

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



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SITREP No. 10/2022 - 2023

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT **FOR APRIL, 2023**

Summary

In April, 2023 the **Desert Locust** situation continued to remain calm in all DLCO-EA member countries, except in Somalia where isolated immature and mature solitary adults were seen in a few places on the coast and escarpment in the northwest.

Quelea infestation and control operation which started in the second week of March continued throughout April 2023 in Tanzania. Other member countries are free from quelea infestation.

In April, 2023, approximately 40Ha were infested by **African Armyworm** in Busia County, Kenya. High number of moth catches were reported in southern Ethiopia. Other countries are free from African armyworm.

Most of the member countries received **light to heavy rainfall** in the month of April. Some areas experienced floods. Due to this, **vegetation** is greening and green which creates favorable conditions for development of migratory pests.

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS



1.1 Djibouti

Though, some rainfalls reported in the capital and in the interior regions nevertheless, warmer and dry conditions dominated over the entire Country during April.

1.2 Eritrea

There was heavy rainfall during the 2nd week of the month in areas around Ghelealo (N151007/E0395730) and during the 3rd

week a few kilometers west of Tio town (N143916 /E0405630).

During the 3rd week, there was also medium rainfall that occurred around Qrora, at the northern Red Sea coastal area. Most of the vegetation along the coastal areas are drying out. However, during a survey assessment, the soil moisture was found to be wet in areas around Tio.

1.3 Ethiopia

Sunny and Rainy weather conditions prevailed throughout Ethiopia, and light to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country including Desert Locust spring breeding areas. These include South Eastern parts of Somali (around Jigjiga, City Zone, Gode, Elkere, and Kebridehar), Oromia (East Harerge, Borena), Southern Nations Nationalities People Administrative Regions (South Omo zone) and DireDawa City Administration.

Consequently, both annual and perennial vegetation is green and the soil is wet.

Generally, the ecology was favorable for Desert Locust activities in the spring breeding areas.

1.4 Kenya

In April 2023, Kenya continued to experience the long rains season. As such, there was fresh vegetation in most parts of the country.

1.5 Somalia

During the first two decades, moderate to light and localized heavy precipitation with good temporal and spatial distribution were reported in most parts of the northwestern regions particularly in the plateau and escarpment.

1.6 Sudan

Report not received.

1.7 Tanzania

Even though the long rains started late during the month, moderate to heavy rainfalls were reported in most parts of Northeastern zone including Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara, and the southwestern Highlands, Western, Central, Eastern and Lake Victoria zones. Vegetation generally remained green in most parts of the country.

1.8 Uganda

During April, the whole country started receiving the normal seasonal rains. The rains were heavy across most parts of the Country, resulting in floods that destroyed road infrastructure and many other properties.

Vegetation was green in many places across the Country.

2.0 DESERT LOCUST (SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIA) SITUATION DURING MARCH AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-MAY, 2023

2.1 Djibouti

During April, no locusts were reported.

Forecast

No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were reported during April.

Forecast

No developments are expected

2.3 Ethiopia

Desert Locust situation remained calm during April, 2023. Survey operation were conducted in winter and spring breeding areas in Shebelle zone (Gode and Danan districts) and Fafan Zone (Harshin, Awubere, North and South Jigjiga districts). About 4,600Ha were surveyed and no locusts were found during the month.

Forecast

Desert Locust situation will remain calm.

2.4 Somalia

During April, isolated immature and mature solitarious adults were seen in a few places on the coast and escarpment in the northwest. Other places were free from locust

Forecast

Adults will decline on the coastal, escarpment and plateau areas and no significant development.

2.5 Sudan

No locust reports received in April.

Forecast

No significant developments likely.

2.6 Kenya

No locusts reported during April.

Forecast:

Desert locust situation will remain calm.

2.7 Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

During April, no locusts were reported in these countries.

Forecast:

Desert Locust situation will remain calm.

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS

3.1 Central Region

Small hopper groups, bands and immature adult groups on the northern coast the Red Sea in **Saudi Arabia** (21,620Ha treated). Isolated adults in southeast **Egypt**; scattered adults on the Red Sea coast and isolated adults in Gulf of Aden and the interior of **Yemen**; isolated adults in northwest **Somalia** (FAO DL bulletin No. 535).

3.2 Western Region:

Small groups, bands and adult groups south of Atlas Mountains in **Morocco** and **Western Sahara**, with the total treated (4,009ha). Isolated adults in central **Algeria** (FAO DL bulletin No. 535).

3.3 Eastern Region:

Isolated adults in coastal and interior areas of southwest Pakistan. (FAO DL bulletin No. 535).

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

Incidences were not reported during April.

4.1.2 Tanzania

Quelea bird infestations and control continued in Tanzania, in April 2023, areal control operations by DLCO-EA aircraft 5Y-BCJ continued in 5 Regions namely; Dodoma and Singida in Central zone, Tabora Region in Western, Mwanza and Geita in Lake Victoria zone which was started during last week of March, 2023.

Estimated number of 63 million birds covering a total area of 1,232Ha were controlled using 1,960 liters of Queleatox. Crops under threat of birds included Paddy, Sorghum, Finger and Burlush millets and Sunflower.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

No quelea bird infestation was reported in April.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Out of season.

4.1.5 Sudan

Out of season.

4.1.6 Uganda

No incidences were reported during April.

4.2 Armyworms (*Spodoptera* spp)

4.2.1 Eritrea

Out of Season

4.2.2 Ethiopia

High number of African Armyworm moth catches were reported. More than 420 moths were caught during the period 2nd to 22nd April, 2023 in southern parts of Ethiopia (Konso, Gofa and south Omo).

4.2.3 Kenya

In April 2023, approximately 40Ha were infested by African Army worm in Busia County, Kenya. The rainfall, however, coincided with the larval stage of African armyworm development which had been projected to occur from the 1st week of April 2023.

4.2.4 Sudan

Out of season.

4.2.5 Uganda

Reported not received

4.2.6 Tanzania

No incidences were reported during April

Forecast until end of May, 2023

African Armyworm

The long rain season in East Africa and the short rains in the Horn of Africa regions commenced since mid-March; fresh crops and other annual vegetation germinated abundantly, creating favorable conditions for the development and migration of the African Armyworm. All these will likely support the early to late-instar larvae that are present currently in Kenya to pupate from the 1st week of May. Migration of moths is expected from the 3rd week of May 2023 within Kenya, and southern Uganda.

The moths which migrated from Kenya to southern Ethiopia (in April) will develop small outbreak of armyworm in southern and southwestern Ethiopia.

Countries are therefore advised to monitor moth movements as a precautionary measure, and for early detection of worms and interventions.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Fall Armyworm Infestations were reported everywhere in irrigated and seasonal Maize crops in all member countries.

4.3 Tsetse Fly (*Glossina spp.*)

4.3.1 Uganda

The Tsetse flies remain a big problem across some parts of the Country affecting tourism, domestic animals and human beings. Plans under way to manage the problem through joint project activities among the stakeholders concerned.

For more information about the Organization, please visit incidences Website: www.dlco-ea.org

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SIFO, DLCO-EA

For DIRECTOR-DLCO-EA
04 May, 2023