

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



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**SITREP No. 07/2021 - 2022**

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



**In the Central Region:** Light rains fell in northwest Saudi Arabia along the Red Sea coast and along central and southern coast of Sudan during the first decade. Very little rain fell thereafter in the winter breeding areas along both sides of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Nevertheless, ecological conditions were favorable for breeding in coastal areas of Egypt and northeast Sudan as well as further south in Tokar Delta and on the southern coastal plains to the Eritrean border. Favorable conditions were limited on the eastern side of the Red Sea to small only small areas on the coast north of Jeddah near Rabigh and south near Quinfidah and Jizan in Saudi Arabia and along parts of the northern Tihama near Al Zuhrah in Yemen as vegetation was drying out in many areas. Breeding conditions were somewhat better along the Gulf of Aden coast in southern Yemen where green vegetation and moist soil were present from west of Aden to Ahwar. Mainly dry conditions prevailed in northern Oman. On the Horn of Africa, no significant rain, and vegetation continued to dry out. (FAO DL bulletin No. 520).

**1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS**

**1.1 Djibouti**

No rains fell during January.

**1.2 Eritrea**

Light and scattered rains fell during January in some areas across the northern Red Sea coastal plains of the country. The vegetation status generally was dry in most of the coastal plains though green vegetation and wet soil reported in some locations.

**1.3 Ethiopia**

Sunny and cold night weather conditions prevailed all over the country during January. However, during the second

decade of January, normal rain fell insisted in the southern parts of Oromia (Borona Zone) and in the Rift Valley of SNNP regions. Annual vegetation continued drying-out but perennial vegetation remained green by the end of the month, creating unfavourable ecological conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

**RAINFALL. Data (mm)**

Date	Dire Dawa 0936N/4150E	Remark
1-31/01/22	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	

## 1.4 Kenya

During the second and third decades of January, intermittent moderate to heavy rain fell in some locations in the central and western parts of the country. Ecological conditions continued drying mainly in the northern, north eastern, eastern and north western parts of the country.

## 1.5 Somalia

No rains fell during January.

## 1.6 Sudan

During the second half of January, light to moderate rains fell in the winter breeding areas, mainly in the central and southern Red Sea coast, creating favourable ecological conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

## 1.7 Tanzania

During January, light to heavy rain fell in some parts of the country. The southwestern highlands have received moderate to heavy rainfall, mainly during the second week of the month. During the first week, the western parts received heavy rain where some fatalities were also reported. The Lake Victoria Basin, northeastern and central zones received moderate rainfall.

Vegetation including pasture, crops and rangelands continued greening in most parts of the country due to the continuous rainfall.

## 1.8 Uganda

Off-seasonal rains were experienced across most parts of the country since 14th of January. The off-seasonal rains are expected to cease and the usual first rains of the year begin in March.

Vegetation remained green in most parts of the central (Lake Victoria Basin) and southwestern while it was drying in most of western, northern and north-eastern parts of the country.

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

### 2.1 Djibouti

During January, no locusts were seen during surveys in the northern interior near Tadjourah (1147N/4253E) and Obock (1158N/4317E). (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 520*).

#### Forecast:

*No significant developments are likely.*

### 2.2 Eritrea

Ground survey was conducted on the Red Sea coastal plains and no locusts were reported during January.

#### Forecast:

*Low numbers of locusts may be present in a few places along the northern coastal plains of the Red Sea where small scale breeding may occur in any areas that receive rainfall*

### 2.3 Ethiopia

Desert Locust situation became calm in the country during January.

#### Forecast:

*Low numbers of adults may be present in parts of southern Oromia and SNNP to the north of Kenya border. No significant developments are likely.*

## 2.4 Somalia

During January, aerial control operations finished on the 4<sup>th</sup> in the northeast (Puntland) having treated 2,741 ha of small immature adult groups and swarms north of Gardo (0930N/4905E). During the first week, there were a few reports of a small immature swarm further north near Erigavo (1040N/4720E) and on the Gulf of Aden coast near Lasqoray (1109N/4811E), and further south to the east of Garowe (0824N/4829E) that were not treated. In the northwest (Somaliland), scattered adults were seen maturing at one place northwest of Boroma (0956N/4313E). No locusts were seen elsewhere during intensive surveys on the coast, escarpment, and plateau of Somaliland. No locusts were reported in central and southern Somalia. (FAO DL bulletin No. 520).

### Forecast:

*Small-scale breeding may occur on the northwest coast, causing a slight increase in locust numbers.*

## 2.5 Sudan

During January, scattered solitary hoppers and isolated mature solitarious adults were reported in Oseif (2146N/3651E), Northern State. Third instar transiens hopper group was also seen by the end of the first decade. Scattered mature solitarious adults were also seen north of Sufiya (2119N/3613E) and in the south near Mohamed Qol (2054N/3709E), in Tokar Delta (1827N/3741E), Khor Baraka and Aqiq (1813N/3811E), Red Sea State. During the first half of January, scattered solitarious adults persisted in the Baiyuda Desert.

### Forecast:

*Small scale breeding is likely to occur in the Tokar Delta and along the southern coastal plains, causing a slight increase in locust numbers.*

## 2.6 Kenya

No locusts were reported during January.

### 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 January, 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. 520)

### Central Region:

Control operations against small immature swarms ended in northeast Somalia (2,741 ha treated); no southward movement or locusts detected in Ethiopia and Kenya. Small-scale breeding on southern Red Sea coast of Sudan and along the Egypt/Sudan border with a few hopper groups forming in Egypt (480 ha); scattered adults along the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts in Yemen.

### Western Region:

Isolated adults in Morocco.

### Eastern Region:

No locusts present.

## **4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS**

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

#### **4.1.1 Kenya**

Report not received.

#### **4.1.2 Tanzania**

Large flocks of *Quelea* birds were reported causing threats to irrigated Rice in Moshi and Mwanga districts, Kilimanjaro Region. However, as farmers harvested their crops, no control measures were introduced.

#### **4.1.3 Ethiopia**

Aerial *Quelea* control operations were progressing in Oromia and Afar administrative regions starting from 13<sup>th</sup> of January. During the control operations, an estimated of 29.5 million birds were killed in four zones, six districts where the birds were roosting in 8 sites of Typha grasses, Acacia and other trees, and Sugarcane. The control was conducted successfully on 400 ha using 400 liters of Bathion 40% ULV.

#### **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**

After several years of absence, Armyworm infestations have been reported again on pastures and crops in Manyara, Tanga, Mtwara and Lindi regions. Ground teams are conducting assessments to study the magnitude of the infestation and verification of the pest.

#### **Fall Armyworm (FAW)**

Infestations were reported in several Maize fields across the country.

### **4.2.2 Uganda**

#### **African Armyworm**

Incidences were not reported.

#### **Fall Armyworm (FAW)**

Some incidences were reported in some Maize gar- dens but were under control by farmers supported and guided by the Crop Protection technical teams.

### **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 January, 2022**

##### **African Armyworm:**

After several years of absence, the African Armyworm is back again in Tanzania, where incidences have been reported in several regions. Consequently, it is likely that the pest will migrate and infest other locations in Tanzania, and spread to the southern, southwestern, eastern, central parts of Kenya; southern and eastern parts of Uganda; and possibly with the start of the short rain season to southern and southwestern parts of Ethiopia. Therefore, countries are requested to initiate 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**

##### **4.3.1.1 Tsetse Flies**

Incidences not reported.

##### **For Director**

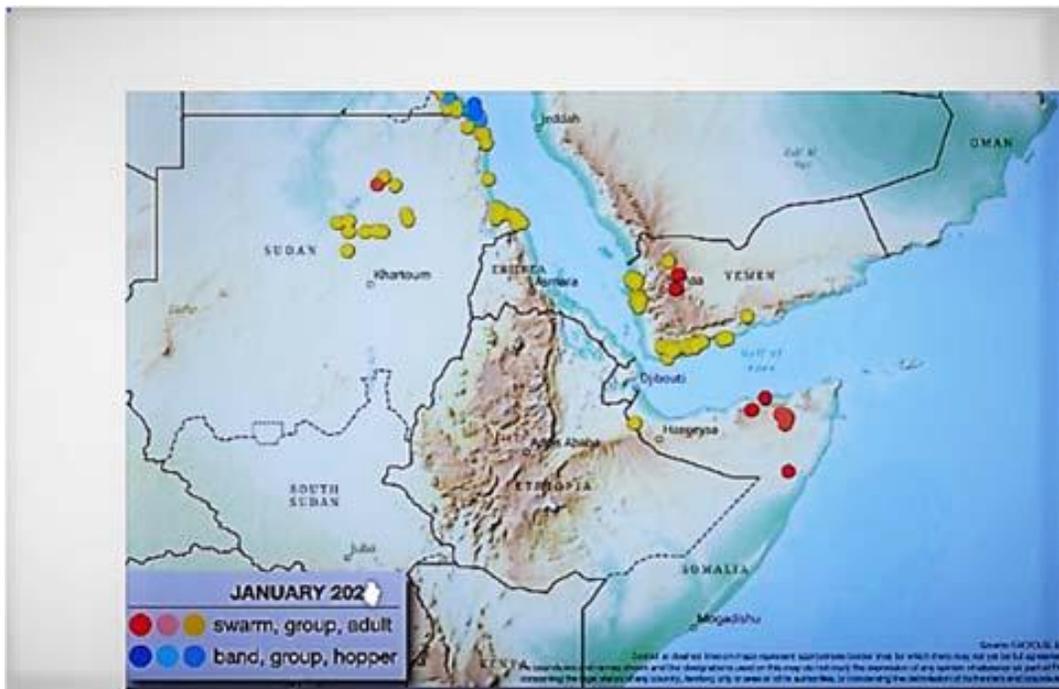
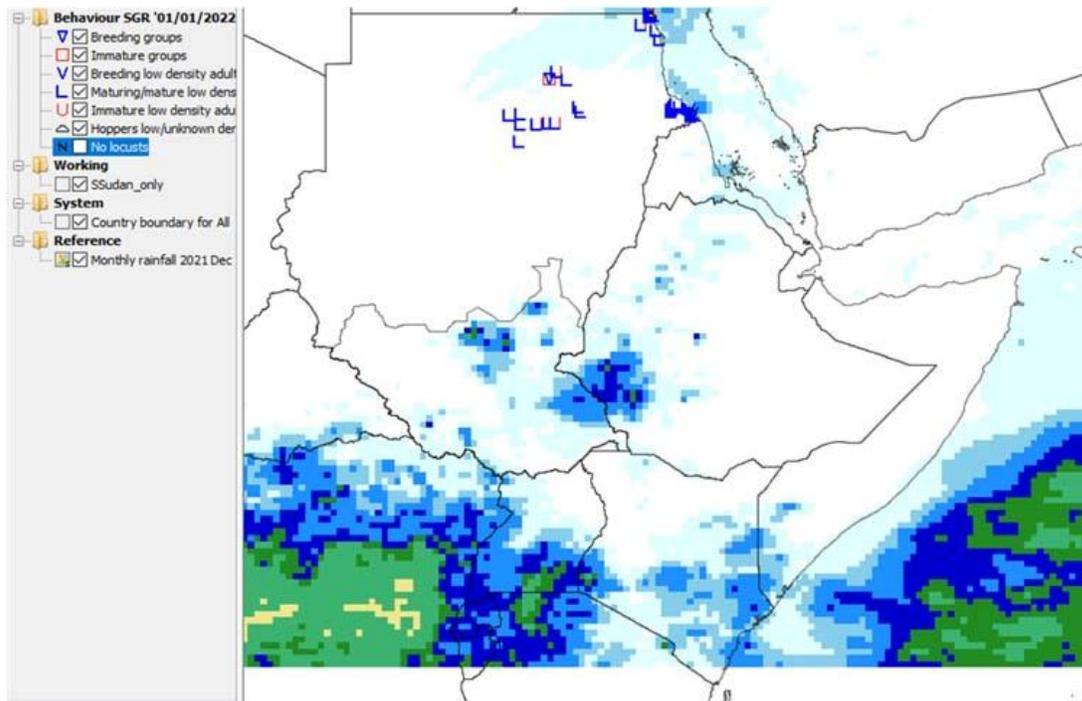
**Mehari Tesfayohannes**

**CIFO, DLCO-EA**

4<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

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

## DL and Rainfall Situations, January, 2022



**FAO DL Bulletin No. 520 January, 2022**