

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

..... DLCO-EA)



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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

JUNE, 2014



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) retreated slightly southwards in Sudan during the first two dekads of June but then moved north again during the last dekad of June. Consequently, only light showers fell in the southern portion of the summer breeding areas south of El Fasher and near Sodri and Kassala. Good rains fell in northwest Ethiopia and to a lesser extent at times on parts of the plateau in northwest Somalia and adjacent areas of the Ogaden in eastern Ethiopia. Good rains also fell in parts of the central highlands in Yemen. As a result of these rains and associated runoff, ecological conditions could become favorable for limited breeding on the Somali plateau near Burao, in parts of the Ogaden, and in Wadis that drain the eastern side of the central highlands in Yemen. *(FAO DL bulletin No.429)*

1.1 Djibouti

Report not received.

1.2 Eritrea

Light to moderate amount of seasonal rains continued to fall during the month in most parts of the country. Consequently, 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 remained unfavorable for breeding.

1.3 Ethiopia

Widespread rainfall continued and light to heavy rains fell in the western half of the country. No significant rain fell in the Rift Valley and areas east of it except for some places in Hararghe highlands where limited rainfall occurred during the first & second dekads of June. Insignificant rains fell in the arid areas in the eastern lowlands along the borders of Djibouti and Somaliland during the month.

Light rains fell in areas surrounding Dire Dawa during the month, though some pockets of areas remained suitable for Desert Locust breeding and development during June.

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Rainfall record June, 2014

Date	Dire Dawa 0936N/04150E Rainfall in mm
10/06/2014	4.5
23/06/2014	Trace
25/06/2014	1.8
Total	6.3

Annual and perennial vegetation were drying in most places in the east except for some irrigated crops. Consequently, the ecological conditions particularly in the Desert Locust breeding habitats in the east remained less favorable for locust breeding and development.

1.3 Kenya

Cool and cloudy weather conditions prevailed during the month. Though, some light scanty rains fell during June but most parts of the country remained rainless and dry.

1.4 Somalia

Only light to moderate rains fell on the first and second dekad of June. Consequently, Desert Locust breeding habitats on the plateau and escarpment received some precipitation, while other potential breeding habitats, mainly on the coastal areas remained dry and hot that associated with strong winds. On the plateau, annual plants were dry except of some woody perennials, which remained green.

Rainfall record (mm) during June, 2014

Date	Hargeisa	Ceel-Afweyn	Dararweyne	G.Libah	Garowe
02	-	-	-	-	7.0
03	-	-	-	-	4.5
04	-	-	-	-	5.0
05	-	-	-	-	5.0

07	-	12.0	-	-	-
08	-	18.0	-	-	-
10	4.0	-	20.5	-	-
12	-	-	-	36.0	-
13	-	-	-	31.0	-
17	-	-	3.5	-	-
19	10.0	-	4.5	23.0	-
20	25.0	-	-	-	-
Total	39.0	30.0	28.5	90.0	21.5

1.6 Sudan

During June, ecological conditions were unfavorable for Desert Locust breeding in the northern parts of the Red Sea coast winter breeding areas. However, in the summer breeding areas, good rains fell in the eastern parts and ecological conditions have started improving and becoming favorable for breeding.

1.7 Tanzania

Weather report not received.

1.8 Uganda

Report not received.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

2.2 Eritrea

A DLCO-EA Base Manager in Asmara has reported that on 28th of June, a swarm has been seen flying from south, flew over Adiquala (1438N/3850E), Igrimekel, Mendefera (1453N/3849E) and continued flying towards west over Adi-Mongotti a road leading to Areza (1455N/3833E).

2.3 Ethiopia

During June, a couple of locusts were reported in control operation in

northern parts of the country. A DLCO-EA aircraft has been deployed in Mekele, Tigray region to control the swarms.

530 ha size of swarmlets were controlled at Debre Nazareth (N1335/E03919), Worgesha (N1337/E03922) Zeban Serawo (N1341/E03921) Kilte Awlalo-Qehin (N1339/E03932) Daba Shelem (N1332/E03934), Tigray region.using 830 liters of Ethiolathion 96% and Ethiothrothion 95% ULV.

No swarms or hoppers were reported in the east mainly across the Ethiopian and Somaliland borders during June.

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

Survey and control operations were carried out in the River Nile and Northern States during 13 – 25th of June 2014.

8,100 ha were surveyed and 100 ha were reported infested with solitary, mature and immature adults at densities ranging between 50 to 850 individual/ha, mainly between Abu Hamed (1932N/3320E) and Wadi Halfa (2114N/3122E). 125 ha of infestations were treated with 62 liters of Malathion EC in River Nile state.

Situation in Other Regions and Forecast

(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 429)

Central Region: the situation remained generally calm during June except in Saudi Arabia where spring breeding continued in the interior, giving rise to additional hopper groups and bands, and adult groups. Groups of mature adults moved south while a few immature swarms arrived in northern Yemen and dispersed in the interior and central highlands. Aerial and ground control operations treated 17,800 ha in Saudi Arabia. A few swarms were seen on the plateau in northern Somalia in early June and small swarms moved to northern Ethiopia and adjacent highland in Eritrea. Aircraft treated nearly 1,200 ha in northern Ethiopia. Control operations concluded in Oman and only scattered adults remained. In

northern Sudan, adults formed a few groups in the Nile Valley that were treated. During the forecast period, a few small swarms may form in spring breeding areas of the interior in Saudi Arabia and move to the summer breeding areas in Sudan and Yemen where breeding will cause locust numbers to increase in those areas that receive rainfall. A few small swarms from northern Ethiopia could appear in Eritrea and move to Sudan in July.

Western Region: The situation remained calm during June. A few groups of mature adults were present and laying eggs in irrigated areas in the central Sahara of Algeria and 22 ha were treated.

Eastern Region: Groups of hoppers and adults formed in the spring breeding areas of southeastern Iran, and 18,000 ha were treated during the first half of June. Thereafter, the situation improved. No locusts were reported elsewhere in the region.

3.0 Forecast until mid-August, 2014

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

In early July, a few small swarms may appear in the highlands south of Asmara and move towards the western lowlands where breeding will occur with the onset of the summer rains.

3.3 Ethiopia

A few small swarms may persist in the northern highlands early in the forecast period. Unless further rainfall occurs, no significant developments are likely in the eastern region.

3.4 Somalia

Small adult groups and swarms could continue to move on the plateau early in the forecast period. Limited breeding may occur in areas of r

3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding will continue in the Nile Valley of 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 and Ethiopia. Small-scale breeding will cause locus 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

Report not received.

4.1.2 Tanzania

A DLCO-EA aircraft continued Quelea birds control operations in Kondo and Moshi Districts during June and details are as follow;

- ❖ an estimated of 8.5 million birds on 30 ha of Acacia trees were controlled using 100 liters of Queletox in Kondod district.
- ❖ an estimated of 8.0 million birds on 65 ha of Acacia trees and Sugar Cane were controlled using 220 liters of Queletox in Moshi Rural.

4.1.2 Ethiopia

A DLCO-EA aircraft have been deployed to control Quelea birds outbreaks reported in SNNPR and Oromiya regions of southern Ethiopia. An estimated of 25 million birds were controlled and more than 1000 liters of Avicide was used during the operation. Details are shown below.

- ❖ Between 29/05 and 20/06/2014 an estimated of 21.2 million birds roosted on 1000 ha of Acacia trees and Typha grasses were controlled using 705 liters of Avicide at different locations in Konso district.

- ❖ On 01/06/2014 an estimated of 2.5 million birds roosted on 100 ha of Acacia trees and Typha grasses were controlled using 150 liters of Avicide at Yirgachefe in Holte district.
- ❖ On 07/06/2014 an estimated of 1.5 million birds roosted on 50 ha of Acacia trees and Typha grasses were controlled using 100 liters of Avicide at Wedesa in Teltele district.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

Report not received.

4.2.2 Kenya

Report not received.

4.2.3 Ethiopia

Moth catches in pheromone traps were reported in different locations in the country during the month. Consequently, small and localized Armyworm outbreaks have been reported in Oromiya region in the southern parts of the country and they were controlled before they cause any damage to crops.

Forecast for July, 2014

It is likely that small outbreak to continue in the eastern, mid-central and northern parts of Ethiopia, and the southern and central highlands of Eritrea. Therefore, it is highly recommended to monitor moth migrations and organize survey in the secondary outbreak locations of the respective countries.

4.3 Tsetse fly

Infestation not reported.

CIFO

For Director,

04 July, 2014

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