

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

..... DLCO-EA)



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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

AUGUST, 2015



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued to move northwards over the interior of Sudan during the first decade of August and reached the Baiyuda Desert, which is its climatological normal mean position for this time of year. Thereafter, it retreated nearly 125 km southwards, which is unusual. Nevertheless, light to moderate rains fell in the summer breeding areas of the interior of Sudan and western Eritrea during August. This caused annual vegetation to become green over large portions of West and North Darfur, in north Kordofan near Sodiri, in parts of the Baiyuda Desert, and in the east near Kassala as well as several wadis on the western side of the Red Sea Hills between Derudeb and the Nile Valley. Vegetation was also becoming green in the southern part of the western lowlands in Eritrea and along Khor Barka. Good rains fell in the Yemen Highlands and parts of the Asir Mountains in Saudi Arabia between Mecca and Jizan that may runoff onto the Red Sea coastal plains and cause conditions to improve slightly. (FAO DL bulletin No.443)

1.1 Djibouti

Report not received.

1.2 Eritrea

During August, light to medium amount of rains fell at times over parts of the highlands and the western lowlands of the country.

Light rains also fell in the winter breeding areas of the country around Qrora, Afabet and Shieb. The soil moisture was also found wet around Afabet due to the recent rains that fell in the area.

The vegetation conditions in most parts of the highlands and western lowlands have improved and turned green during the month. However, it was dry in areas between Qrora and Shieb, and along the Red Sea coast, except in areas around Afabet where it was greening due to the recent rains.

1.3 Ethiopia

Temperature has cooled down and seasonal light to heavy amount of rains fell in most parts of the country throughout the month. Consequently, all vegetation in the summer locust breeding areas of the country have turned green.

1.4 Kenya

Generally, cold spell and cloudy conditions prevailed during August. Light to medium amount of rains fell in some areas across the coast and the central highlands.

Annual and perennial vegetation remained in most parts of the country

1.5 Somalia

The weather conditions in northwestern regions mainly around Gabiley and Boroma has partly improved while in most of the other regions it considerably declined and remained rainless. Light to moderate rains has also fell in some parts along the plateau and the escarpment.

Elsewhere, except for some localized rains occurred during the first two dekads of the month, the country remained rainless.

Generally, annual vegetation remained dry due to lack of rains across the entire regions of the country except for some localized green patches found mainly in the Wadis.

Rainfall record (mm) during August, 2015

Date	Hargeisa	Boroma	Gabiley	B.cas	Qulujah	Jufada
01	-	-	-	-	-	8.0
02	-	-	50.0	-	-	-
04	-	11.0	-	5.5	-	-
05	-	-	-	-	9.0	-
06	-	7.0	30.0	-	18.0	-
07	2.0	-	-	-	10.0	-
09		9.0		5.5	13.0	
10	1.0			5.5		50.0
11			24.0	-		-
12		8.5	14.5	7.5		60.0
13		33.0	-	20.0		-
14			12.0			-
17			5.0			8.5
18	5.0		2.0			17.5
19	0.5		2.0			20.0
20		9.0	-			-
Total	8.5	77.5	139.5	44.0	50.0	164.0

1.6 Sudan

During the second and third dekades of August, light to heavy rainfalls occurred in vast summer Desert Locust breeding areas where it has reached up to 140 mm in some locations of Darfur, Kordofan, Kassala States and the Red Sea summer breeding belt. Moderate rains have also recorded in River Nile and White Nile states.

Consequently, the dominant vegetation have improved rapidly and become favorable for DL breeding mainly in areas where heavy rains fell.

1.7 Tanzania

Most parts of the country remained cool and cloudy during August. Annual vegetation started to dry out while perennial vegetation remained green in wider areas of the country.

1.8 Uganda

The rains declined tremendously in most parts of the Country and only few areas in the north and the central parts recorded some showers.

Vegetation was green in the central and in parts of the north while it has started to dry out in some locations across the eastern and western parts of the country.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported.

2.2 Eritrea

Ground survey was conducted by the PPD staff in the winter breeding areas covering locations between Sheib and Qrora, and no locusts were seen in the areas.

2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported.

2.4 Somalia

No locusts were reported.

2.5 Sudan

Generally, the Desert Locust (DL) situation continued to be calm during August.

Staff from the PPD have conducted ground surveys in the summer DL breeding zones during 1 - 9th August covering River Nile, the Northern, North Kordofan and White Nile States.

Low density scattered DL solitary individual adults have been observed at Abuhamad, (1932N/3320E), Merowe (1830N/3149E) and Berber (1801N/3400E) in the River Nile State. No Desert Locust has been found in the other States during the surveys.

Situation in Other Regions and Forecast

(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 443)

Central Region: The situation remained calm during August. Low numbers of solitarious adults were present near cropping areas along the Nile Valley in northern Sudan.

Western Region: The situation remained calm during August. Low numbers of solitarious adults were seen during surveys in Southern Mauritania, the Air Mountains in Niger and in western and northeast Chad.

Eastern Region: No significant infestations were reported and the situation remained calm during August. An isolated adult was seen near the India border in Cholistan, Pakistan.

3.0 Forecast until mid-November, 2015

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Locust numbers are expected to increase in the western lowlands where scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding in areas of recent rainfall.

3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

3.4 Somalia

No significant developments are likely.

3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase between West Darfur and the Red

Sea Hills as well as in cropping areas along the Nile and Atbara Rivers.

3.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

The countries are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestations.

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

No infestation reported.

4.1.2 Ethiopia

No infestation reported.

4.1.3 Eritrea

Report not received.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

No infestation was reported in the region during August and there is no likely situation of new developments to occur during September.

4.3 Tsetse fly

4.3.1 Uganda

Infestation not reported.

CIFO

For Director,

03 September, 2015

For more information about the Organization, please visit DLCO-EA's Website:

www.dlcoea.org.et