



## Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA)

Headquarters (Addis Ababa)  
Tel: 251-1-16461477/0287/0290  
Fax: 251-1-16460296

Operations Office (Nairobi)  
Tel: 254-020-6002305/6001488  
Fax: 254-020-6001575

### SITREP No. 01/2017–2018

---

#### 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued to move northwards over the interior of Sudan during July, reaching Abu Uruq in North Kordofan during the second decade, which is normal for this time of year. Consequently, good rains fell in the summer breeding areas between Darfur and Kassala where ecological conditions were favourable for breeding in Eritrea; good rains fell in the western lowlands that should allow breeding conditions to improve. In Yemen, good rains fell on the Red Sea coast south of Hodeidah during the first decade while additional rain fell in these areas during the second decade and extended over a widespread portion of the interior between Marib, Ataq, and Wadi Hadhramaut as well as on the southern coast near Lahij. Flooding was reported in some places. As a result of these rains and those in June, ecological conditions are likely to be favorable for breeding in the interior and parts of the coast. Elsewhere in the region, mainly dry conditions

#### 1.1 Djibouti

The Country experienced high summer temperature during July, which ranged between 34°C at night and about 44°C during the day. No rainfall was reported and except for few patches of green vegetation in the Wadis the country remained very dry.

#### 1.2 Eritrea

In Eritrea, since the beginning of July, medium to heavy rains fell across most parts of the country and good rains fell in summer breeding areas including in some parts of the Red Sea coastal areas, the western lowlands that should allow breeding conditions to improve.

Vegetation in vast areas on the highlands and western lowlands started greening in abundance due to the continued rainfall in June and July. It was also reported that these conditions have created favorable ecological conditions for Desert Locust breeding mainly in the western parts of the country.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

In July, dry and very hot weather condition prevailed in desert locust summer breeding areas of Ethiopia. Dire Dawa and Ayisha areas were receiving light rain during the first and end of second decades of the month, whereas, most of mid and highlands of the country have been received moderate to heavy rains. In most desert locust breeding areas, the annual vegetation was dry but the perennial vegetation remained green and the soil was dry. The ecological condition generally was not favorable for desert locust activity during July.

### 1.4 Kenya

Cool night and day weather conditions prevailed during July in most parts of the Country. Except for intermittent rainfalls which occurred in the western parts of the country, no rains were reported during July.

Different species of annual plants started to dry out while perennial vegetation remained green during the month.

### 1.5 Somalia

The weather conditions in the northwestern and northeastern regions of the Country remained largely dry during most days of the month. Nevertheless, light rains fell in localized areas in northwestern regions particularly in the plateau and escarpment during the first two dekads of the month.

Consequently, the vegetation status in the entire northwestern and northeastern regions remained dry and unfavorable for any locust breeding except of some

localized areas in the plateau and escarpment which remained green.

### 1.5 Sudan

Light to moderate Rainfall recorded in wide areas of summer breeding belt especially in North Kodofan, North and west Darfur states, Khartoum, River Nile, Kassala states and DL summer breeding areas of the Red Sea State. Vegetation cover found green and greening in most surveyed areas with exception of those dry areas that received low rainfalls in far north Kordofan, River Nile State and DL summer breeding belt of Red Sea state.

### 1.6 Tanzania

During the month of July, most of the country experienced dry conditions with cool to cold temperatures due to intensification of the southern hemisphere pressure systems. However, off seasonal light rains felled over few areas of Lake Victoria Basin. Periods of strong winds were also recorded over coastal regions.

### 1.8 Uganda

During July, the North and North eastern parts of the country continued to record some showers and thunderstorms. The Central region recorded scattered showers whereas the West and south western parts of the country remained mainly dry.

The vegetation is mainly green in Northern, North Eastern and Central parts of the Country. The western and southwestern parts of the Country have a mixture of green and drying/brown vegetation

## 2.0 DESERT LOCUST (Schistocerca gregaria)

### 2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

### 2.2 Eritrea

No report received.

### 2.3 Ethiopia

No surveys were conducted and no locusts were reported.

### 2.4 Somalia

No report received.

### 2.5 Sudan

Ground survey was conducted on a total of 75,507 has in the summer breeding areas included North Kordofan, white Nile, River Nile, the Northern, Kassala states and the summer breeding belts of Red Sea state. Mature locust of low densities were seen in kordofan (Sodari and south umsayala), Red Sea summer breeding areas (Gadamay), in addition to immature locust solitaries found in River Nile state( umhaseir), and breeding copulating solitary locust detected in the Northern state in Amtar irrigated scheme.

#### Desert Locust Situation in other Regions and Forecast

Central Region: The locust situation remained calm in the region during July. Low numbers of solitarious adults were present in the interior of Sudan where good rains fell and small-scale breeding is expected to cause locust numbers to increase slightly during the forecast period. Good rains also fell in the interior of Yemen but surveys could not confirm the

situation due to prevailing insecurity. Nevertheless, adults are probably present and small-scale breeding is likely to occur, which will cause a further increase in locust numbers.

Western Region: The situation remained calm during July. Scattered mature solitarious adults mixed with solitarious hoppers of all instars were present in a few places in the Central Sahara of Algeria where 3 ha were treated. Isolated mature solitarious adults appeared in the summer breeding areas of southeaster Mauritania as well as in central areas which is somewhat unusual. For the second consecutive month, good rains fell throughout the northern Sahel of West Africa because the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was much further north than normal. Consequently, small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase slightly between Mauritania and Chad during the forecast period.

Eastern Region: Control operations continued during the first decade of July in southeast Iran where 8,500 ha of hoppers and adults were treated in the Jaz Murian Basin. Although above-normal monsoon rains fell in the summer breeding areas along both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border, only isolated adults have been seen in a few places in both countries. Nevertheless, locust numbers are expected to increase slightly as a result of small-scale breeding during the forecast period (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 466).

## 3.0 FORECAST UNTIL MID-SEPTEMBER, 2017

### 3.1 Djibouti

No significant development.

### 3.2 Eritrea

Low numbers of adults are likely to appear in the western lowlands and breed on a small-scale in areas that receive summer rains. There is a low risk that adult groups and perhaps small swarm could appear on the southern coastal plains from Yemen.

### 3.3 Ethiopia

No significant development.

### 3.4 Somalia

No significant development.

### 3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding will commence in West and North Darfur, West and North Kordofan and White Nile States as well as near Kassala, causing locust numbers to increase slightly. Small-scale breeding may also occur near cropping areas in the Nile Valley.

### 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

No report received.

#### 4.1.2 Tanzania

In the month of July, control operations by DLCO-EA Beaver 5Y-BCL continued in Mbeya region where 15.5 million birds are

estimated killed in 13 roost covering 240 hackers sprayed with 500 liters of Fenthion.

#### 4.1.3 Ethiopia

Aerial control operation was carried out using DLCO-EA Aircraft at 5 roosting sites in 4 villages of Konso and Derashe Districts of Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative Region (SNNPR). A population of 12 million Quelea birds was controlled on 220 hectares and 400 liters of pesticide was applied and percent kill was estimated 97-98%.

#### 4.1.4 Eritrea

Report not received.

#### 4.1.5 Sudan

Report not received.

#### 4.1.6 Uganda

Kibimba rice schemes in Eastern Uganda continued to report escalation of quelea birds population in their farms. Localized control was reportedly done by TILDA LTD in their territory.

## 4.2 African Armyworm (Spodoptera exempta)

### 4.2.1 Ethiopia

During July, African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*) infestation was reported from Tigray Administrative Region in 10 villages of 4 zones and 4 Districts. The pest attacked 293 and 593 hectares of crops and pasture lands respectively. Chemical control was conducted on 106 hectares of field crops and 106 liters of pesticide was sprayed. Cultural control was

practiced as well on 213.5 hectares to suppress the larval infestation.

#### Fall Armyworm

The Fall Armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* infestation was spread to new villages and districts of SNNPR, Oromia, Gambella, Tigray, Benishangul Gumz and Amhara Administrative Regions.

The pest has infested total of 575,617 hectares of maize fields in 46 zones, 408 districts and 6,269 villages in the above mentioned Administrative Regions. Effort was made to control the pest by cultural and chemical methods on 434,144 hectares. So far, 180,144 liters of pesticide was sprayed.

#### 4.2.2 Tanzania

African armyworm  
Is out of season for Tanzania

Fall Armyworm  
No reports of outbreak.

#### Uganda

The Fall Armyworm (FAW) was reported to be infesting many maize gardens in North and North Eastern parts of the country. The Crop Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture continued to send advisory information on the control of the FAW.

#### 4.3 Tsetse fly

##### 4.3.1 Uganda

No report.

SIFO  
For Director, DLCO-EA

---

8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017

For more information about the Organization, Please visit DLCO-EA's Website: [www.dlcoea.org.et](http://www.dlcoea.org.et)