

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

..... (DLCO-EA)



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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

JANUARY, 2018



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, very little rain fell during January in the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea. Light showers fell on the southern portion of the Red Sea coast in Sudan and Yemen during the first decade. Green vegetation prevailed in a few places on the central Red Sea coast of Sudan, Eritrea and Yemen while dry conditions persisted elsewhere in the winter breeding areas along both side of the Red Sea and Gulf of Oman. Light rain fell in northern Oman during the first decade where vegetation was green in some places. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 472*)

1.1 Djibouti

During January, colder weather conditions sustained mainly during the night in most parts of the country.

Though drier weather and ecological conditions prevailed during the month, but insignificant rains also fell during the second half of the month in the interior, in the coastal plains and in the southwest parts of the country.

Temperatures ranged from 22°C during the night and around 29°C during the day.

1.2 Eritrea

Some light rains fell during the first decade of January mainly on the northern and in some north-central parts of the Red Sea coastal plains. However, except for little green vegetation observed, most areas across the coast remained dry and were not favorable for Desert Locust breeding.

1.3 Ethiopia

During January, dry and hot weather conditions during the day, and cold weather at night and in the morning hours were prevailed in the country including in the Desert Locust winter breeding areas. No rainfall occurred during January mainly in the Desert Locust winter breeding areas in the east. The annual vegetation dried out while most perennial vegetation remained green but the soil was dry. The ecological conditions generally were not favorable for Desert Locust activity during the month.

1.4 Kenya

Except for one-two days of light rains which fell in very limited areas of the country during January, most parts remained dry. Annual vegetation was drying out while perennial vegetation remained partially green in some areas of the Country.

1.5 Somalia

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

1.6 Sudan

Scattered light rains fell during the first and beginning of the second decades of January mainly in the winter locust breeding areas along the Red Sea coast. However, dry conditions prevailed over the northern coastal plains, Wadi Diib and the western parts of Tokar Delta while green vegetation dominated in the central coast between Port Sudan and south of Swakin, the southern parts and to some extent in the southern coastal parts.

1.7 Tanzania

During January, except for few locations, bigger part of the country have experienced above normal rainfalls, which also were associated with thunderstorms. In addition, increased rainfall was observed over northeastern highlands and northern coast.

Vegetation remained green in many parts of the country. Crops countrywide were in various stages of developments depending on rainfall and planting seasons.

1.8 Uganda

During January, most parts of the Country remained hot and dry. However, by the end of the month, some scattered light and thunderstorms were occurred in the central and southwestern parts of the Country, and in few locations in the North.

The vegetation was drying and dry in the northern, and eastern parts of the Country while in the central and western parts were a mixture of green and dry.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

Desert Locust incidences were reported.

2.2 Eritrea

Ground survey was conducted by PPD staff on 17th January around Sheib, in the north-central Red Sea coastal areas of the Country and no locusts were detected.

2.3 Ethiopia

Ground surveys were conducted by PPD staff covering 4,030 ha in the main Desert Locust breeding locations in the eastern parts of the country. During the survey, isolated solitary adults were found in Biyo Kobobe locality (1007N/04226E) in Aysha district.

2.4 Somalia

Report not received.

2.5 Sudan

During January, PPD staff conducted ground survey on 23,700 ha along the Red Sea coastal and sub-coastal plains including the breeding areas of Wadi Diib and its surroundings. During the survey, low densities of mature/immature solitarious adults were detected at two locations in the southern part of the Tokar Delta (Krimbit – Bahrera).

Desert Locust situation in other Regions and Forecast (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 472)

Central Region: Low numbers of solitarious adults were present in a few places in Sudan and Yemen however, the situation generally continued to remain calm during January.

Western Region: No locusts were reported during January and it is expected the situation to remain calm.

Eastern Region: No locusts were reported and no significant developments are likely.

3.0 Forecast until mid-March, 2018

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Small-scale breeding may occur in areas of on the Red Sea coastal plains that receive rainfall.

3.3 Ethiopia

Isolated adults may be present along the railway area where small-scale breeding could occur if rains fall.

3.4 Somalia

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

3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding will occur on a limited basis along the Red Sea coast between Port Sudan and Karora as well as in sub-coastal areas on northeaster in Wadi Oko/Diib, causing locust numbers to increase slightly but remain below threatening levels. Breeding is expected to finish by mid-March.

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

Monthly report not received.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During January, big flocks of birds were observed in Shinyanga and Mbeya regions posing threat to Sorghum and Paddy crops.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Incidences not reported.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received.

4.1.5 Sudan

Monthly report not received.

4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences not reported.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

Small outbreaks were reported in Shinyanga region on pastures posing less threat to field crops due to the crops maturity level.

Fall Armyworm (FAW): during January, threats of the worms remained high as they were reported attacking Maize crops in several parts of the country.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm incidences not reported.

The fall armyworm (FAW): There were no new reports of infestations mainly due to little or no Maize fields/farms, as many farmers had completed the main second cropping season. However, the Crop Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture kept with pest surveillance. (*Base Manager DLCO-EA Kampala CRB*)

4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm

During January, Fall Armyworm infestations were reported in 6 Administrative Regions of the country; Oromya, Amhara, Afar, Gambella, Benishangul and Tigray.

It was reported that the pest infested 16,364 hectares of irrigated Maize plantations in 26 zones and 99 Districts of the regions. Control operations using insecticides and cultural practices were conducted on 3,781 and 855 hectares of the infested areas respectively. During the month, 6,220 liters of insecticide was sprayed.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

Fall Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

Forecast until end of February, 2018

African Armyworm: it is likely small outbreaks to continue appearing during the forecast period mainly in the northern and central highlands and the northeastern coastal areas in Tanzania, in southeastern and coastal areas of Kenya. Consequently, it is highly advisable to continue monitoring of moth movements.

Fall Armyworm

As the rain season onsets during February and March in the region, it is highly predicted that the **Fall Armyworm** infestation will spread and affect wider areas in the main Maize growing areas across the eastern and Horn of African countries.

Consequently, countries are advised to introduce effective monitoring mechanisms in order to detect early infestations mainly in newly planted Maize fields. It is also highly advisable to train and sensitize more field scouts, and introduce quick control measures on early stages of the Fall

Armyworm as late instars may be difficult to control.

4.3 Tsetse fly (*Glossina spp.*)

4.3.1 Uganda

4.3.1.1 Tsetse flies:

Incidences not reported

CIFO

For Director,

05 February, 2018

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

www.dlcoea.org.et