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..... (DLCO-EA) .....

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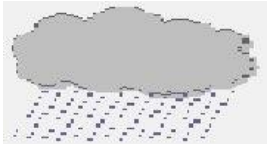
DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR AUGUST, 2019



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region: *The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) moved further north than usual in Sudan, causing widespread above-average rainfall throughout the summer breeding areas, extending to the Baiyuda Desert and the Nile Valley in the north and the Red Red Sea Hills in the east as well as the western lowlands of Eritrea. Consequently, ecological conditions were favourable for breeding over a widespread area. In the interior of Yemen, although only light showers fell at times, conditions remained favourable for breeding. Light to moderate rains fell at times in eastern Ethiopia and on the plateau in northwest Somalia as far as east Burao. Conditions were favourable for breeding in Ethiopia and were expected may be improving on the Somali plateau. In the winter breeding areas, moderate to heavy rains fell along both sides of the Red Sea on the coastal plains of Eritrea from Mersa Cuba south to Djibouti and on the entire Yemen Tihama coast, extending north to Quinfidah, Saudi Arabia. Good rains also fell on the Gulf of Aden coast. Rainfall was heaviest during the first dekad of August. During the second dekad, rains also fell in the Red Sea Hills of Sudan and southeast of Egypt, some of which may have run off into Wadi Diib and onto the coastal plains between Port Sudan and Tokar Delta. It is unusual for such rains to fall at this time of year, which have given rise to locust outbreaks in the past. (FAO DL bulletin No. 491).*

1.1 Djibouti

During August, dry conditions existed throughout the country.

1.2 Eritrea

During August, light to moderate and some heavy rains fell on the southern, central, southwestern and in the northern highlands of the Country. Moderate rains also fell at times on the escarpments and the Red Sea coastal areas. Some runoffs and flooding also occurred from the eastern escarpment to the coastal lowlands with some infrastructure damages reported.

Additionally, crops and infrastructure damages were reported in few locations in the highlands and in mid-western parts as a result of the heavy downpours, which were also associated with strong winds and floods.

Annual vegetation was green abundantly in most parts of the country including in the vast Red Sea coastal areas, which have created favourable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

The following rainfall records were received during August:

Coastal areas

Qrora. 85.5 mm
Sheib: Menshib 14 mm
Shelshela 40 mm
Foro: 55 mm
Afabet: 17 mm

Western lowland

Tesseney: 141.5 mm
Goluj: 140 mm
Omhajer: 152.0 mm
Tebeldiya: 144.6 mm
Sbunait: 131.0 mm
Gurgef: 160.0 mm

1.3 Ethiopia

During August, cloudy, rainy but hot weather conditions prevailed all over the country. Light to heavy rainfalls occurred in most parts of the country including Dire Dawa and surrounding areas. Both annual and perennial vegetations were green and the soil was wet in areas where rains fell. Consequently, the weather and ecological conditions were favourable for Desert Locust breeding during the month.

Rainfall during August

Date	DIRE DAWA (0936N/04150E)	Remark
02	16.0	
08	16.0	
09	10.0	
10	1.0	
11	15.0	
13	14.0	
15	20.0	
18	5.0	
23	16.0	
27	20.0	
30	Trace	
Total	133.0	

1.4 Kenya

During August, though the weather condition remained called, however light to moderate amount of rains fell mainly in the central and western parts of the country by the third dekad of the month. Vegetation across the country was partially green and drying.

1.5 Somalia

During August, very light rains may have fallen in the northwestern parts bordering eastern Ethiopia. Otherwise most areas in the northern sector remained rainless and dry.

1.6 Sudan

During August, good rains fell mainly in Darfur, North Kordofan, Sodiri, White Nile and in the eastern parts of the country. Flooding has also caused damages to agriculture and some infrastructure consequently, favourable ecological conditions have been created for locust breeding in many locations.

1.7 Tanzania

During August, the country was generally dry except for few locations in the Lake Victoria Basin and northern coast which received isolated and moderate amount of rains. The southern coast remained dry while few locations in the northern coast received light rains. The rest of the country experienced cloudy weather conditions.

Vegetation country wide was mixture of drying and dry except in few locations in the highlands remained green.

1.8 Uganda

Most parts of the country continued to record moderate rainfalls. The Lake Victoria Basin, central and eastern regions continued to receive steady rains with occasional moderate to heavy rains. The northern and northeastern parts recorded heavy showers and with reports of destructions in some places. Some parts of western and southwestern regions remained partially dry, with others recording isolated light showers.

The vegetation remained green in most parts of the Country with some drying in some parts of southwestern and western regions.

2.0 DESERT LOCUST (SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIA) SITUATION AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-OCTOBER, 2019

2.1 Djibouti

On 24 - 25 August, groups of immature and mature transient adults were seen during surveys in the northwest interior between Tadjourah (1147N/4253E) and Moudo (1218N/4226E) and in the south near Ali Sabeh (1109N/4242E). These may be remnants of swarms from Yemen which have crossed to eastern Ethiopia.

Forecast: No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

During August, reports from the local MoA staff indicated that solitary and isolated adult locusts were seen around Qrora (1744N/3823E) and Afabet sub-zones while low density copulating mature gregarious adults in Sheib (1551N/3910E) and Foro (1513N/3937E) localities.

In Sheib, 24,000 ha was surveyed and around 12,000 ha was found infested with mature gregarious adults (Source: Asmara DLCO-EA Base Manager). Good amount of rains also fell in the above areas and ecological conditions were favourable for further breeding of locusts.

Forecast: Locust numbers will increase on the Red Sea coast between Mersa Cuba and Mersa Fatima as hatching occurs. A few small hopper groups could form in some areas. Smaller-scale breeding will occur on the northern coast where hatching will also take place. Breeding is almost certainly in progress and will continue in the western lowlands, which could give rise to hopper and adult groups.

2.3 Ethiopia

During August, several small to large size swarms were reported crossing to EthiopiaAfar Administrative Region through Eritrea and Djibouti border, and were reported in various places in the Afar one Zone.

Hatching was reported in Somali and Afar Administrative Regions of the country and ground survey teams from the Plant Health Regulatory Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Agricultural Bureau have also confirmed the presence of Desert Locusts on 3,332 ha. Further, breeding occurred in Sisibule & Sisibule2 (N1130/E4027E), Geri and Uludimesgid villages in Afar and Mille district (Shinile Zone) of Somali Administrative Region.

Isolated, scattered mature adults, 1st to 5th instar hoppers, hopper groups, hopper bands and immature groups and immature swarms were also seen in the surveyed areas.

Limited control operation (11 ha) was conducted against hopper bands in Kulenkadebiga and Chifera (Afar) and Mille districts (Somali).

Forecast: Breeding will continue in Afar and along the railway area where additional hatching will cause an increasing number of hopper groups and small bands to form.

2.4 Somalia

A late report indicated that adult groups in the northeast had reportedly moved to the Golis Mountains by the end of July and only scattered adults remained in a few places near Iskushuban (1017N/5014E) and on the northeast coast near Boss (1118N/4910E). During the first week of August, fifth install hopper groups and bands were present on the northwest coast near Siliil (1058N/4326E). Most of the hoppers had fledged and formed immature adults and groups that left the coastal plains because of dry conditions and moved towards eastern Ethiopia. (FAO bulletin No. 491).

Forecast: Low numbers of locusts may persist in a few places of recent rainfall on the northwest plateau near Hargeisa.

2.5 Sudan

During Augusts cattered mature adults were present in North Kordofan between Sodiri (1423N/2906E), Abu Uruq (1554N/3027E) and Umm Saiyala (1426N/3112E) in White Nile and Khartoum States, along the Nile between Ed Debba (1803N/3057E) and Dongola (1910N/3027E), and ion the east between Kassala (1527N/3623E) and Haiya (1820N/3621E). Ground teams treated 200 ha of mature adult groups in the Nile Valley near Abu Hamed (1932N/3320E), and scattered adults and groups were laying eggs near Kassala. (FAO bulletin No. 491).

Forecast: Small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase in Darfur, North Kordofan, White Nile, Khartoum and Kassala States. Hatching is expected in all of these areas and small groups may form near Kassala. Fledging will commence after mid-September.

2.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

No locusts were reported and the countries are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestations.

2.7 Desert Locust Situation in the Central and other Regions (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 491)

Central Region: Swarms spread in Yemen to the coast and matured; 110 ha treated. Several swarms moved through Djibouti to Ethiopia where breeding was underway (11ha treated). Immature groups formed on the northwest coast of Somalia. Immature adult groups were treated (3,900 ha) in southwest Saudi Arabia and groups bred on the southern Red Sea coast. Isolated adults prevailed in northern Oman. Scattered mature adults increased in Sudan and adult groups were treated (200 ha). Adults and a few groups were copulating on the Red Sea coast in Eritrea.

Western Region: Small-scale breeding occurred in the northern Mali, Chad and probably Niger. Hoppers and adults were treated (70 ha) in southwest Libya. Isolated adults were present in central and southern Algeria.

Eastern Region: Control operations increased in India (65,089 ha) and Pakistan (16,445 ha) due to laying swarms and widespread hatching, causing numerous hopper groups. Isolated adults persisted in southern Iran.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

4.1 Red-billed Quelea Birds (Quelea quelea sp.)

4.1.1 Kenya

Incidences were not reported during August. Meanwhile, a late report indicated that during July, Quelea infestations on Wheat, Barley and Oats crops were reported in Meru and Narok Counties. Consequently, aerial control operations were conducted by a DLCO-EA aircraft and an estimated of 5.5 million birds in Meru and 18.0 million in Narok were controlled.

It was estimated that with the control intervention, 1.7 million US$ worth of grain damage per month was saved from the birds feeding.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During August, incidences not reported.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Incidences not reported during August.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received but it is out-off breeding season.

4.1.5 Sudan

Incidences not reported and it is out-off breeding season.

4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences not reported during August.

4.2 African Armyworm (Spodoptera exempta)

4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

During August, the worms were reported mainly in irrigated Maize cropping areas.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

There was little on-farm activity in western and southwestern parts if the country, so there was no reports of incidences. The eastern and northern parts have recorded FAW incidences of 20 - 25% but with leaves damage was below 10%.

4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received but it was less likely that infestation to occur.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Monthly report not received and the situation is unknown.

4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

During August, Fall Armyworms were reported in Oromya, Dire Dawa, Amhara, Benishangul Gumz and Tigray Administrative Regions infesting the main seasonal Maize and Sorghum crops. Infestations were reported on 446,189.5 hectares of Maize and Sorghum fields in 35 Zones, 294 Districts and 4,160 villages. Chemical and cultural (hand picking) control operations were conducted on 65,146 and 286,437.8 hectares respectively, and

58,114.9 litres of pesticide was sprayed to control the pest.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

During August, it was likely that FAW infestations continued in Maize and Sorghum growing areas of the Country.

Forecast until end of September, 2019

African Armyworm

It is less likely infestations to appear in the primary breeding locations.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Fall Armyworms are likely to continue appearing widely during September in all previously affected member countries and continue feeding on irrigated and main seasonal Maize and Sorghum crops. Consequently, Member Countries are highly advised to continue monitoring of moth movements for early detections and control of the worms.

4.3 Tsetse fly (Glossina spp.)

4.3.1 Uganda

4.3.1.1 Tsetse flies:

Incidences not reported.

CIFO

For Director,
05 September, 2019

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