

# DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

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



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**SITREP No. 07/2011-2012**

## DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR JANUARY, 2012



### 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

**Central Region:** In the region, very little rain fell during January in the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden where mainly dry conditions prevailed. Nevertheless, vegetation continued to be green in the Tokar Delta in Sudan and on the central Red Sea coast near Qunfidah, Saudi Arabia from earlier rains. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 400*)

#### Djibouti

Report not received.

#### 1.2 Eritrea

The month of January was characterized by cold mornings and evenings, and hot mid-days weather conditions on the highlands and Western Lowlands.

In the sub-coastal and coastal areas, sky was generally overcast and pleasant warm weather conditions prevailed. No significant rainfall was reported apart from some light showers fell north of Massawa 1540N 3825E in Shieb 1553N 3904E and Shelshela 3904N 1548E areas.

Natural vegetation cover on the highland was observed green. Coastal foothills and farms as

well as Wadis were reported green with mature crops.

The average maximum and minimum temperatures of Assab, Massawa and Tessenei were 27/19, 33/23 and 30/18 Degree Centigrade respectively.

Prevailing wind along the costal areas was Northeasterly at wind speed of 06 meters/sec.

#### 1.3 Ethiopia

Generally, the rainfall amount and distribution had significantly decreased and cooler weather conditions prevailed during January throughout the country. Drying of the annual vegetation in southeastern parts of the country, which are normally considered as winter locust breeding habitat was also reported.

#### 1.4 Kenya

The month of January was dry, dusty and windy. No rains were reported in all parts of the country

#### 1.5 Somalia

During January, dry and rainless conditions persisted throughout the northern region while some precipitations were reported in the northeastern, central and the southern regions of the country during the first and the third decade of the month.

Consequently, vegetation was reported dry to drying in the north while it was drying with some green perennial vegetation seen in the other indicated regions.

## 1.6 Sudan

Light rain fell over the southern Red Sea coast during mid-January and vegetation was greening up between Aqiq and Karora areas bordering Eritrea.

## 1.7 Tanzania

Most parts of the country remained dry & hot while the Lake Zone regions received heavy rains accompanied with thunderstorms, which resulted in destroying 60 houses in Kahama District in Shinyanga Region.

Vegetation was drying up in most parts of the country.

## 1.8 Uganda

The month has been dry and hot across most parts of the Country. Little scattered showers were reported in the Central region at the beginning of the month.

Vegetation was reported green in the Central and Western parts while it was drying in the Eastern and northern parts of the Country. Bush fires are being reported in some parts of north eastern Uganda, due to the draught.

## 2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

### 2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

### 2.2 Eritrea

Scattered solitary Desert Locust adults were reported north of Massawa in Shieb areas. But details of the report not received.

### 2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported during January.

### 2.4 Somalia

Ground survey was conducted during 21-26 January, covering more than 3,000 ha mainly on the plateau between Boroma-Burao, up-to the coast of Berbera and along the North and the Somalia and Ethiopian border. No locusts were found and reported during the survey.

### 2.5 Sudan

Survey operations continued in the winter locust breeding areas along the Red Sea coast during 23<sup>rd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

5 ha were found infested with mature solitary locusts in the northern region, west of the Red sea Hills east of Tomaa (2002N/3551E).

In Toker Delta, 10 ha was found infested with mature solitary locusts at density of 50 individuals/ ha. 55 ha were also found infested with solitary mature locusts at densities of 150 individuals/ha along the Eritrean border.

### 2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 400)

**Central Region:** Low numbers of solitarious adults persisted during January in a few places of the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coast of Saudi Arabia. Similar populations may be present in coastal areas of Yemen and eastern Oman. No locusts were reported in Egypt.

**Western Region:** Small patches of gregarious hoppers formed in Libya and

control operations were being organized. In Algeria, ground teams treated 85ha. Elsewhere, isolated adults may be present in parts of northwest Mauritania and in northern Mali but surveys were not carried out to confirm this.

**Eastern Region:** Dry conditions prevailed throughout the region during January. Isolated solitary adults were seen at one place on the coast in western Pakistan. No locusts were seen during routine surveys in western India. No significant developments are likely in the region.

### **3.0 Forecast until mid-March 2012**

#### **3.1 Djibouti**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.2 Eritrea**

Low numbers of adults are likely to be present along parts of the Red Sea coastal plains between Massawa and the Sudanese border. Unless further rains fall, breeding is not expected to occur.

#### **3.3 Ethiopia**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.4 Somalia**

Small-scale breeding could occur on the northwest coast if rain falls during the forecast period. However, no significant developments are likely.

#### **3.5 Sudan**

Small-scale breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation on the southern coast between Suakin and the Eritrean border, including the Tokar Delta, during February. Unless further rains fall, breeding is less likely to occur in the north, and will come to an end in the south from March onwards. No significant developments are likely.

### **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 was not reported.

##### **4.1.2 Kenya**

Quelea infestation was not reported.

##### **4.1.3 Ethiopia**

Quelea infestation was not reported.

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

The region remained free from Armyworm infestations during January. Though, mounting of traps and monitoring of moths had been continued in Kenya and Tanzania. Consequently, many traps in Tanzania reported quite a number of moth catches since the beginning of the second week of December 2011 to the first decade of January 2012.

#### **4.3 Tsetse fly**

##### **4.3.1 Uganda**

There were more reports in the press about the **Tsetse fly** problem and the need for aerial spraying to manage the flies.

**CIFO**

**For Director,**

06 February, 2012

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