

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



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SITREP No. 08/2021 - 2022

**DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT
FOR FEBRUARY, 2022**



In the Central Region: No significant rain fell in the Horn of Africa as well as in the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden during February. Consequently, annual vegetation was dry in eastern and southern Ethiopia and northern and central Somalia where conditions were not favourable for breeding. Similarly, the little annual vegetation that was present in some coastal areas of the Red Sea in southeast Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Yemen and Saudi Arabia was drying out and breeding conditions became less favourable. (FAO DL bulletin No. 521).

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS

1.1 Djibouti

No rains fell during February.

main locust breeding zones in the east, creating unfavourable conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

1.2 Eritrea

Light to moderate rains fell during the first and second decades of February in the central and northern Red Sea coast plains of the country. The vegetation status generally was green and greening with wet soil in most of the northern coastal plains, creating favourable ecological conditions for DL breeding.

RAINFALL. Data (mm)

Date	Dire Dawa 0936N/4150E	Remark
28/02/2022	6	
Total	6	

1.3 Ethiopia

During February, sunny and mild cold night weather conditions prevailed all over the country. Light and intermittent rains also fell in some locations in the southwest and western parts of the country, while ecological conditions and weather situation remained dry in the

1.4 Kenya

During February, intermittent and scattered moderate to heavy rain fell mainly in some locations in the Rift Valley, central and western parts of the country. Ecological conditions remained dry mainly in the northern, north eastern, eastern and north western parts of the country.

1.5 Somalia

No rains fell during February.

1.6 Sudan

During the second decade of February, light rains fell in the southern Red Sea coastal plains near the Eritrean border. Vegetation was greening in areas where rains fell. Soil was dry and vegetation was drying out in other locations creating favourable ecological conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

1.7 Tanzania

During February, Cyclone Batsiral, which was developed on the Indian Ocean has brought significant rainfall to the country. Consequently, the southern, eastern coastal plains and southwestern highlands recorded moderate to heavy rainfall during the month.

Vegetation remained green in most parts of the central and rangelands remained green in most parts of the country due to the continuous rainfall.

1.8 Uganda

Some parts of central, Lake Victoria basin and southwestern recorded light to heavy showers, especially towards the end of February. It is forecasted that normal rains will start in March over most parts of the country.

Vegetation remained green in most parts of the central and southwestern while it was greening in parts of western, while most of the northern parts remained dry.

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

2.1 Djibouti

During February, no locusts were reported.

Forecast:

No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

Ground survey was conducted on the Red Sea coastal plains north of the Port City of Massawa and no locusts were reported during February.

Forecast:

Isolated locusts may be present in a few places along the northern coastal plains of the Red Sea where numbers will decline as conditions become dry. No significant developments are likely.

2.3 Ethiopia

During February, small immature adult groups were seen moving southwards in the southeastern parts of the Somali Administrative region. However, Desert Locust situation generally remained calm in the country during the month.

Forecast:

Low numbers of adults and a few small immature groups may be present in parts of southern Oromia and SNNP to the north of the Kenya border that could start to move northwards in about mid-April.

2.4 Somalia

During February, no locusts were seen during aerial and ground surveys in northwest (Somaliland) and northeast (Puntland) as well as in central areas near Galkayo (0646N/4725E). (FAO DL bulleting No. 521).

Forecast:

Low numbers of adults may be present along parts of the northwest coast where breeding is unlikely because of dry conditions.

2.5 Sudan

During February, scattered mature solitarious adults were found during ground survey in some locations in the southern coast, where low density hoppers of 2nd and 3rd instar were also found at Adobana (1810N/3816E).

Scattered immature solitarious adults were seen in three locations in the northern coast. In the summer breeding areas, scattered mature solitarious adults were present in irrigation schemes in the River Nile state near Abu Hamed, and in two locations in the Baiyuda Desert.

Forecast:

Locust numbers will decline along the Red Sea coastal plains as conditions become dry. No significant developments are likely.

2.6 Kenya

No locusts were reported during February.

Forecast:

Low numbers of adults may be present south of the Ethiopia border in northern Mandera, Marsabit and northern Turkana counties. No significant developments are likely.

2.7 Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

During February, no locusts were reported in the countries.

Forecast:

No significant developments are likely

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS (EXTRACTED FROM FAO DL BULLETIN NO. 521)

Central Region:

Small hopper and adult groups treated in southeast Egypt (1,220 ha). Scattered adults on the Red Sea coast in Sudan where limited breeding was detected in only one area. Immature adult groups were in eastern Ethiopia flying southwards. Isolated adults on the Oman coast. No locusts reported elsewhere in the region.

Western Region:

Isolated adults in southern Algeria

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 threats to irrigated Rice in Uyui District, Tabora Region.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Aerial Quelea control operations were conducted by a DLCO-EA Aircraft in Oromia and Afar Administrative regions during February. Consequently, an estimated of 57.5 million birds were controlled in three zones, six districts where the birds were roosting on Typha grasses, Eucalyptus trees, Sugarcane and other vegetation. 725 litres of

Bathion 40% ULV was sprayed on 362.5 ha of roosting sites.

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

Armyworm infestations continued in many locations across the country, affecting crops and pasture.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Infestations continued in Maize fields across the country.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Some incidences continued to be reported in off-season irrigated Maize farms and the Crop Protection technical teams continued with guidance on control.

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

During February, African Armyworm infestations were reported in Makueni and Taita Taveta counties in the southeast parts of the country.

In **Taita Taveta**, 3 locations covering about 25 hectares were under infestation with 5th and 6th instars at a density of 125 worms/m². Report was also received that a few cases of infestations in Mwtate sub-county.

Details of the infestation report from Makueni was not received during compiling of this Sitrep.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Report not received.

Forecast until end of March, 2022

African Armyworm:

During February, African Armyworm incidences were reported in several regions in Tanzania and in a few counties in Kenya. It is likely that the pest will migrate and infest other regions and countries during the onset of the rain season both in East and Horn of Africa regions. Therefore, countries are requested to continue mounting the farmers based monitoring and forecasting system for effective early detection, forecasting and interventions measures.

Fall Armyworm

It is likely that infestations to continue in irrigated Maize fields in all previously affected areas.

4.3 Tsetse fly (*Glossina spp.*)

4.3.1 Uganda

Incidences were not reported.

For Director
Mehari Tesfayohannes
CIFO, DLCO-EA
4th February, 2022

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

DL and Rainfall Situations, February, 2022

