

# DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

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



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**SITREP No. 02/2013-2014**

## DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

SEPTEMBER, 2013



## 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the ITCZ commenced its seasonal southward movement over Sudan during September. Consequently, light to moderate rains fell from Darfur to Kassala south of Mellit, Hamrat Esh Sheikh, Abu Uruq, and Derudeb. Ecological conditions remained favourable for breeding in these areas as well as in the western lowlands of Eritrea. In the winter breeding areas, good rains fell along the Red Sea coastal plains between Lith, Saudi Arabia to Mocha, Yemen. Although very little rain fell in the interior of Yemen, conditions remained favorable for breeding in runoff areas. Light to moderate rains fell in eastern Ethiopia, extending to adjacent areas of the plateau in northwest Somalia in early September. (FAO DL bulletin No. 420)

### Djibouti

Report not received.

### 1.1 Eritrea

Vegetation was dry in the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coast. While in the summer locust breeding areas most of the

vegetation was green with some drying out mainly along the Eritro-Sudanese boarder in the western parts of the country. Although, some recent rainfalls were reported, soil moisture was found dry in both breeding areas.

### 1.2 Ethiopia

Although, the rainfall amount in many locations of the country has declined as compared to the previous month, very heavy rainfall was reported in the western parts of the country and some flooding in the northwest, mainly during the first dekad of September.

The southeastern parts of the country have received no rainfall. The Rift Valley areas and eastern lowlands have received light to moderate rainfall during the month.

The perennial and other vegetations in the locust prone areas in the east and the Rift Valley areas have remained green.

The following rainfall data is obtained from Dire Dawa meteorological station during September:

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Date	Dire Dawa 0936N/04150E Rainfall in mm
01	5.1
02	2.4
05	3.2
06	12.6
07	1.1
12	4.9
13	1.0
14	1.0
16	0.6
19	1.6
20	2.0
23	Trace
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.5</b>

### 1.3 Kenya

During September, most parts of the country experienced dry and sunny weather conditions, with some sparsely distributed light to medium amount of rainfall that occurred mainly in the western parts of the country.

Consequently, perennial vegetation remained green while annual vegetations continued to dry out across most parts of the country.

### 1.4 Somalia

During September, the rainfall pattern and distribution has greatly subsided in the northwestern regions except of low to moderate precipitation that has occurred on some parts in the plateau and escarpment.

As a result, vegetation remained dry to drying in the northwestern region except of some limited areas in the plateau and escarpment that remained green.

### Rainfall record in some stations during September

Date	Qulunje ed	Erigavo	Dila	Dhuba to	Cadad ley
01	7.0	17.0	-	-	-
02	6.0	-	16.0	8.0	10.0
03	5.0	-	5.0	11.5	9.0
04	1.0	-	2.0	15.0	3.0
05	2.0	-	-	-	-
06	4.5	-	32.0	-	-
08	-	-	-	8.0	1.0
09	2.0	22.0	-	-	-
11	-	-	-	-	2.0
12	2.0	-	-	-	-
13	14.0	-	6.0	5.0	-
14	17.0	7.8	-	2.0	2.0
17	-	-	28.0	-	-
19	-	-	1.0	-	-
20	-	13.0	-	4.0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>27.0</b>

### 1.5 Sudan

During September, light to moderate rains fell from Darfur in the west, to Kassala in the east and ecological conditions remained favorable for locust breeding in those areas.

### 1.6 Tanzania

Report not received.

### 1.7 Uganda

Most parts of the Country have been receiving moderate to heavy showers accompanied with hail and thunderstorms. As a result crops, infrastructure damages, and displacement of families were reported across many parts of the country. Vegetation was reported green across most parts of the Country.

## 2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

### 2.1 Djibouti

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Report not received.

## 2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were found during ground surveys that were conducted on 03-28 September in both the winter and summer locust breeding areas.

## 2.3 Ethiopia

Mature solitary, scattered groups of Desert Locust adults were reported in Shinile Zone in a place called Hare, 40 kms northeast of Dire Dawa. The Locusts were in groups, laid eggs and hoppers emerged in September, which initiated a small outbreak.

## 2.4 Somalia

No locusts were reported during September.

## 2.5 Sudan

During September, low numbers of immature and mature solitarious adults persisted in the summer breeding areas northwest and east of Khartoum, in the northern region between Dongola (1910N/3027E), Wadi Halfa (2147N/3122E), Selima Oasis (2122N/2119E), in the River Nile near Abu Hamed (1932N/3320E) and Berber (1801N/3400E), and on the western side of the Red Sea Hills between Kassala (1527N/3623E) and Sinkat (1855N/3648E). Small-scale breeding occurred in the Kassala and Red Sea States. In the winter breeding areas of the northwest, mature adults appeared in Wadi Oko near Tomala (2002N/3551E) and laid eggs that hatched and solitarious hoppers were present.

## 2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions *(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 420)*

**Central Region:** The situation remained calm during September except in Yemen. Continued breeding led to the formation of hopper and adult groups, bands and swarms

in the interior of Yemen. Some of the adults moved to the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coastal plains and laid eggs that hatched and hoppers formed small groups and bands. Small-scale breeding also caused groups and a few small hopper bands to form on the central Red Sea coastal plains in Saudi Arabia. Low numbers of adults persisted in the summer breeding areas of Sudan, mainly between the Nile River and the Red Sea Hills. During the forecast period, a few groups could move in the interior of Sudan and move to the Red Sea coast where small-scale breeding will commence with the onset of the rains. In Yemen, small swarms will form in the interior and move to the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coast where breeding will continue and hopper groups and bands are expected to form. Breeding will also continue on the central Red Sea coast in Saudi Arabia.

**Western Region:** The locust situation continued to remain calm during September. Nevertheless, good rains and small-scale breeding caused locust numbers to increase slightly in Mauritania, Niger and Chad. In Mauritania, locust adults shifted from the south and southeast to west and northwest where breeding will occur during the forecast period, causing locust numbers to increase and a few small groups could form. Scattered adults may appear in the Western Sahara.

**Eastern Region:** The situation remained calm during September. Low numbers of solitarious adults persisted in a few places of the summer breeding areas along both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border.

## 3.0 Forecast until mid-November, 2013

### 3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.2 Eritrea

Small-scale breeding is likely to be in progress in the western lowlands north of Teseney, causing locust numbers to increase.

### 3.3 Ethiopia

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No significant developments are likely.

### **3.4 Somalia**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.5 Sudan**

As vegetation dries out, locust may form small groups between the Nile and the Red Sea Hills, and move to the Red Sea coastal plains and sub-coastal areas, and lay eggs with the onset of the rains.

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

The countries are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestations.

## **4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS**

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

#### **4.1.1 Tanzania**

Report not received.

#### **4.1.2 Kenya**

During September, Quelea birds outbreaks occurred in Siaya, Busia, Naivasha and Kisumu counties. A DLCO-EA Aircraft was deployed and conducted control operations in Kisumu County where 8.5 million birds in 6 roosts were sprayed using 185 liters of Fenthion. Two roosts with 2.5 million birds were also controlled using Varnish (*an experimental formulation containing Fenthion active ingredient*) in the other locations.

#### **4.1.3 Eritrea**

Infestation not reported.

#### **4.1.4 Ethiopia**

Infestation not reported.

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

Infestation not reported in the region.

### **4.3 Tsetse fly**

The Uganda State Minister (Hon. Bright Rwamirama) for Animal Industry was quoted in press indicating that *Tsetse* flies are affecting about 70% of Ugandan land surface and threatening half of the national animal herd. There are plans for aerial spraying in order to reduce the flies population.

### **TREE LOCUST (*Anacridium* sp.)**

A DLCO-EA Aircraft sprayed an estimated of 7,500 ha of Tree Locust infestation using 3,100 liters of Sumithion 96 % in Turkana region, Kenya during September. The operation was undertaken in collaboration with the Crop Protection Services Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries who supplied the insecticide.

### **CIFO**

**For Director,**

15 October, 2013

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[www.dlcoea.org.et](http://www.dlcoea.org.et)

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