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SITREP No. 12/2020-2021

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION
REPORT FOR JUNE, 2021

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS



In the Central Region: In the Horn of Africa, very little rain fell except for light showers at times near Jigjiga in eastern Ethiopia and in southern areas of Afar region. Consequently, vegetation began to dry out on the coastal plains of northwest Somalia at the end of the month but remained green along the escarpment and on the plateau as well as in adjacent areas of eastern Ethiopia. While southwesterly wind prevailed over the region, local winds often changed during the day in northwest Somalia, shifting from southwesterly in the morning to northeasterly in the afternoon. In Yemen, light rain fell in parts of the interior west and southwest of Wadi Hadhramaut, near Ataq and northwest of Al ghaydah in the east on 24 - 25 June. Breeding conditions were favorable along the southern edge of the Ramlat Sabatyn, in Wadi Hadhramaut and in the Wadis on the plateaus to the north. Conditions were dry in Saudi Arabia and Oman. In Sudan, the Inter-Tropical-Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued its seasonal movement northwards over the summer breeding areas of the interior. During the second decade, it was 100-250 kms further north than usual, reaching Khartoum, and bringing the first rains of the year to the summer breeding areas. Light showers fell as far as El Fasher (North Darfur), Sodiri (North Kordofan), Khartoum and north Kassala. Light rain also fell in the southern portion of the western lowlands in Eritrea. Although mainly dry conditions prevailed, vegetation was becoming green in a few places. (FAO DL bulletin No. 513).

1.1 Djibouti

Light and scattered rains fell at times during June in areas which border eastern Ethiopia and northwest Somalia creating suitable conditions for breeding.

1.2 Eritrea

During June, light to moderate rains continued to fall in the central highlands while light to moderate

rains fell at times in the southwestern lowlands of the country. Vegetation continued greening abundantly in the high and western lowlands.

1.3 Ethiopia

During June, mixed sunny, dry and rainy weather conditions prevailed all over the country. Most parts of the country have received light rains during the first and second decade of the month while, increased rain conditions were observed in the mid and highlands during the third decade. Consequently, annual vegetation continued greening and perennial remained green creating favourable ecological conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

RAINFALL. Data (mm)

Date	Dire Dawa (0936N/4150E)	Remark
07/06/21	Trace	
16	Trace	
24	Trace	
25	2.0	
30	2.5	
Total	4.5	

1.4 Kenya

During June, cloudy and cold weather conditions prevailed in most parts of the country. Annual and perennial vegetation continued to dry out in vast areas of the northern, eastern and northwestern parts of the country.

1.5 Somalia

Light and scattered rains fell at times in some parts in the northwest during June,

creating favourable ecological conditions for breeding,

1.6 Sudan

During June, the summer breeding areas received light to moderate rains, creating suitable conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

1.7 Tanzania

During June, light showers reported in Lake Victoria zone and on the northeastern highlands. The rest of the country had dry, cloudy and cool weather conditions, where in some locations temperature dropped to 7°C showers with cloudy and cool weather conditions.

Vegetation including crops generally were drying and at harvest respectively, except in the northern zone where they remained green.

1.8 Uganda

During June, conditions were dry in most parts of the Central, Lake Victoria basin and eastern regions. Western part was mainly with scattered showers in some areas. The rainy season in eastern and northern parts, including Karamoja and Teso, is still on despite some reductions in some areas. The UNMA forecasted that there is an increased likelihood of normal rains with tendency to above normal rains in the country. Vegetation continued greening in north and northeastern, mostly green in Lake Victoria basin while it was dry in most of the southwestern parts of the country.

2.0 DESERT LOCUST (*SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIA*) SITUATION DURING JUNE AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-AUGUST, 2021

2.1 Djibouti

During June, more small hopper bands of first to fifth instar hoppers were detected to the east of Grand Barra in the hills north of Ali Sabieh (1109N/4242E, suggesting that breeding was more widespread than originally thought, and undetected egg-laying and hatching occurred in May and the first half of June. On 11 June, a maturing swarm was seen southwest of Holhol (1118N/4255E). Several immature swarms and a few groups were seen in the southeast from Holhol to As-Eyla (1100N/4206E) and the Ethiopia border on the 25th – 28th, probably arriving from adjacent areas of Ethiopia and north-west Somalia as well as from local breeding. Ground teams treated 10 ha. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 513).

Forecast:

Hopper bands in the Ali Sabieh region will continue to fledge, causing small immature groups and swarms to form during July. This is likely to be supplemented by other immature swarms and cross border movements from adjacent areas of Ethiopia and northwest Somalia. If sufficient rain occurs in the south, there is a risk that some adults could persist, mature and eventually breed.

2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were reported.

Forecast:

Low numbers of adults are likely to appear in the western lowlands and breed on a small scale with the onset of the summer rains.

2.3 Ethiopia

During June, hopper developments, fledging movement of immature swarms continued in the eastern parts of the country. Hopper bands and immature swarms (scattered and low number) were reported in Somali (1032N/4219E, 1036N/4224E), Oromya (0709N/4149E, 0707N/4144E), Amhara and Afar administrative regions.

By the last week of June, several low density immature swarms were reported in Somali (Ayisha; 1045N/4234E), Amhara (north Wolo zone; Raya Kobo, Habru, Gidan, Guba Lafto and Woldiya 1111N/4010E Districts;) and Afar (west Semera; 1148N/4100E) administrative regions.

Ground and aerial control teams treated immature swarms and hopper bands on 6,436 ha of which 953 ha were by air.

Forecast:

More small immature swarms are likely to form in the railway area and, to a lesser extent, elsewhere in the Somali and eastern Oromya regions as fledging should be complete by mid July. Low numbers of small swarms are expected to migrate to the Afar region, supplemented by other swarms from Somalia, Djibouti and perhaps a few from Yemen. Some swarms might continue to the northern highlands and the summer breeding

areas in Sudan. Swarm maturation and egg laying are expected to occur with the onset of the rains in Afar from late July onwards, causing hopper bands form in August.

2.4 Somalia

During June, an increasing number of hopper bands formed and continued to develop on the coast, escarpment, and plateau of the northwest (Somali-land) between Boroma (0956N/4313E) and Burco (0931N/4533E) and, to a lesser extent, further east to northwest of Gardo (0930N/4905E) in Puntland. Fledging first commenced on the coast on the 13th; thereafter, an increasing number of small immature swarms formed. No further hopper bands were reported after the 26th. By the end of the month, coastal areas were nearly clear as the newly formed swarms had moved inland up the escarpment towards the plateau with a few continuing to adjacent areas of Ethiopia and Djibouti.

Control operations treated 80,330 ha of which 61,420 ha were by air, involving Insect Growth Regulator (IGR) that helped reduce swarm formation (FAO DL bulletin No. 513).

Forecast:

Small swarms are expected to move along the escarpment and plateau in the northwest where some could persist until vegetation dries out while other are likely to move into adjacent areas of Ethiopia and Djibouti. Any swarms in the northeast are likely to move west along the northern plateau. By the end of the forecast period, few locusts may be present, and the situation could become calm.

2.5 Sudan

Breeding and immature/mature groups were treated by ground control teams in Alhugna (1852N/3220E), Abu Seder, Khor Alrawak (1854N/3219E) and Birtee (1856N/3213E) in the River Nile State and, Um Jawasir (1651N/3135E) in the Northern state. Immature and hopper groups were also controlled in northwest of Khartoum state (1533N/3235E) and, low density of scattered mature/immature solitarious adults were reported in some locations.

Low density of scattered mature/immature solitarious adults were also reported in North Kordofan, while low density of scattered mature adults seen in several locations in the Red Sea and Kassala states (1527N/3623E).

During June, ground control teams treated 470 ha.

Forecast:

Hatching by early July is likely to cause a few small hopper groups to form in the Nile Valley and Wadi Muqaddam that could fledge by mid August. During July, small scale breeding could take place over a relatively large area from North Darfur to the Red Sea Hills as the summer rains commence, causing locust numbers to increase further.

2.6 Kenya

During June, no locusts were reported in the country.

Forecast:

Local breeding may have occurred in a few places of the north by any remnant populations that could give rise to small groups of adults during July. No significant developments are likely.

2.7 Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

During June, no locusts were reported and situation remained calm.

Forecast:

No significant development is likely in the countries.

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS (EXTRACTED FROM FAO DL BULLETIN NO. 513)

Central Region:

More bands form and fledge, giving rise to increasing numbers of immature swarms mainly in northwest Somalia (80,330 ha treated) but also in eastern Ethiopia (6,436 ha) and southeast Djibouti (10 ha); one immature swarm reaches Afar. Breeding ends in northern Saudi Arabia (2,235 ha) but immature groups move south, and a few immature swarms arrive in the Yemen (5 ha) highlands while scattered adults increase in the interior. Local breeding near Nile in Sudan (330 ha) and scattered adults appear in nearby summer breeding areas. Adults persist in southeast Egypt.

Western Region:

Local breeding in Algeria (351 ha treated) and isolated adults in northeast Morocco.

Eastern Region:

No locusts present.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

During June, incidences were not reported.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During June, a DLCO-EA aircraft continued control operation in Mwanza, Shinyanga and Lake Victoria Basin where 7.9 million birds were treated with 350 liters of Fenthion 60% ULV.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Incidences were not reported.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received.

4.1.5 Sudan

Monthly, report not received.

4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences were not reported.

4.2 Armyworms (*Spodoptera* spp)

4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Incidences were not reported.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Incidences were not reported.

4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

Fall Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported

Fall Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Report not received.

Fall Armyworm

Report not received.

Forecast until end of July, 2021.

African Armyworm:

As further developments were not reported in the southern parts of Ethiopia during June, therefore, it is less likely that infestation to extend to the northern Rift Valley, Amhara and northern parts of Ethiopia, and to the southern region of Eritrea. However, it is highly necessary monitoring the situation for early detection of infestations and early control interventions during the forecast period.

Fall Armyworm

Increasing and wider Fall Armyworm infestations are expected to continue on Maize and Sorghum crops during July as the crops continue to develop in most parts of the Member Countries. Consequently, Member Countries are highly advised to continue monitoring of moth movements and infestations for effective and early interventions.

4.3 Tsetse Fly (*Glossina spp.*)

4.3.1 Uganda

4.3.1.1 Tsetse Flies:

Incidences were not reported.

For Director
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CIFO, DLCO-EA
6th July, 2021

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

RAINFALL and DESERT LOCUST Situation Maps JUNE, 2021

