

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



**Headquarters (Addis Ababa)**  
**Tel: 251-1-16461477/460287/460290**  
**Fax: 251-1-16460296**

**Operations Office (Nairobi)**  
**Tel: 254-020-6002305/6001488**  
**Fax: 254-020-6001575**

***SITREP No. 05/2021 - 2022***

**DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT**  
**FOR NOVEMBER, 2021**



**1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS**

***In the Central Region:*** In the Horn of Africa, seasonal winds were mainly from the south but, as the month progressed, these winds retreated southwards and were replaced by northeasterly winds. By the end of the month, the northeasterly winds reached as far as south as the Shebele River in eastern Ethiopia. In early November, there were a few consecutive days of strong northeasterly winds that reached as far south as Northeast Kenya. Very little rain fell in the region except for light showers during the first decade in southern Ethiopia south of Arba Minch. During the last decade, good rains fell in the extreme southeast of Ethiopia on the Kenya border as well as in some adjacent areas of northern Mander and Wajir counties in northern Kenya, and in southern Somalia. On 24 - 25 November, a tropical depression brought rainfall to the extreme tip of northeast Somalia, mainly in the hills north of Iskushuban with lighter showers east and north of Gardo to Bosaso. Consequently, breeding conditions were only favorable in northeast Somalia where green vegetation was present and were less favorable in the Somali region of eastern Ethiopia where mainly dry conditions prevailed due to poor rainfall. Breeding conditions were improving in southern Ethiopia and adjacent areas of northern Kenya. In the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea, rain began to fall in areas that were previously dry. During the first decade, light rain fell at times on the Red Sea coast of Eritrea. During the second decade, good rains fell over the northern Red Sea from Port Sudan to Marsa Alem in southeast Egypt and from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia to the Gulf of Aqaba. During the third decade, there was a complete absence of rains. Consequently, breeding conditions are likely to be improving in those areas of recent rainfall as well as on the Red Sea coast of Yemen from October rains. Vegetation was drying out along the southern coast of Yemen and dry conditions persisted in northwest Somalia. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 518*).

**1.1 Djibouti**

Light rains probably fell mainly during the third decade of November in the southwestern parts of the country however, vegetation continued to dry out throughout the country.

**1.2 Eritrea**

Intermittent light rains fell on the Red Sea coastal plains during November. Consequently, vegetation plains, creating favorable ecological conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

During November, sunny weather conditions and cold night temperatures prevailed all over the country. Some parts of the country including Dire Dawa and surroundings areas received light to moderate rains during the last decade of the month. Heavy rains also fell in some parts including Dire Dawa.

Annual vegetation was drying while perennial vegetation mostly remained green, and soil was dry except in areas where rains fell. Generally, ecological conditions were favourable for Desert Locust breeding during the month in some parts in the east.

#### RAINFALL. Data (mm)

Date	Dire Dawa (0936N/4150E)	Remark
26/11	6.5	
27/11	4.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.0</b>	

### 1.4 Kenya

During the first two decades of November, dry weather and ecological conditions observed mainly in the northern, north eastern, eastern and north western parts of the country. While some scattered rains fell in the central and western parts of the country. During the third decade of the month, moderate to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country, where vegetation status has also improved slightly in areas where rains fell.

### 1.5 Somalia

During the third decade of November, light rains fell in the northeastern coast, the plateau and the northwestern areas. Consequently, some annual vegetation continued greening on the plateau and in the northeastern coastal plains.

### 1.6 Sudan

During the first decade of November, very little rains recorded in the summer breeding areas, while moderate to heavy rains fell during the second decade of the month in the winter breeding areas. Consequently, vegetation started greening creating favourable conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

### 1.7 Tanzania

During November, light rains fell in some parts of the country, while heavy rains fell in few areas in Lake Victoria Basin and western Zone; Tabora, Kigoma and Katavi areas. Light showers were also reported in northeastern Highlands, Northern and Southern coastal areas of Indian Ocean from the 2nd week of the month. Other areas in central, southern northern and southwestern highlands remained dry and hot during the month.

Vegetation generally was mix of dry, drying and green across the country during November.

### 1.8 Uganda

During November, most parts of the Central region, Lake Victoria basin and parts of eastern region continued to receive some light to heavy rains. Western and Southwestern parts of the country also continued to record scattered showers in several places. Most parts of the North-Eastern and Northern regions were beginning to dry out during the month but again recorded some scattered showers towards the end of the month.

Vegetation remained green across most parts of the country with North and North-Western parts of the country having a mixture of drying and green vegetation.

## **2.0 DESERT LOCUST (*SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIA*) SITUATION DURING NOVEMBER AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-FEBRUARY, 2022**

### **2.1 Djibouti**

During November, no locusts were seen during surveys in the southeast near Ali Sabieh (1109N/4242E), along the coastal plains from Djibouti City (113431N/430847E) to Obock (1158N/4317E) and in northern interior near Bouyya (1223N/4422E) (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 518*).

#### **Forecast:**

*Small scale breeding may occur on the coastal plains between Djibouti and the Somali border if rains fell.*

### **2.2 Eritrea**

Desert Locust survey and control operations were conducted in areas between Afabet and Gelealo during November, Gregarious 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> instar hoppers and breeding groups were seen around Buya, and between Buya and Simoti. Isolated solitary immature locusts were also detected during the last week of the month around Afabet, Red Sea coast. Control operations on hopper bands were conducted in Buya area and 97 ha was treated during the month.

#### **Forecast:**

*A few small adult groups could form in the Buya areas from early December onwards. Small scale breeding is likely to occur on the central and northern coastal plains that receive rain fall.*

### **2.3 Ethiopia**

During the first and second weeks of November, movement of mature swarms were reported in eastern, Somali Administrative region (Jarar, Korahe and

Dawa Zones), Oromia Administrative region (Guji and Borena Zones) and Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative region (South Omo and Gamo Zones).

Due to the prolonged dry ecological conditions, which have prevailed in the main locust breeding locations, so far, no breeding has taken place in the eastern parts of the country.

During the second half of the month, several mature swarms were concentrated in SNNP and Oromia Administrative regions between Arero (0445N/3849E), Mega (0403N/3819E) and Teltele (0504N/3723E).

Aerial control operation treated 2,126 ha of which 1,926 ha were by air.

#### **Forecast:**

*Breeding is likely to occur in the south between Teltele and the Kenya border, giving rise to hatching and the formation of small hopper bands during December. This could be supplemented by immature swarms from northeast Somalia moving through the Somali region to reach the south.*

### **2.4 Somalia**

During November, breeding increased in the north-east (Puntland) where laying continued in the first week and substantial hatching took place until just after mid-month. Consequently, numerous small hopper bands formed and by the end of the month, a few had reached fifth instar. Most of the breeding was concentrated northwest of Gardo (0930N/4905E) but other areas may also be affected. In the northwest, a mature swarm was seen near Boroma (0956N/4313E) and one near Sheikh (0956N/4511E) during the first week. Thereafter, scattered immature and mature

solitarious adults were present on the plateau escarpment, and North- west coast near the Ethiopia border as well as in central areas near Galkayo (0646N/4725E).

Control operations treated 18,405 ha of which 2,557 ha were by air. (FAO DL bulletin No. 518).

### **Forecast:**

*In the northeast, fledging will commence at the beginning of December and continue for about three weeks giving rise to an increasing number of small immature swarms from the second week onwards. While some swarms may initially persist, most are expected to move south towards central and southern Somalia, southern Ethiopia, and northeast Kenya during the second half of December. The scale of the movements is likely to be limited but will depend on current operations. In the northwest, small-scale breeding could occur on the coast if rains fall.*

### **2.5 Sudan**

In River Nile State, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instars hopper groups and fledglings were controlled west of Berber town, and groups of mature and immature adults in the Baiyuda Desert, and in some Wadis west of Berber, east and west of Atbara River (Homar Soroup, Al- karada and Alsagrey). Low densities of scattered mature/immature solitarious adults were detected in some locations mainly along the Atbara River.

In the Northern State, ground teams conducted control operations against mature/immature groups, medium to dense hopper bands, groups of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> instars and fledglings, and treated 7,505 ha in Wadi Almogadam (Aljohal project, S. Om Alhassa and Wadi Albarkol). Low density solitary adults were also reported in some locations.

In the Red Sea State, small groups of solitarious adults were reported in the central Red Sea coast north of Port Sudan. Low numbers of solitarious adults were also seen along the Red Sea coast. Ground and aerial control teams treated 12,135 ha and 5,600 ha respectively during November.

### **Forecast:**

*Locust infestations will decline in the Baiyuda Desert. Smallscale breeding will occur along much of the Red Sea coastal plains and in subcoastal areas of the northeast but may be limited by poor rainfall that is expected. Nevertheless, there remains a risk that small hopper groups could form in some areas during January.*

### **2.6 Kenya**

During the beginning of November, small mature swarms arrived near Mandera as this was reported in October Sitrep. No further swarms were reported after the first decade of the month, where those swarms were seen moving in the northern parts of the country for few days during the month.

### **Forecast:**

*There remains a risk of limited breeding in the extreme north of Marsabit, Wajir and Mandera counties along the Ethiopia border by the swarms that arrived in early November, which could give rise to small hopper bands in December. Low to moderate numbers of immature swarms from northeast Somalia are likely to appear in the northeast from mid-December onwards and spread to other northern counties towards Turkana and Isiolo.*

### **2.7 Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania**

During November, no locusts were reported in the countries.

## Forecast:

*There is a low to moderate risk that a few small mature swarms may appear in Eastern Eutoria (South Sudan) from adjacent areas of southern Ethiopia in early December.*

### 3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS (EXTRACTED FROM FAO DL BULLETIN NO. 518)

#### Central Region:

Control operations continue against numerous small hopper bands in northeast Somalia (18405 ha treated). Mature swarms that arrived in early November in northeast Kenya moved to southern Ethiopia (2,126 ha). More bands and groups of hoppers and adults in the interior of Sudan (17735 ha) and scattered adults and one mature group appear on the Red Sea coast in southeast Egypt (100 ha). Hopper groups on Red ~Sea coast in Eritrea (97 ha) and scattered adults on the north- ern coast. Small-scale breeding on southern Yemen coast, immature swarm in the interior, and mature swarm laying and scattered adults on the Red Sea coast.

#### Western Region:

Scattered hoppers and adults from local breeding in Mali, isolated adults in Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania.

#### Eastern Region:

No locusts present.

### 4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

##### 4.1.1 Kenya

Incidences were not reported.

##### 4.1.2 Tanzania

Large flocks of *Quelea* birds were reported causing damages on irrigated Rice in Kibaha, Coast region, Mombo, Korogwe district and Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region. Preparations for an aerial control of the birds were underway.

##### 4.1.3 Ethiopia

Aerial *Quelea* birds control operations continued during November in Merti, Oromia Administrative region. During the operation, an estimated of 2.2 million birds, which were roosting on 50 ha were successfully controlled.

##### 4.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received.

##### 4.1.5 Sudan

Monthly, report not received.

##### 4.1.6 Uganda

There was a report of *Quelea* flocks threatening Rice crops in Lukaya in Kalungu Districts in Central parts of the country. Meanwhile, the pest problem was handled with advisory support of the Crop Protection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Rice has been harvested.

### 4.2 Armyworms (*Spodoptera* spp)

#### 4.2.1 Tanzania

##### African Armyworm

Report were not received.

##### Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Infestations were reported in all areas of irrigated Maize crops.

#### 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 (FAW)

Monthly report not received.

#### 4.2.4 Ethiopia

##### African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

##### Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Incidences were not reported.

#### 4.2.5 Kenya

##### African Armyworm

Report not received.

##### Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Report not received.

#### Forecast until end of December, 2021

##### African Armyworm

Some minor outbreaks could occur in the primary breeding locations in Tanzania.

##### Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Minor infestation will likely to continue mainly on irrigated Maize crops as the main cropping season is over in many of the Member Countries.

#### 4.3 Tsetse fly (*Glossina spp.*)

##### 4.3.1 Uganda

##### 4.3.1.1 Tsetse Flies

The Entomology Department of the Ministry of Agriculture reported of increasing populations of Tsetse flies in several forests, bushes and national parks, and a plan to execute spot aerial spraying was under way.

**For Director**

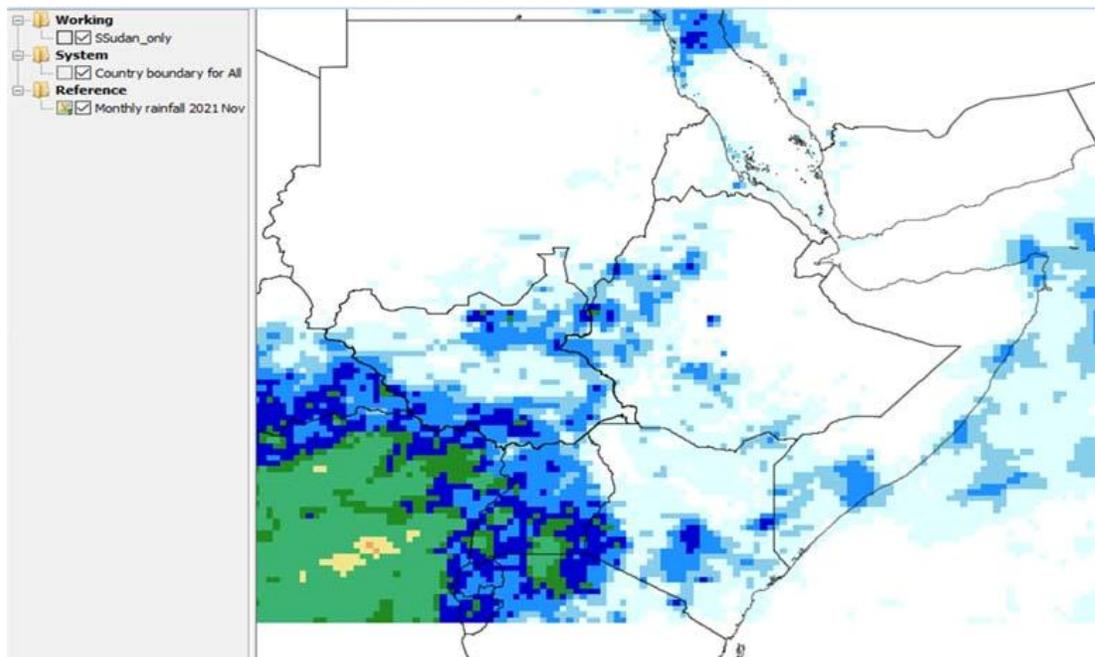
**Mehari Tesfayohannes**

**CIFO, DLCO-EA**

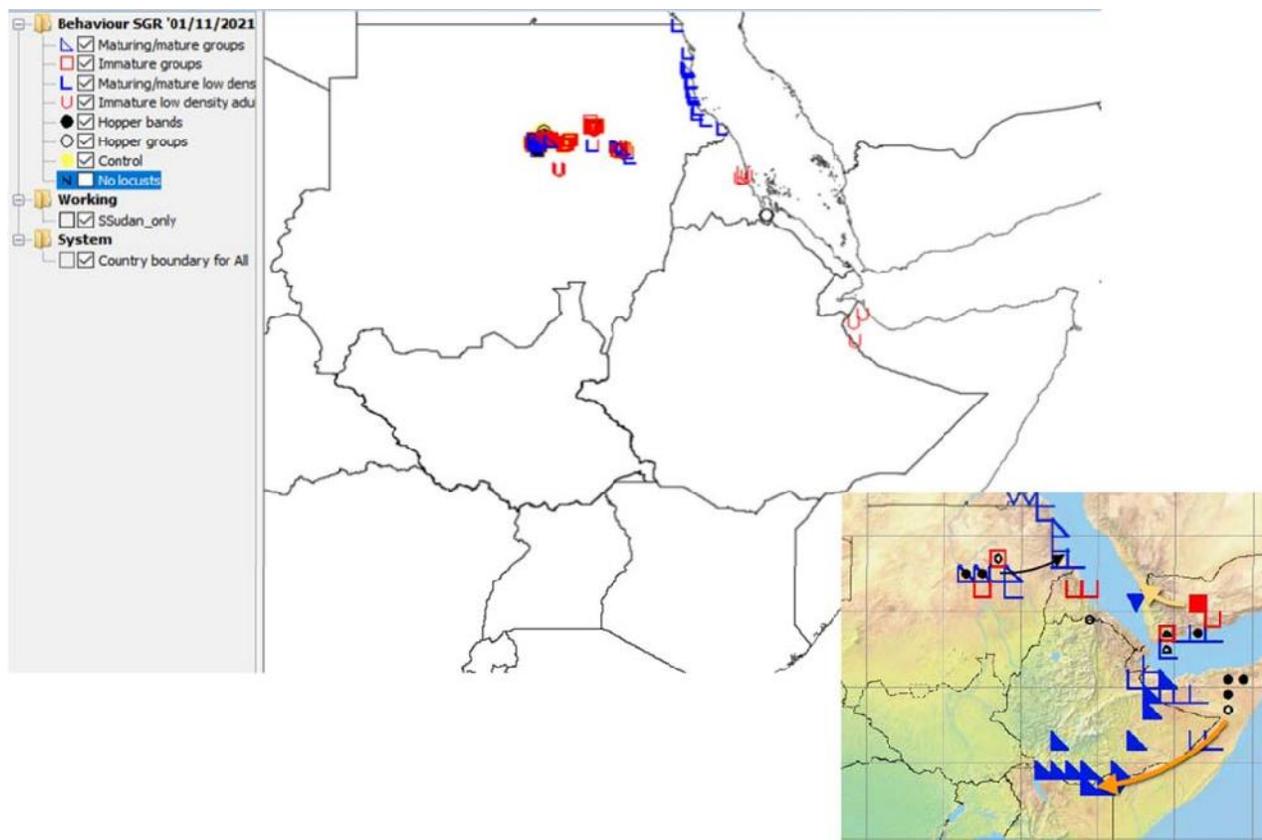
5<sup>th</sup> December, 2021

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

## RAINFALL NOVEMBER, 2021



## Desert Locust Situation November, 2021



FAO Bulletin 518