

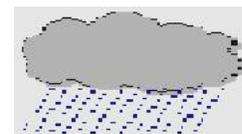


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SITREP No. 09/2018 - 2019

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



## 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region: very little rains fell during March along both sides of the Red Sea coast except for light to moderate showers on the northern coast of Saudi Arabia. Consequently, vegetation remained green on the northern coast of Yenbo to Al Wajh but was drying out elsewhere on the coastal plains along both sides of the Red Sea. Good rains fell in the spring breeding areas of the interior of Saudi Arabia during the last dekad of the month from east of Riyadh to the Persian Gulf while vegetation was already green between Gassim and Hail. Although light showers fell at time in northern Oman, breeding conditions remained generally unfavorable. (FAO DL bulletin No. 486)

### 1.1 Djibouti

Dry weather conditions prevailed during March and the effects of drought remained visible in all the pasturelands of the country.

Temperatures oscillated between 22°C during the night and around 33°C during the day.

### 1.2 Eritrea

No rains fell on the Red Sea coastal plains during March. Consequently, vegetation and soil continued to dry-out creating unfavorable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

During March, dry and hot weather conditions prevailed all over the country. Thick overcast clouds were observed in the eastern parts of the country throughout the month and light to moderate rains fell for 5 days mainly during the first and second dekads of the month.

Generally ecological conditions remained dry and were not favorable for Desert Locust breeding.

## RAINFALL during March

Date	DIRE DAWA (0936N/4150E)	Remarks
04	Trace	
05	24.0	
07	13.0	
13	Trace	
14	3.0	
23	2.5	
26	Trace	
27	45.0	
28	Trace	
Total	87.5	

### 1.4 Kenya

During March, hot and windy weather conditions prevailed in all parts of the Country. However, light to moderate amount of rains also fell in some of the northern, western and northeastern parts.

Generally, annual vegetations continued to dry out in most locations while perennial vegetations remained partially green during the month.

### 1.5 Somalia

No rains fell during March and vegetation remained dry.

### 1.6 Sudan

During March, no rainfall occurred on the Red Sea coastal plains of the country. Consequently, vegetation and soil continued to dry-out, creating unfavorable ecological conditions for locust breeding to continue.

### 1.7 Tanzania

During March, most parts of the country have received light amounts of rainfall while the Lake

Victoria Basin received moderate but isolated rainfalls.

Groups of annual vegetations were green in areas where rains fell however, by the end of the month, wilting have been observed due to lack of moisture.

### 1.8 Uganda

During March, scanty rains were recorded in some parts of the country at the beginning of the month. But the rains did not measure up to the prediction of the National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) as hot and dry conditions continued to rake bigger part of the Country. Instead, UNMA explained the dry spell and attributed it to a tropical cyclone Idai that disrupted the March-May seasonal rainfall. However during the last week of March, most parts of the Country started receiving some heavy showers.

The vegetation was a mixture of greening and green in the eastern parts (Elgon Region), parts of central (Lake Victoria region) and South western (Kigezi, Toro) but it was drying and dry in some other parts of Central (Nakasongola) and northern (Gulu, Karamoja).

## 2.0 DESERT LOCUST (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

### 2.1 Djibouti

Incidences were not reported.

### 2.2 Eritrea

Desert locust survey and control operations continued until the first half of the third dekad of March in the winter breeding areas along the northern Red sea coast of the country.

During the beginning of the month, ground control operations continued on scattered gregarious and groups of immature and mature adults around Massawa, Akbanazouf plains(1551N/3910E), Mehimet and Shieb.

By mid-March, the Desert Locust infestation became limited however survey and control operations progressed against scattered gregarious immature and mature adults around Emberemi (1548N/3923E), Wekiro, Grat (1656N/3848E) and Mehimet.

Between 12 and 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, low to medium density groups of gregarious immature and low density mature adults were also controlled in Akubanazouf, Jemahir (1604N/3902E, 1603N/3901E), Mehimet and Qrora (174433N/382347E).

During March, 6,835 ha of infestations were treated by ground.

### 2.3 Ethiopia

No survey was conducted and the locust situation remained calm.

### 2.4 Somalia

No reports were received.

### 2.5 Sudan

Surveys continued in North Kordofan and the Northern State where 8,600 ha were surveyed. No locust reported in all surveyed sites, green vegetation prevailed in North Kordofan west and south of Umsayala as a result of the good rains that fell during the previous decades of August. In the Northern State; green vegetation confined to the irrigated cropping areas. Surveys continued in North Kordofan and the Northern State where 8,600 ha were surveyed. No locust reported in all surveyed sites, green vegetation prevailed in North Kordofan west and south of Umsayala as a result of the good rains that fell during the previous decades of August. In the Northern State; green vegetation confined to the irrigated cropping areas.

During the first week of March, several immature swarms were reported on the southern coastal plains of the Red Se along the Eritrean border near Karora (1745N/3820E). Second generation breeding continued along the coast from Karora to Bir Salalah (2034N/3702E) where adult groups were copulating and hatching occurred during the first half of the month. Consequently, additional hopper groups and bands as well as groups of immature and mature adults formed throughout the month. Control operations treated 25,950 ha during March of which 13,940 ha were by air. In the northeast, scattered immature and mature solitarious adults were present in a few places along Wadi Oko/Diib. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 485)

Desert Locust situation in Central and other Regions (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 485)

Central Region: Control operations continued against second generation breeding on the Red Se of Sudan, Eritrea, Egypt and Saudi Arabia where hopper and adult groups, hopper bands and swarms formed. Breeding continued in eastern Yemen and started in the interior of Saudi Arabia.

Western Region: Locust breeding commenced in eastern Algeria. There were unconfirmed reports of hoppers and adults in northern Mali.

Eastern Region: Control operations were undertaken in southern Iran and southwest Pakistan where breeding by adult groups and a few swarms was in progress.

## 3.0 FORECAST UNTIL MID - MAY, 2019

### 3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.2 Eritrea

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.4 Somalia

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.5 Sudan

Late second-generation hatching and the formation of hopper groups and bands, adult groups and perhaps a few small swarms are likely to continue during April. Thereafter, the situation is expected to improve along the Red Sea coast due to control operations, drying conditions and emigration to the Nile Valley or east across the Red Sea by any infestations that are not detected or treated.

### 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

Incidences not reported.

#### 4.1.2 Tanzania

During March heavy Quelea birds infestations and damages were reported on irrigated Rice, Sorghum and Millets in Kilimanjaro, Dodoma and Shinyanga regions.

Aerial control operations by a DLCO-EA aircraft continued in Moshi and Dodoma regions, and an estimated of 5.3 million birds were controlled.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

Aerial Quelea control operations by a DLCO-EA aircraft continued during 2<sup>nd</sup> of March in Kasem near Awash Arba, in the Afar Region of the Country. The birds were feeding on Wheat crops under irrigation. During the operation, an estimated of 2 million birds were controlled using Fenthion 60% ULV.

#### 4.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received.

#### 4.1.5 Sudan

Incidences not reported.

#### 4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences not reported.

## 4.2 African Armyworm (Spodoptera exempta)

#### 4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

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

#### 4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall armyworm (FAW):

There were no significant developments of Fall Armyworm (FAW) reported during March.

#### 4.2.3 Eritrea

##### African Armyworm

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

##### Fall Armyworm

Monthly report not received and the situation is unknown.

#### 4.2.4 Ethiopia

##### African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

##### Fall Armyworm

Fall Armyworm infestations were reported in the short rain-fed Maize and Sorghum fields in the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative Region. The pest infested 2,590 hectares in 20 Districts and 119 villages of the regions. Chemical and cultural (hand picking) control operations have been conducted on 609 and 1,516 hectares respectively and 684 liters of pesticides was used to contain the infestations.

In addition, 280 FAW Pheromone traps have been delivered to 14 Districts in Amhara, Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples and Oromya Administrative Regions for monitoring purposes.

#### 4.2.5 Kenya

##### African Armyworm

Incidences not reported

##### Fall Armyworm

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

Forecast until end of April, 2019

##### African Armyworm:

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

##### Fall Armyworm

Infestations are likely to continue during April and affect mainly irrigated and, with the onset of the short rains; newly planted Maize crops. Consequently, member countries are highly advised to continue monitoring of moth movements for early detections 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,  
04 April, 2019

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