

# 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. 05/2017 - 2018**

## **DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR**

**NOVEMBER, 2017**



### **1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS**

**In the Central Region**, good rains fell in the winter breeding areas along parts of the Red Sea coast of Saudi Arabia during November. During the first decade, rains fell on the coast between Qunfidah and Jizan. Heavier rains fell on the northern coast from Al Wajh to Jeddah on 19-21 November, causing floods in some places including Jeddah. Consequently, ecological conditions should improve and allow small-scale breeding. In Yemen, green vegetation persisted on the Red Sea coast but vegetation remained mostly dry on the southern coastal plains. Although little rainfall occurred, vegetation was becoming green in some places along the Red Sea coastal plains in Sudan and Eritrea but remained mostly dry in southeast Egypt. (FAO DL bulletin No. 470)

#### **1.1 Djibouti**

During November, the Capital city, the coastal plains and the northern regions received insignificant two days of rainfalls. Nevertheless, the vegetation remained dry and dry conditions dominated the whole Country. Temperatures ranged from 27°C during the night and around 30°C during the day.

#### **1.2 Eritrea**

Some light to moderate rains fell during mid- and third decade of October mainly on the central and northern Red Sea coastal plains. Consequently, some greening of annual vegetation was observed and breeding conditions were improving.

#### **1.3 Ethiopia**

During November, dry and hot, and cold weather conditions prevailed respectively during the day and night mainly in the Desert Locust breeding areas in the east.

Most areas in the Desert Locust breeding locations received light to moderate amount of rainfalls mainly during the first decade of November. Consequently, satellite imageries indicate that there were new germinations of annual vegetation in vast areas in the eastern parts of the Country, while perennial vegetation remained green but the soil became dry towards the end of the month.

#### **Rainfall (mm) during November, 2017**

<b>Date</b>	<b>DIRE DAWA (0936N/04150E)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
11	Trace	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	

## 1.4 Kenya

During November, with cold weather conditions prevailing, most parts of the Country received moderate to heavy rains. Consequently, annual and perennial vegetation conditions have improved a lot and were green in vast areas of the Country.

## 1.5 Somalia

Intermittent light rains may fell mainly during the second and third decade of November in some locations in the north.

## 1.6 Sudan

Light rains fell on 21st and 22nd November in Toker Delta and in the southern coast particularly in Adobana (1810N/3816E) and Aqiq.

Green vegetation were observed in some parts of Wadi Diib, west of Sinkat (1855N/3648E) up to Haiya, south of Swakin, the eastern blocks of Toker Delta and around Adobana.

## 1.7 Tanzania

During November, isolated light to heavy thunderstorms were experienced in many regions of the Country.

Crops, pastures and perennial vegetations were green following the continued rainfalls across many parts of the Country

## 1.8 Uganda

Most parts of the Country continued to receive heavy rainfalls during November.

As a result, the vegetation remained green across most parts of the Country due to the continuous rainfalls.

## 2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

### 2.1 Djibouti

Desert Locust incidences were reported.

### 2.2 Eritrea

Ground survey was conducted by PPD staff during 13-27 November in the north-central Red Sea coastal areas of the Country and no locusts were detected.

### 2.3 Ethiopia

Very few solitary immature and mature adults (5 locusts/ha) were seen on 50 hectares of irrigated areas around Biyekobebe (N1007 35/E422622), in the Somali Administrative Region; on the way to Djibouti during a ground survey, which was conducted by PPD staff.

### 2.4 Somalia

Report not received.

### 2.5 Sudan

During the third decade of November, plant protection staff conducted ground survey along the Red sea coast from Karora in the south to Oseif in the north. **22,300** ha were surveyed in the northern coast, Wadi El Diib, south of Swakin, some locations in Toker Delta, the southern coast and some parts of the summer breeding belt west of the Red Sea Hills.

During the survey, mature solitarious scattered adults of 25-50 locusts/ha density were found at Wadi Oko north of Tomala (2002N/3551E) and near Adobana (1810N/3816E) in the south.

### Desert Locust situation in other Regions and Forecast (*Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 470*)

**Central Region:** The locust situation remained calm in the region during November. Low numbers of solitarious adults were present in a few places of the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coast in Sudan and Yemen. During the forecast period, small-scale breeding is expected along both sides of the Red Sea, especially in Saudi Arabia where good rains fell during November and, to a lesser extent in Sudan, Eritrea and Yemen. Small-scale breeding could also occur on the northwest coastal plains of Somalia if rains fall.

The countries are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestations.

**Western Region:** The situation remained calm during November. Low numbers of solitarious adults were present in parts of Algeria, western Mauritania and started to appear in the northern Mauritania. Small-scale breeding occurred in a few places of northwest Mauritania, northern Niger and eastern Chad but locust numbers remained low. No locusts were seen during survey in Morocco.

**Eastern Region:** The locust situation continued to remain calm in the region during November.

### **3.0 Forecast until mid-January, 2018**

#### **3.1 Djibouti**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.2 Eritrea**

Small-scale breeding is likely to occur in areas of recent rainfall on the central and northern Red Sea coastal plains.

#### **3.3 Ethiopia**

No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.4 Somalia**

Low numbers of adults may appear and breed on a small scale on the northwest coast in any areas that receive rainfall. No significant developments are likely.

#### **3.5 Sudan**

Small-scale breeding is likely to occur in areas of recent rainfall along the Red Sea coast and in sub-coastal areas of the northeast, causing locust numbers to increase slightly.

#### **3.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda**

### **4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS**

#### **4.1 Red-billed Quelea birds (*Quelea quelea sp.*)**

##### **4.1.1 Kenya**

Aerial Quelea control operations were conducted between 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of November in the northeastern parts of the country at Hola and Bura locations. However, details of the operations were not received during the reporting period.

##### **4.1.2 Tanzania**

During November, large flocks of birds were reported in Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions damaging Rice and Sorghum crops. Consequently, aerial control operation was conducted during the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month in Kilimanjaro region and an estimated of 3.7 million birds in 6 roosts were controlled.

It was reported that 3,500 hectares of irrigated Rice were under threat of the birds

##### **4.1.3 Ethiopia**

Aerial Quelea birds control operations were conducted until 27<sup>th</sup> of November in the northeastern parts of the Rift Valley.

During the operations, an estimated of 7.5 million birds in 15 roosting sites were killed in 7 Districts in the Amhara Administrative Region.

During the operations, 638 liters of Bathion 60% ULV was used on 319 hectares, and mortality was estimated between 85 to 99%.

##### **4.1.4 Eritrea**

Report not received.

##### **4.1.5 Sudan**

During November, aerial Quelea control operations continued in the eastern parts of the country and were reported as indicated below:

- On 17<sup>th</sup>, 250 liters of Queletox was sprayed on roosts at El Kazala and El Regeaga.
- On 19<sup>th</sup>, 75 liters of Queletox was sprayed on roosts in Om Garras.
- On 24<sup>th</sup>, 50 liters was sprayed on roosts in Al Hairar.

#### 4.1.6 Uganda

Kibimba Rice Schemes, in Eastern parts of the Country reported an upsurge of Quelea birds on Rice fields and there were plans for ground surveys and possible control operations.

## 4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

### 4.2.1 Tanzania

**African Armyworm** infestation not reported.

### Fall Armyworm (FAW)

During November, 2 new areas of invasions were reported; Mwangi district in Kilimanjaro and Muheza district in Tanga regions.

### 4.2.2 Uganda

**African Armyworm** infestation not reported.

**The fall armyworm (FAW)** infestations continued to affect some maize gardens with high impact recorded in Karamoja region of about 40% infestation, compared to the rest of the Country that recorded less than 10% infestation.

Farmers continued to apply recommended pesticides, plus other cultural methods and the heavy rains also contributed in the limited infestation of the pest in many areas. The Crop Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture continued to give technical guidance on control via the media, posters and field agents.

*(Base Manager DLCO-EA Kampala CRB)*

### 4.2.3 Eritrea

**African Armyworm**

Report not received.

### 4.2.4 Ethiopia

**African Armyworm** infestation not reported.

### Fall Armyworm

Infestation continued to occur on irrigated areas however detailed information was not received during the reporting period.

### 4.2.5 Kenya

**African Armyworm**

Report not received.

### Fall Armyworm

The pest continued to be problematic during November on irrigated Maize across many Counties.

## Forecast until end of December, 2017

**African Armyworm:** outbreaks will likely occur during the forecast period mainly in some primary outbreak areas in Tanzania and Kenya. Consequently, it is highly advisable to continue installation of pheromone traps and start monitoring of moth movements.

The **Fall Armyworm** infestation will also likely to continue affecting the farming community in the main Maize growing areas in eastern and Horn of Africa regions.

Generally, it is highly advisable to monitor its' developments in order to detect early infestations mainly in new Maize fields. 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.

## 4.3 Tsetse fly (*Glossina spp.*)

### 4.3.1 Uganda

#### 4.3.1.1 Tsetse flies:

There were press reports on upsurge of Tsetse fly populations in Karamoja region and the herdsmen requesting Government to consider aerial control of the flies from their sources in Kidepo National park.  
(Base Manager DLCO-EA Kampala CRB)

**CIFO**

**For Director,**

06 December, 2017

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