DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

…… …… (DLCO-EA)

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SITREP No. 12/2016 - 2017

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

JUNE, 2017

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) moved progressively northwards during June over Sudan, reaching Hamrat Esh Sheikh, North Kordofan and nearly Khartoum, which is some 75-200 km further north than usual. Consequently, above average and early rains fell in North Kordofan and ecological conditions were already becoming favourable for summer breeding. During the second decade, unusually rains fell in Red Sea coastal and foothill areas of Eritrea between Mehimet and Ibb, and on the Tihama of Yemen where good rains had also occurred during May. These rains and runoff may cause ecological conditions to become favourable for breeding. Good rains fell in southwest Saudi Arabia near Najran and in the eastern interior of Yemen from Wadi Hadramaut to Thumrait, Oman. In the Horn of Africa, light to moderate rains fell in parts of eastern Ethiopia and the plateau oof northern Somalia, especially between Ayisha and Jigjiga, Ethiopia. Ecological conditions are likely to be favourable for small-scale breeding in most of these areas. *(FAO DL bulletin No. 465)*

1.1 Djibouti

During June, drier and hot weather conditions prevailed throughout the country and no rainfall was occurred. Temperature oscillated between 34°C during the night and around 43°C during the day in June.

1.2 Eritrea

Light to moderate amount of rains continued to fall in some locations in the highlands and in the southwestern areas of the country during May. There was also good rainfall along the Red Sea coast mainly during the first and second decades of the month.

Most of the vegetation was dry but some greening was observed in the central highlands, western lowlands and in parts of the central area of the Red sea coast.

1.3 Ethiopia

During June, while most parts of the country were cooling down due to the summer rains, however dry and very hot weather conditions prevailed in the spring Desert Locust breeding areas, in the eastern parts of the country, including Dire Dawa. During the second and third decades of the month, the northern and southwestern parts of the country received moderate to heavy rainfalls.

In all of the spring Desert Locust breeding areas, the annual vegetation and the soil were dry but the perennial vegetation remained green. Generally, ecological conditions were not favorable for breeding in the eastern parts of the country.

Rainfall (mm) during June, 2017

Date	DIRE DAWA (0936N/04150E)	Remark
14	Trace	
16	4.5	
23	Trace	
24	Trace	
25	4.5	
29	0.5	
30	0.0	
Total	**9.5**	

1.4 Kenya

During June, some light to moderate rains fell mainly in the coastal areas and in some parts on the central highlands. Crops and other annual vegetations remained partially green.

1.5 Somalia

Light amount of rains fell during the third decade of June on the plateau and escarpments in the northern parts of the country.

1.6 Sudan

Light to moderate rains fell in the summer Desert locust breeding zones; mainly in Khartoum, White Nile, River Nile, North Kordofan, Kassala, Red Sea and the Northern States. Vegetation status found greening mainly in areas where rainfall occurred.

1.7 Tanzania

During June, the entire country experienced dry and cold weather conditions. However, off seasonal light rains fell over few areas of Lake Victoria Basin, northeastern and southwestern highlands, and the northern coast.

Most of the cereal crops were at ripening and harvesting stages.
Water and pastures availability for livestock was in moderate conditions over most areas of the country except for some areas in the north, which remained in poor conditions.

1.8 Uganda

During June, the rains declined in many places with parts of western, southwestern, central and eastern were recording some droughts. Light to moderate showers were recorded in some of the north and northeastern parts of the country.
The vegetation was a mixture of green and drying across most parts of the Country.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

2.2 Eritrea

No survey was conducted and no locusts were reported.

2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported.

2.4 Somalia

No reports received.

2.5 Sudan

During June, 60,200 hectares were surveyed by PPD and only low density immature and mature adults were found between Dongola (1910N/3027E) and Merowe (1830N/3149E) in the Northern State, at two locations in Kassala (1527N/3623E) State and in the east near Derudeb (1731N/3607E), in the summer belt of the Red Sea State..

Desert Locust situation in other Regions and Forecast *(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 465)*

Central Region: The locust situation remained calm as no locusts were reported in the region during June except for low numbers of solitarious adults in the interior of Sudan. Nevertheless, good rains fell throughout most of the summer breeding areas in the interior of Sudan where small-scale egg-laying and hatching are expected to take place during the forecast period. Unusually good rains fell along the Red Sea coast in Eritrea and Yemen where small-scale breeding could occur on an exceptional basis. Small-scale breeding may also occur in areas of recent rainfall in eastern Ethiopia and the interior of Yemen.

Western Region: The situation remained calm in the region during June**.** Limited preventive control operations continued in Algeria (70 ha) against adults near irrigated agricultural areas in the central Sahara. Elsewhere, no locusts were reported.

Eastern Region: Control operations (5,500ha) were carried out against hoppers and adults in the Jaz Murian Basin of southeastern Iran during June.

3.0 Forecast until mid-August, 2017

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Low numbers of adults may appear and breed in areas of recent rainfall and runoff on the Red Sea coastal plains between Mehimet and Ibb. If no more rain fall, low numbers of adults will appear and breed on a small-scale in the western lowlands.

3.3 Ethiopia

Isolated adults may be present in areas of recent rainfall between Ayisha and Jigjiga where small-scale breeding could occur.

3.4 Somalia

Isolated adults may be present in areas of recent rainfall on the escarpment and plateau near Boroma where small-scale breeding could occur.

3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase slightly between West Darfur and the Red Sea Hills.

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

During June, aerial control operations by a DLCO-EA aircraft continued in Meru district in Arusha region, Bahi and Chamwino districts in Dodoma and Mvomero district in Morogoro region. However, details of the operations were not received during compiling of this Sitrep.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

During June, it was reported that an estimated of 4.5 million Quelea birds infested Teff and Sorghum crops in Konso District in the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative Region.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Report not received.

4.1.5 Sudan

Report not received.

4.1.6 Uganda

Infestation was not reported.

4.2 African Armyworm *(Spodoptera exempta)*

4.2.1 Tanzania

Infestation was not reported.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm infestation not reported.

However, infestations of **Fall Armyworm (FAW)** continued to spread in many more districts and had covered the whole country by end of June. New infestations were also increased and reported in the northeastern parts of the country (e.g. Moyo, Kotido, Karamoja, etc).
The Crop Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture continued to survey and support farmers in affected districts by supplying more pesticides (Cypermethrin and Profenofos combinations) and sprayers. (*Base Manager DLCO-EA Kampala CRB*)

4.2.3 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Outbreaks and control operations continued and by the end of June, it was reported that 47 and 9 districts in Oromya and Southern Nations & Nationalities Peoples (SNNP) Administrative Regions were affected respectively. So far, 79,518 crops and 35,418 hectares of pasturelands were reported infested by the worms.
Similarly, the pest infested 782 hectares of Sorghum and pasturelands in 4 districts in Dire Dawa Administrative Region. The control operation also continued in the above mentioned three regions on 27,958 hectares of field crops and 38,384 liters of pesticide was sprayed.

Fall Armyworm

In June, the Fall Armyworm, (*Spodoptera frugiperda)* infestation was spread to Amhara, Benishangul Gumz and Tigray Administrative Regions.
By the third week of the month, the pest was reported in 6 Administrative Regions (SNNPR, Oromia, Gambella, Tigray, Benishangul Gumz and Amhara) where 46 zones, 347 districts and 4,807 peasant associations were affected. The pest has infested 294,201 ha, mainly Maize fields and infestation on 187,605 hectares was controlled using cultural methods and insecticides. So far, 88,955 liters of pesticide has been sprayed.

4.2.4 Kenya

African Armyworm

Report was not received.

Fall Armyworm

Report was not received.

Forecast until end of June, 2017

African Armyworm outbreaks and infestations will likely occur in the northern parts of Ethiopia and the southern region of Eritrea. Therefore, it is advisable to continue monitoring of the situation and early intervention in order to alleviate crop damages.

It is also more likely that the **Fall Armyworm** infestations to spread to more locations in the Amhara and Tigray regions of Ethiopia and to the southern parts of Eritrea.
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 July, 2017

For more information about the Organization,
Please visit DLCO-EA's Website:
www.dlcoea.org. et