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SITREP No. 11/2020-2021

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

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS

In the Central Region: In east Africa, the prevailing southerly winds progressed further north during the month and reached northern Somalia where they became established with the southwest monsoon winds over the Horn of Africa. Light to moderate rains fell over most of Ethiopia and Somalia during the first decade, reaching the southern coast of Eritrea as well as coastal and interior areas of southwest Yemen. Lighter rains fell in the interior of Yemen. During the remainder of May, very little rain fell in the region except for light showers near Garowe in northeast Somalia during the second decade. Ecological conditions were favorable for breeding over a large and widespread area encompassing the Somali region in eastern Ethiopia from Shebelle River to the plateau and escarpment in northern Somalia. In Saudi Arabia, conditions were drying out in the interior as temperatures increased during the month. In Yemen, ecological conditions were favorable for breeding in the interior where good rains and floods occurred in parts of Al Jawf, Marib, Shabwah, Hadhramaut and Al Mahrah governorates in April. Conditions may also be favorable on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts from rains in early May. (FAO DL bulletin No. 512).

1.1 Djibouti

Light to moderate rains fell mainly during the first decade of May in areas bordering northern Somalia and eastern Ethiopia.

1.2 Eritrea

Light rains fell in the southern Red Sea coastal plains during the first decade while light to moderate rains fell at times in the central highlands and the southwestern parts of the country.

Vegetation continued greening abundantly in the high and western lowlands.

1.3 Ethiopia

During the second and third decades of May, sunny and dry weather conditions prevailed all over the country. While light to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country during the first 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
01/05/21	17.0	
2	> 50	
3	24.0	
4	10.0	
5	30.0	
6	3.5	
Total	>134.5	

1.4 Kenya

During the first two weeks of May, rainfall intensified and light to heavy rains fell in some parts of the country. Even though annual and perennial vegetation remained green in vast areas however, it was partially dry in the north and northeast parts of the country.

1.5 Somalia

Light to moderate rains fell in most parts of the country during the first decade of May creating favourable ecological conditions for breeding.

1.6 Sudan

During May, no rains fell on the Red Sea coastal plain. As a result, vegetation cover and soil moisture dried out. In the summer breeding areas, vegetation cover was mainly green along the River Nile, Atbara seasonal River and irrigated schemes. Other Desert Locust breeding locations remained dry during the month.

1.7 Tanzania

Short period of moderate to heavy rainfalls, which were associated with flooding, occurred in few locations in the western parts of the country during May. Other parts of the country witnessed light showers with cloudy and cooler weather conditions. Vegetation including crops generally remained green in most parts of the country.

1.8 Uganda

During May, the central, eastern and northeastern parts of the country received light to moderate showers while some parts in the southwestern recorded moderate rainfalls. Vegetation continued greening in areas where rainfall occurred.

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

2.1 Djibouti

During May, at least one mature swarm was present and copulating near Petit and Grand Barra south of Arta on 16th - 18th. Mature adults were seen at one place along the coast to the east of Djibouti (1134N/4308E) town. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 512).

Forecast:

If habitat conditions are suitable, hatching may occur in early June near Petit and Grand Barra. This could cause a few small hopper bands to form that would fledge about mid July, giving to a few small immature adult groups or swarms.

2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were reported.

Forecast:

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

2.3 Ethiopia

During May, the rainfalls favoured the maturity of swarms and egg laying occurred in Fa-fen(0858N/4342E) and Nogob zones (0716N/4320E, 1032N/4224E, 0900N/4320E) and in East Bale zone, Oromia Administrative region (0651N/4146E, 0648N/4150E, 0653N/4145E) in addition, hopper bands and groups reported in both regions. Control teams treated 12,663 ha of which 5,263 ha were by air.

Forecast:

Hatching is likely to continue until the end of the first week of June. An increasing number of hopper bands will form in the Somali region, including eastern zones.

Limited breeding may also be underway in southern Oromia and Somali regions. Fledging is expected to start about mid June, peak in late June and finish mid July, giving rise to immature swarms.

2.4 Somalia

During May, mature swarms were seen copulating and laying in northwest (Somaliland), mainly on the plateau as far east as Burco (0931N/4533E) as well as on the escarpment and at a few places along the coast near Lughaye

(1041N/4356E) and Berbera (1028N/4502E). In the northeast (Punt-land), a few mature swarms were seen during the second and third weeks near Iskushuban (1017N/5014E) and northwest of Gardo (0930N/4905E). As laying had started about 25 April, hatching commenced about 9 May and an increasing number of early instar hopper bands formed in Somaliland and at one place south of Gardo in Puntland.

Control operations treated 18,304 ha of which 5,638 ha were by air. No locusts were seen in the central areas near Galkayo (0646N/4725E) (FAO DL Bulletin No. 512).

Forecast:

Hatching may continue in early June and thereafter an increasing number of hopper bands are expected to form on the northern plateau between Boroma and Garowe. Fledging is likely to start about mid-June, peak in late June and finish by mid-July, giving rise to immature swarms.

2.5 Sudan

In the Red Sea State winter breeding areas, aerial and ground control operations targeting mature and immature groups were conducted in areas south of Suakin (1908N/3717E) up to Tokar Delta (1827N/3741E). A few 5th instar hopper bands and fledglings were treated in Ashat (1845N/3728E) at the central coast. Low densities of scattered immature/mature gregarious and solitary adults were also detected in the above locations. In the River Nile and Northern states, low density scattered mature solitary adults

were reported near Abu Hamed, Berty (1854N/3219E) and in some irrigated schemes at the Northern state. During May, control operations treated 2,868 ha of which 2,050 ha by air using 2,868 litres of insecticide.

Forecast:

A few small groups of immature and mature adults from the Red Sea coast may appear near cropping areas in the Nile and Atbara river valleys where limited breeding could take place. Scattered adults are expected to start appearing in the summer breeding areas of north and West Kordofan, White Nile and North Darfur at the end of the forecast period and eventually breed on a small scale with the onset of the seasonal rains.

2.6 Kenya

During May, 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 in late June.

2.7 Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

Uganda:

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

Forecast:

No significant developments are likely.

South Sudan:

During May, no locusts were re-reported and situation remained calm.

Forecast:

No significant developments are likely.

Tanzania:

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

Forecast:

No significant developments are likely.

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS (EXTRACTED FROM FAO DL BULLETIN NO. 512)

Central Region:

Swarms continue laying and hatching with early instar bands steadily forming in Ethiopia (12,663 ha) ha), and Somalia (18,304 ha); limited swarm laying in Djibouti. Adult groups declined on Red Sea coast of Sudan (2,868 ha). Limited hatching and hoppers form groups or bands in Iraq (502 ha), Jordan (300 ha), Syria (269 ha), Lebanon (31 ha), Israel; mature adult groups in Sinai, Egypt (20 ha). Hopper groups and bands fledge to form immature adult groups in Saudi Arabia (11,156 ha) interior; some move south to-wards Yemen; scattered adults in Yemen interior.

Western Region:

Local breeding in Algeria (32 ha treated) and scattered adults in northeast Morocco.

Eastern Region:

Hatching and hopper group formation in southwest Iran (6,370 ha treated).

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

During May, incidences were not reported.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During May, a DLCO-EA aircraft treated 42.7 million birds roosting on 865 ha using 1000 liters of Queletox 60% ULV in Coast, Morogoro, Singida, and Manyara regions. The birds were threatening and feeding on Sorghum and Rice crops.

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)

Fall Armyworm infestations continued in all Maize growing areas of the country during May.

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 reported in Southern Nations Nationalities Peoples (SNNP) and Oromia Administrative regions. 17,961 ha of Maize crops have been affected in six zones, 28 districts and 132 villages. Chemical and cultural control operations were conducted on 1,943 and 536 hectares respectively.

Fall Armyworm

Incidences were reported on 16,174 ha of Maize crops in SNNP region, affecting 35 districts and 189 villages. Chemical and cultural control operations were conducted on 666 and 9,928 hectares respectively.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm Report not received.

Fall Armyworm

Report not received. Forecast until end of June, 2021.

African Armyworm:

It is likely that minor infestation to extend to the central Rift Valley, Amhara and northern parts of Ethiopia, and probably to the southern region of Eritrea. Consequently, it is highly necessary to monitor the situation for early detection of infestations and early control interventions.

Fall Armyworm

Increasing and wider Fall Armyworm infestations are expected to continue on Maize and Sorghum crops during June as the planting season expands in most 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

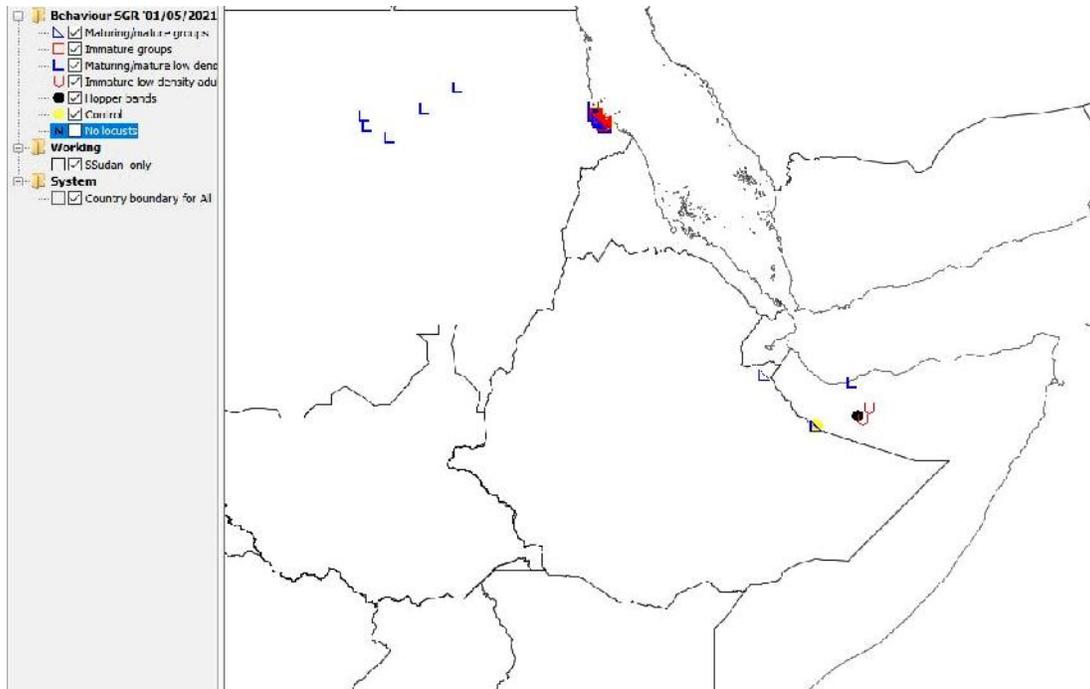
4.3.1.1 Tsetse Flies:

Incidences were not reported.

For Director
Mehari Tesfayohannes
CIFO, DLCO-EA
5th June, 2021

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

Desert Locust Situation during May, 2021



RAINFALL during May, 2021

