

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



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SITREP No. 04/2022 - 2023

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR
OCTOBER 2022

**1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL
CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS**



In the Central Region, the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued its' movement southwards over Sudan bringing less rains in the region as the main rain season comes to an end. During October, light to moderate and scattered rains fell in some of the winter breeding areas across the Red Sea coast of Sudan, Eritrea, Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Light and scattered rains also fell in the summer breeding areas in eastern and southeastern parts of Ethiopia and Sudan. Generally, ecological conditions have improved in the main winter Desert Locust breeding areas across the region, which could favour for the few scattered locusts to group and breed.

1.1 Djibouti

Intermittent light to moderate rains fell in most parts of the country during October.

1.2 Eritrea

During the last week of October, light to moderate rains fell in some of the northern Red Sea coastal plains.

Consequently, annual vegetation started greening and soil was wet in areas where rains fell, creating favorable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

1.3 Ethiopia

During October, light to moderate rains fell at times in the eastern and southeastern parts of the country where locusts mainly breed.

Generally, annual vegetation were mixture of green and dry, and soil was wet and dry in the eastern and southeastern parts of the country, which also remained un-favorable for locust breeding.

1.4 Kenya

The month of October generally remained sunny and dry except for the last week where light and scattered rains fell in some parts of

the country. The annual vegetation remained dry in most parts of the country while perennial were partially green.

1.5 Somalia

During October, intermittent and light rains fell at times in the northern and northwestern parts of the country. However, vegetation remained dry all over the country except for few pocket areas in the riverine, which were partially green.

1.6 Sudan

During the third decade of October, light rains fell in the winter breeding areas across the Red Sea coast, which could also improve the ecological conditions for locust breeding. In the summer breeding areas, green vegetation was mostly concentrated in the Wadis and lowlands. Soil moisture was between Dry and wet in most of the locust breeding locations.

1.7 Tanzania

During October, light rains fell in some parts of the country including Lake Victoria basin, in some highland locations in North Eastern, Northern parts of Indian Ocean and in Eastern. The rest of the country experienced long periods of sunny and dry weather conditions.

Vegetation remained very dry in most parts of the country except in Lake Victoria Basin and in some parts in the highlands.

1.8 Uganda

During October moderate to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country, which have also contributed for vegetation to grow abundantly.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*) situation during October and forecast until mid-December 2022

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported during October.

Forecast: *No significant developments are likely.*

2.2 Eritrea

During October, ground survey was conducted on the northern Red Sea coast by PPD staff. During the survey, isolated solitary immature adults were seen in two locations in Sheib sub-zone, around Zebireit (154828N/391627E) and Agbanazuf plains (155858N/391549E).

Scattered solitary mature were also seen in one location in Adayay areas (161557N/391101E). No locusts were reported in the other locations in the coast.

Forecast: *Low numbers and scattered solitarious adults could group, mature and breed mainly in the above indicated places. Some low density solitary hopper groups may also appear in the areas.*

Consequently, continuous monitoring is necessary however, no significant developments are likely.

2.3 Ethiopia

During October, no locusts were seen during ground survey operations which were conducted by PPD staff in the Somali and Afar Administrative regions of the country.

Forecast: *No significant developments are likely.*

2.4 Somalia

No locusts were seen during ground surveys which were conducted by PPD staff.

Forecast: *No significant developments are likely.*

2.5 Sudan

During October, ground surveys were conducted by PPD staff in the summer breeding areas of Khartoum, River Nile, Northern, North Kordofan, North Darfur and in the summer breeding belt of the Red Sea States. During the surveys, low density hoppers in River Nile, small group of solitarious adults in the Red Sea, mature/immature solitarious adults in the Northern, River Nile, North Kordofan, North Darfur and the Red Sea were seen.

Forecast: *Breeding could commence from the few matured solitarious adults consequently, low density and few hopper groups could appear mainly in the Northern, River Nile, North Kordofan, North Darfur and the Red Sea States.*

2.6 Kenya

Remained calm.

Forecast: *No developments are expected.*

2.7 Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

The countries remained calm.

Forecast: *No developments are expected.*

7. Desert Locust situation in the central and other regions

Central Region: Few scattered maturing and mature solitary adults were seen in Eritrea, Sudan and Yemen.

Western Region: situation unknown.

Eastern Region: Remained calm.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

During October, Quelea birds were reported in Mwea Rice Irrigation Scheme in Kirinyaga county and Kuja in Migori County. The birds were feeding on Rice and plans for aerial control operations were progressing.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During October, flocks of Quelea birds were reported in Ruvu and Lower Moshi Irrigated Rice Schemes in Kibaha of Coast and Simanjiro districts in Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions respectively. Deployment of aircraft for aerial control operation was progressing.

1.3 Ethiopia

Quelea birds' outbreaks were reported during October in the middle and Northern Rift valley areas of Oromia and Amhara Administrative Regions. Consequently, a DLCO-EA aircraft has started control operations in Oromia Administrative Region on 25th that also continued on 27th and 29th. During the operations, an estimated of 12 million Quelea birds, which were roosting on 75 ha were killed using 150 liters of Bathion 64% ULV.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Quelea situation was unknown.

4.1.5 Sudan

Quelea infestations continued to occur mainly in the main Sorghum growing areas in the eastern parts of the country.

4.1.6 Uganda

Quelea birds' incidences were not reported.

4.2 **Armyworms** (*Spodoptera spp*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported during October.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Incidences were not reported during October.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Incidences were not reported.

4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Out of season.

Fall Armyworm

Situation unknown.

4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Out of season.

Fall Armyworm

Incidences were not reported.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported

Fall Armyworm

Situation unknown.

Forecast until end of November, 2022

African Armyworm:

It is probable that seasonal outbreaks to appear mainly in the primary breeding areas in Tanzania. Consequently, monitoring of moth movements is necessary for early detection of infestations.

Fall Armyworm

As this pest became a sedentary pest in the region, it is likely that infestations to continue in irrigated Maize crops across the region.

4.3 **Tse-tse fly** (*Glossina spp.*)

4.3.1 Uganda

It was reported that the Tsetse flies outbreak is increasing in the main breeding locations. Consequently, this will bring threat to cattle and humans causing Nagana and sleeping sickness respectively.

For Director

07 November, 2022

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

Note: Likely of some breeding to occur and the appearance of solitary hopper groups.

