopia

Quelea infestation not reported.

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

The region remained free from Armyworm infestations.

CIFO

For Director,  
05 October, 2011

For more information about the Organization, please visit DLCO-EA's Website: [www.dlcoea.org.et](http://www.dlcoea.org.et)