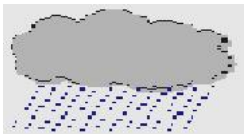
DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA
(DLCO-EA)

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. 06/2019 -2020

## DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 2019



## 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Central Region: On 6 December, cyclone Pawan made landfall in northeast Somalia near Eyl to the east of Garowe and about 800 km north of Mogadishu, and then moved inland, bringing widespread, heavy rains of 75 mm or more and flooding to northeast and parts of central Somalia and to the Ogaden in eastern Ethiopia. As a result, breeding conditions are likely to be favorable in these areas for up to six months. In the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea, moderate rains fell on the Sudan coast and light rains fell on the coast of Yemen and parts of Eritrea. Ecological conditions were favorable for breeding mainly along the coast of Sudan. In Wadi Oko/Dilb of northeast Sudan and adjacent areas of southeast Egypt, and along the eastern side of the Red Sea from Lith, Saudi Arabia to Hodeidah, Yemen. Ecological conditions were dry along the southern coast of Yemen. In Oman, moderate rains fell in northern interior and coastal areas during the first decade of the month, and conditions were favorable for breeding. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 495).

### 1.1 Djibouti

The weather continued to cool down during December due to the rains which fell around the Capital and in the northern region. Green vegetation was seen in areas where rains fell.

Temperature oscillated between 19°C during the night and around 24°C during the day.

### 1.2 Eritrea

During December, light to moderate rains fell on the highlands, western lowlands and in some parts in the coastal plains.

Consequently vegetation was green and soil moisture was wet. This is favorable for Desert Locust Development.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

In December rainy and cloudy weather condition was prevailed all over the country during the first and second decades of the month. In addition, sunny and chilly weather condition after mid night and in the morning was prevailed in all parts of the country. There was light to heavy rain in most parts including

Dire Dawa. South Eastern part (Ogaden, Kebridehar, Warder and other Districts) where desert Locust breeding and invasion was taking place. Southern part of Ethiopia has been also received normal and above normal seasonal rains. Consequently, both annual and perennial vegetation were green and the soil was wet in areas where have been received rains. Generally the ecological condition was favorable for desert locust winter breeding in the South Eastern part of the country.

### 1.4 Kenya

In December, moderate to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country causing heavy floods.

Overall, vegetation status was green in most parts of the country.

### 1.5 Somalia

During December, cyclone Pawan made landfall in northeast Somalia near Eyl to the east of Garowe and about 800 km north of Mogadishu, and then moved inland, bringing widespread, heavy rains of 75 mm or more and flooding to northeast and parts of central Somalia. Vegetation was green and soil is moist which makes ecological conditions favorable for Desert Locust breeding.

### 1.6 Sudan

During December, light to moderate rains fell in the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coast of the Country. Vegetation were green and dense in the southern coast near the Eritrean border, Tokar Delta, the central parts; south of Suwakin, Port Sudan, along Wadi Aldaib and Oko. Soil moisture was also wet in all areas where rains fell. These situations had created favorable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

### 1.7 Tanzania

During December, 2019 most parts of Tanzania continue to receive moderate to heavy rains with cloudy conditions. Lake Victoria basin. Northern coast including isles of Unguja and Pemba, Northeastern highlands, Southern cost, Western Parts, South western highlands and Southern region all featured the same weather conditions with most highlands receiving heavy rains with some floods.

### 1.8 Uganda

During December, most parts of the country recorded heavy showers with floods and property destructions reported in many places.

The vegetation remained very green in most parts of the Country.

## 2.0 DESERT LOCUST (SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIS) SITUATION AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-DECEMBER

### 2.1 Djibouti

On 1-2 December, several immature and mature swarms most likely from adjacent areas of northwest Somalia and eastern Ethiopia, were seen flying in the southeast near the Ethiopian border and Ali Sabieh ((1109N/4242E) and on the coast near Tadjourah (1147N/4242E) and on the coast near Tadjourah (1147N/4253E) and Djibouti city. (FAO Bulletin No. 495).

Forecast:

There is a low risk that a few groups and swarms may arrive in the south and east from adjacent areas of Eastern Ethiopia and northwest Somalia.

### 2.2 Eritrea

Desert locust survey and control operations were conducted in the Northern Red Sea.

Ground Control operation carried out against 1st to 4th hopper groups and hoppers low density around Wekiro and Marsa Cuba. A total of 830 ha area was treated. The vegetation status was green. And soil moisture was almost wet. It is expected that late hoppers and formation of adults is expected to exist in the forecast period, as the situation is favorable. Conducting regular survey and follow-up is crucial.

Forecast

Breeding is almost certainly in progress and will continue on the Red Sea coastal plains, causing locust numbers to increase between Mersabet, Fatima and the Sudanese border. Small groups of hoppers and adults are likely to form. There is a low to moderate risk of a few groups and swarms from northeast Ethiopia appearing in the highlands on their way to the coast.

2.5 Ethiopia

Serious Desert Locust situation was continued in December as well mainly in the Eastern and South Eastern part of Ethiopia, Somali Administrative Region (Ayisha, Denbel, Kebridahar, Warder, Shilabo, Gode, Kelafo and Ferfer) whre both local breeding and invasion was occurred. Locally bred and fledged adults (most of them from unchecked areas) formed a swarm and were moving from one area to another. In addition from 23rd December onwards, large size swarms from Somaliland and Puntland entered to Ethiopia through the aforementioned Districts in Somalia Administrative Region. These swarms continued and reached to North East Kenya at the end of the month. The Desert Locust situation was calm in Amhara, Tigray and Afar Regions.

Seven survey and control teams from Plant Health Regulatory Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Somali Administrative Region Agricultural Bureau have been conducting survey on 20,070 ha (85 stops) and immature adults, swarms and bands were observed on 58 stops. DLCO-EA and two more rented Aircrafts by MoA have been deployed in the Eastern parts of Ethiopia to carry out aerial control operation whenever the situation s allowed.

The teams have been carried out control operations mainly on groups of hoppers and immature swarms in all affected Districts on a total of 841 ha by ground (hand held 160 ha, vehicle mounted 1,200 ha) and aerial control on 7,050 ha.

Overall the situation was favorable for Desert Locust winter breeding during December due to good rain fell in southeast parts of the country which improved the ecological conditions. Consequently, hatching will be expected to occur during January and hopper groups, bands, immature and mature adults are expected to form in South east parts of the country.

In addition the swarms entered from Somaliland might move towards South west and Southern parts of Ethiopia. Unless well-organized intensive survey and control is not continued, the pest can cause severe crop damage in these areas.

Forecast

Adult groups and swarms are expected to mature and lay eggs in the Ogaden that will hatch and give rise to numerous hopper bands during the forecast period. Swarms are likely to move further south in the Ogaden and mature with cross border movements in Somalia and northern Kenya. Some swarms may reach southern Oromiya and SNNP.

2.4 Somalia

During December, large numbers of hoppers and immature adults were reported on the plateau in the northwest near Boroma (0956N/4313E). During the second half of the month, immature swarms move south over central areas of Galgaduud and reached southern areas of Hirshabele and Jubaland. A

large immature swarm was seen flying from north to south over Adado (0608N/4637E) on the 18th, over Beledweyne (0444N/4512E) on the 22nd, north of Mogadishu (0202N/4520E) on the 26th. (FAO bulletin No. 495).

Forecast

More groups and swarms are likely to appear in central and southern areas from the north and adjacent areas of eastern Ethiopia and mature. Egg-laying is likely to occur in areas that received previous rains, which will give rise to hopper bands. In the northwest, breeding will occur on the northwest coast if rains fall.

2.5 Sudan

During December, summer-bred late instar hopper groups and bands, and immature and mature adults formed groups and at least one immature swarm in the Balyuda Desert between Abu Uruq (1554N/3027E) and Berber (1801N/3400E) early in the month. In the Red Sea winter breeding areas, laying and hatching were underway along Wadi Oko/Dilb where immature and mature solitarious adults and at least one groups were present. In the northern Red Sea coast, first to thirds instar hopper bands formed south of the Egyptian border between Fodukwan (2145N/3644E) and |Mohamed Qol (2054N/3709E) where laying occurred last month Scattered immature and mature solitarious adults were present along the coast further south from Port Sudan (1938N/3713E) to the Eritrean border, including one groups of maturing adults. Control operations treated 26 846 ha of which 22 450 ha were by air. (FAO Bulletin No. 495).

Forecast

Hopper groups and bands are likely to form in sub coastal and coastal areas of the northeast with fledging from mid-January onwards that could give rise to adult groups and a few small swarms. A second generation of breeding could start at the end of the forecast period. Egg-laying and hatching will occur along the central and southern Red Sea coastal plains, and hoppers could form groups in some places.

2.6 Kenya

On 28 December, several large immature swarms first appeared in the northeast near the Somalia border at Mondera (0356N/4151E) and El Wak (0248N/4056E). There were reports that some swarms continued south to reach Wajir (0145N/4003E).

Forecast:

There remains a high risk additional swarms will arrive in the northeast from adjacent areas of Ethiopia and Somalia. The swarms are likely to move west towards Moyale and perhaps further west as well as south towards Garissa where they may mature and lay during January.

2.7 Tanzania

No locusts were reported.

2.8 Uganda

No locusts were reported.

Forecast:

There is a low risk that a few small swarms may appear in the northeast from adjacent areas of Kenya during periods of easterly winds.

2.9 South Sudan:

No locusts were reported.

Forecast:

There is a low risk that a few small swarms may appear in the southeast from adjacent areas of southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya during periods of easterly winds.

3.0 Desert Locust Situation in the Central and other Regions (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 495).

3.1 Central Region: More swarms formed in Ethiopia (840 ha treated) and moved to Eritrea, Djibouti and south in the Ogaden and Somali to Kenya. Breeding continued on the coast of Eritrea (1,107 ha treated). Saudi Arabia (43,798 ha treated) and Yemen (80 ha treated). Swarms moved to the interior of Saudi Arabia. Bands and a swarm were present in the Sudan (26,846 ha treated) and groups and bands formed in northeast Oman (1,710 ha treated).

Forecast:

Swarms will continue to move in southern Ethiopia, Somalia and northern Kenya, and possibly threaten South Sudan and Uganda. Substantial breeding is likely in Ogaden, Ethiopia and Somalia and numerous bands will form. Breeding will cause bands and swarms to form along both a long both sides of the Red Sea. More breeding is likely in Oman.

3.2 Western Region: Limited breeding occurred in Mauritania (93 ha treated) and Algeria (25 ha treated), and small groups formed in northern Mali.

Forecast:

Small-scale breeding may continued in northwest Mauritania.

3.3 Eastern Region: Eastern Region: More swarms formed in India (22,113 ha treated) and Pakistan (71,388 ha treated). Swarms from Indo-Pakistan laid in Iran (2372 ha treated).

Forecast:

The remaining swarms along the Indo-Pakistan border will migrate to southwest Pakistan and southern Iran and slowly mature and breed.

Please note the below colors are key for DL risk level

CALM - No threat to crops
Maintain regular surveys.

CAUTION - Potential threat to crops
Increased vigilance required; control operations may be needed.

THREAT - Threat to crops
Survey & control operations must be undertaken.

DANGER - Significant threat to crops
Intensive survey & control operations must be undertaken.

## 4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

#### 4.1.1 Kenya

Infestation reported.

#### 4.1.2 Tanzania

Heavy flocks reported feeding in grass seeds in Northern and Lake Zones.

#### 4.1.3 Ethiopia

Quelea infestation reported.

#### 4.1.4 Eritrea

No Quelea infestation reported

#### 4.1.5 Sudan

Reported not received

#### 4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences not reported

### 4.2 African Armyworm (Spodoptera exempta)

#### 4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

No reports received.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Damages in maize reported almost everywhere with this crop.

#### 4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Moderate FAW incidences were reported

#### 4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Report not received.

Fall Armyworm

Report not received.

#### 4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Report not received.

Fall Armyworm

Report not received

#### 4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Report not received

Fall Armyworm

Report not received

Forecast until end of February, 2020.

African Armyworm

It is less likely those outbreaks to appear in the region.

Fall Armyworm

Fall Armyworms are likely to continue appearing widely during January, 2020 in all previously affected Member Countries and continue feeding on irrigated and main seasonal Maize and Sorghum corps. 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.

SIFO
For Director
14th January, 2020

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