

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

..... (DLCO-EA)
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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

APRIL, 2017



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, good rains fell at times during the last two decades of April in a few places on the Red Sea coast between Assab, Eritrea and Shalatyn, Egypt as well as near Jeddah and on the Tihama in Yemen. Some showers also fell in the Red Sea Hills of Sudan, in eastern Ethiopia near Dire Dawa and Jigjiga and in the Somali plateau and escarpment east of Hargeisa. Ecological conditions continued to dry out in the winter breeding areas but remained green in a few places along the northwest coast in northern Somalia. Ecological conditions were also likely to be favorable for breeding in the interior of Yemen between Marib and Thamud where good rains fell during March. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 463*)

1.1 Djibouti

During April, temperature oscillated between 26°C during the night and around 34°C during the day consequently, the weather condition in the country became warmer. Some light and insignificant rains also fell in few locations of the country during the month.

Natural vegetations were drying out and green areas became increasingly scarce.

1.2 Eritrea

Light to moderate rains fell in the western lowlands and in some locations of the highlands during the month. Another report has indicated that heavy rains that fell on 29th of April in the eastern escarpment and the consequent floods caused heavy damages to agricultural and road infrastructure. In addition, deaths of people and different types of domestic animals were also reported.

Annual vegetation started greening in the western lowlands and the highlands where rainfalls occurred.

1.3 Ethiopia

During April, dry and hot weather condition prevailed mainly in the spring Desert Locust breeding areas in the eastern parts of the country. While some of the other parts of the country have received light to moderate but erratic rainfalls.

It was also reported that Dire Dawa and the surrounding areas received much below than the normal rainfall amount for the month.

The annual and perennial vegetations were greening around Dire Dawa, while in the traditional Desert Locust breeding areas, the perennials were green but soil was dry. Generally, weather and ecological

conditions were not favorable for Desert Locust breeding during the month.

Rainfall (mm) during April, 2017

Date	DIRE DAWA(0936N/04150E)	Remark
04	15.0	
07	2.0	
17	Trace	
18	17.0	
19	1.5	
24	Trace	
26	2.0	
27	21.0	
Total	58.5	

1.4 Kenya

Even though the temperature remained hot during April, however, moderate to heavy rainfalls occurred in many parts of the Country. Consequently, greening of annual and perennial vegetations was observed in wider parts of the Country.

1.5 Somalia

Though ecological conditions generally remained very dry in the Country, however light rains fell during the third decade of April mainly in the northwestern coast and the escarpments.

1.6 Sudan

Some showers fell in the Red Sea Hills however vegetation remained dry in most of the Desert Locust breeding locations, except in irrigated schemes where it was green.

1.7 Tanzania

Medium to heavy rains continued to fall during April in many regions, mainly in the central, western and northern parts of the country.

Consequently, annual vegetation including crops were in various stages of development and were very green.

1.8 Uganda

During April, light to moderate showers continued to fall in some parts of the country.

Consequently, the vegetation was very green in many parts of the Country where rains continuously fell.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were reported.

2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported.

2.4 Somalia

No reports received.

2.5 Sudan

Limited ground survey operations were conducted during the first decade of April in Toker Delta and the southern coastal areas by PPD staff. The total surveyed area was 6,500 ha and no locusts were seen in the surveyed areas. Dry conditions prevailed and no further developments are expected to occur along the Red Sea coast.

Desert Locust situation in other Regions and Forecast (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 463)

Central Region: The locust situation remained calm as no locusts were reported in the region during April except for isolated adults in southern Egypt. Nevertheless, ecological conditions were favorable in parts of the interior of Saudi Arabia and Yemen

where small scale breeding could occur during the forecast period and cause locust numbers to increase slightly.

Western Region: The situation remained calm in the region during April. Low numbers of adults were present in parts of northern Mauritania, western Sahara and northeast Morocco, and in central Algeria. Limited breeding occurred near irrigated farms in the central Sahara of Algeria where small-scale ground control operations were undertaken.

Eastern Region: scattered adults were present in southeast Iran where small-scale breeding is likely to occur during the forecast period.

3.0 Forecast until mid-June, 2017

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

No significant developments are likely.

3.3 Ethiopia

Isolated adults may be present in areas of recent rainfall near Dire Dawa and Jigjiga where small-scale breeding could occur if more rains fall.

3.4 Somalia

No significant developments are likely.

3.5 Sudan

Scattered adults may appear in the Nile Valley between Atbara and Dongola where small-scale breeding could occur near cropping areas.

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

Infestation was not reported.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During April, aerial control operations continued in different Districts of the country. However, details of the operations were not received.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Infestation was not reported.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Report not received.

4.1.5 Sudan

Report not received.

4.1.6 Uganda

Report not received.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

Fall Armyworm

During April, outbreaks and infestations of Fall Armyworms continued to spread to the northern coastal, and Northern (Geita, Kagera, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Arusha and Manyara) Regions. Control by the affected farmers with the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives was in progress.

4.2.2 Uganda

Report not received. However, it is expected that the African and Fall Armyworms infestations continued to occur and spread to different parts of the country.

4.2.3 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Moth catches were reported in Benatsemay (41), Mali (35) and Salamago (27) districts in the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative Region (SNNPR) and Teltele district (44) in the Oromia Administrative Region during the last week of April. These areas were receiving 1 to 2 days of rainfall within a week.

Fall Armyworm

The Fall Armyworm, (*Spodoptera frugiperda spp.*) infestation was reported widely distributed in the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Republic (SNNPR) and the Oromia Administrative Regions during April.

Worms were reported in 8 zones and 51 Districts in the SNNPR and 1 zone and one district in the Oromia Administrative Region. By the end of April, 10,671 hectares of Maize fields were reported infested and control operation was conducted on 5,624 hectare using 9,085 liters of insecticides.

4.2.4 Kenya

African Armyworm

During April, infestation was reported in three coastal Counties; Kilifi, Kwale and Taita Taveta.

Fall Armyworm

During April, FAW infestation was reported in 19 Counties of the country. The worms were infesting and feeding on Maize crops which are planted on 94,000 ha.

Ground control operation continued in all infested areas using different types of insecticides.

Forecast until end of May, 2017

African Armyworm outbreaks are also expected to spread to the central, Rift Valley and western parts of Kenya and continue to occur in different regions of Uganda. The infestation is also likely to emerge

in the Southwestern and southeastern parts of Ethiopia.

The Fall Armyworm infestations are likely to spread mostly to the western and coastal regions of Kenya, Uganda, the northern regions of Tanzania and, to the western and the lower Rift Valley of Ethiopia during May.

Consequently, it is highly recommended to continue monitoring of moth movements in order to detect early infestations. It is also highly advisable to control any outbreak of the Fall Armyworm at early stage of the worms' appearances as late instars may be difficult to control them.

4.3 Tsetse fly (*Glossina spp.*)

Incidences not reported.

CIFO

For Director,

05 May, 2017

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

www.dlcoea.org.et