

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

..... DLCO-EA)



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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

JULY, 2014



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) moved steadily northwards over central Sudan during July, reaching Abu Uruq in North Kordofan and Ed Damer in the Nile Valley by the end of the second dekad. Consequently, light to moderate showers fell south of these areas, extending from Chad to Eritrea, while heavier rains fell near Umm Saiyala in North Kordofan. As a result, ecological conditions were becoming favorable for breeding. In Eritrea, light rains fell in the southern part of the western lowlands. In Yemen, little rain fell in the interior except for a couple of light showers in the Hadramaut and Shabwah regions. Dry conditions prevailed on the coast and plateau in northern Somalia. (*FAO DL bulletin No.430*)

1.1 Djibouti

Report not received.

1.2 Eritrea

Light to moderate, and some heavy rains associated with thunderstorms continued to fall during the month in most parts of the country, mainly on the highlands. There was also a report of human and animal casualties occurred due to lightening and

flooding during the beginning of the month around Hagaz Administrative District.

Annual and perennial vegetation continued greening in vast areas in the highland and in some parts in the western lowland, while the ecological conditions in the coastal areas of the Red Sea has continued remaining unfavorable for breeding.

1.3 Ethiopia

During July, light to very heavy rain with a wider coverage fell in the western half of the country with little or insignificant rainfall that occurred in and east of the Rift Valley areas. Good rains also fell in the Hararghe highlands during the first & second dekads of July. Light to moderate rain fell in the arid areas in the eastern lowlands towards the end of the month, where much activity of Desert Locust had been previously observed.

There was little rainfall occurred in areas around Dire Dawa during the Month, but some pockets of areas were suitable for Desert Locust breeding and development.

Rainfall record July, 2014

Date	Dire Dawa 0936N/04150E Rainfall in mm
06/07/2014	1.8
08/07/2014	Trace
09/07/2014	3.1
10/07/2014	1.8
17/07/2014	2.4
20/07/2014	1.2
21/07/2014	3.6
25/07/2014	24.4
26/07/2014	22.2
27/07/2014	11.2
28/07/2014	3.6
29/07/2014	11.8
30/07/2014	1.4
Total	88.5

Annual and perennial natural vegetation have started greening in the eastern lowlands in areas where rainfall has occurred. However, in those arid areas of the east where agriculture is practiced, crops were young and green particularly in irrigated areas. Consequently, ecological conditions mainly in the Desert Locust habitats in the eastern parts became favorable for continued breeding and development.

1.3 Kenya

Larger areas of the country experienced cool and cloudy weather conditions during the month. Though, some very little rains fell during July in few locations but most parts of the country remained rainless and dry.

1.4 Somalia

Light precipitation has been recorded in few localities along the plateau and escarpment including the regions of Awdal and Sahil during the first and the second dekad of the month.

Light rain associated with thunderstorms has also fallen during the last days of the third dekad around Hargeisa.

Meanwhile, the coastal and sub-coastal areas remained dry and rainless during the month.

Rainfall record (mm) during July, 2014

Date	Borama	Dila 0945N/43 20E	Qulujeed 0945N/4320E	G.Libah
03	-	19.0	16.5	-
05	-	1.0	-	-
06	-	-	-	20.0
18	7.0	-	-	-
Total	7.0	20.0	16.5	20.0

1.6 Sudan

During mid July, the ITCZ moved further north and the summer rainfall increased in its intensity and coverage. Consequently, light to moderate rains fell in Kordofan, River Nile and other States creating conducive environment for locust breeding.

1.7 Tanzania

Weather report not received.

1.8 Uganda

Moderate showers recorded in the central areas of the Northern parts of the country, while some parts in the west have remained dry and hot during July.

Consequently, vegetation in some locations in the western parts was drying while it was green in the central and Northern parts.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

2.2 Eritrea

A small swarmlet that entered into the southern parts of the country during June has been controlled on 11th July at Mai Tsada, around Adi-Keyeh using ground control means. During the operation, 50 liters of Deltamethrin 2.5%EC and Fenitrothion 50% EC was sprayed on 100ha of infestation. No crop damage reported

2.3 Ethiopia

Except for few immature swarmlets reported moving between southeast Amhara and western Afar regions, no other locust reports have been received.

2.4 Somalia

Apart from reports of immature swarms during early June along the plateau, escarpment and surroundings in northeastern regions of Puntland no further reports were received.

2.5 Sudan

Scattered adults and a few small groups were maturing in the north along the Atbara River east of Ed Damer (1734N/3358E) and to lesser extent in the Nile Valley between Berber (1801N/3400E) and Karima (1832N/3148E). Limited breeding occurred near Abu Hamed (1932N/3320E) where isolated 4th instar hoppers were reported.

Situation in Other Regions and Forecast

(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 430)

Central Region: the situation remained generally calm during July. Locust infestations declined in the spring breeding areas in the interior of Saudi Arabia due to control operations and drying conditions. Nevertheless, some adult groups and small swarms formed and moved southwest towards the Red Sea while others moved to the highlands and interior of Yemen. There is a risk that a few small swarms could reach Sudan where scattered adults and a few small groups were already present in the north. Remnants of earlier swarms were maturing in the northern highlands of Ethiopia and one swarm

reached Eritrea where it was treated. During the forecast period, breeding will occur in the interior of Sudan and perhaps in the western lowlands of Eritrea and in the interior of Yemen, causing locust numbers to increase slightly.

Western Region: No locusts were reported and the situation remained calm in July.

Eastern Region: the situation remained calm in July.

3.0 Forecast until mid-September, 2014

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Scattered adults are likely to appear in the western lowlands. If additional rainfall occurs, small-scale breeding will take place, causing locust numbers to increase slightly.

3.3 Ethiopia

A few small swarms may persist in the northern highlands, mature and disperse to breed on a limited scale.

3.4 Somalia

No significant developments are likely.

3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding will continue in Northern and River Nile States. An increasing number of adults will appear in the summer breeding areas between Darfur and the Red Sea Hills, perhaps supplemented by a few small swarms from Saudi Arabia. Small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase slightly in areas of rainfall.

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 Kenya

Outbreaks of Quelea birds damaging irrigated Rice and Sorghum crops have been reported in Nyanza and Kisumu counties respectively. Outbreaks of the birds were also reported in Siaya and Nakuru counties.

4.1.2 Tanzania

A DLCO-EA aircraft continued Quelea birds control operations in Dodoma region during July, however details of the operations were not received during compiling of this Sitrep.

4.1.2 Ethiopia

Infestation not reported during July.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

Report not received.

4.2.2 Kenya

Report not received.

4.2.3 Ethiopia

Though, Armyworm moth catches were reported in the western and northern parts of the country, only a small and localized outbreak occurred in Tigray during the month, and it has been controlled before causing any damage to crops.

Forecast for August, 2014

It is likely that minor outbreaks to continue in the northern parts of Ethiopia, and that could be extended to the mid-central highlands of Eritrea. Therefore, it is highly recommended to continue monitoring moth migrations and organize survey in traditional outbreak locations of the respective countries.

4.3 Tsetse fly

Infestation not reported.

CIFO

For Director,

04 August, 2014

For more information about the Organization, please visit DLCO-EA's Website:

www.dlcoea.org.et