

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



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SITREP No. 11/2022 - 2023

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

Desert Locust. In May 2023, isolated solitary mature and immature adult desert locusts were detected in the Northern Red Sea region of **Eritrea** in areas around Sheib and Afabet. Gregarious groups of mature adults were also detected in Timie Gafrit area (16.4256'32"N/ 0388929'5"E). Low hoppers present in few areas around Miedab (17.1579"N/ 0387176'7"E). In **Somalia**, isolated mature solitariuos adults were seen at one place on the northwest coast. *Desert locust situation continued to remain calm in other DLCO-EA member countries.*

Quelea. During May 2023, Quelea control operations by DLCO-EA - Beaver 5Y BCL continued in Morogoro Region, **Tanzania**. Nine (9) sites were sprayed up to 24th May 2023 covering 290 Ha using 875 lts of Bathion 64%ULV killing 17.1 million birds. Other countries were free of quelea birds during May, 2023.

African Armyworm: In May 2023, African Armyworm infestation was reported in four zones of Amhara Administrative Region of **Ethiopia**, The pest infested 5829 Hectares of Teff, sorghum, maize, and grazing land (678ha). In addition, AAW infested 277ha of Teff in Southern Nations and Nationalities People Administrative Region. In both regions, chemical and cultural control was conducted on 864 and 457Ha respectively and a total of 78olts of pesticides were used. *Other member countries are free of African Armyworm.*

Ecological conditions: Most of the member countries, that is, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan and Sudan received light rainfall and Ethiopia and Somalia received moderate to heavy rainfalls in the month of May. Some areas experienced floods. Due to this vegetation is greening and green which create favorable ecological conditions for development of migratory pests.

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS

1.1 Djibouti

During the first week of the month, light rainfall was reported in the capital and in the interior regions. Nevertheless, warmer and dry conditions dominated over the entire Country during May.

1.2 Eritrea

Moderate to heavy rains were received in the third week of the reporting month. The vegetation status was greening in most of the surveyed areas with wet soil moisture.

1.3 Ethiopia

During May, 2023 moderate and heavy rains fell in Eastern (around Jijiga, Dire Dawa, Eastern Hararghe Zone, Gode, Elkere and Kebridehar district), Southern (South Omo and Borena zones) and south West of the country. Consequently, both Annual and perennial vegetation are green and the soil is wet.

1.4 Kenya

Kenya received light rain in the reporting month. As such, there is fresh vegetation in most parts of the country.

1.5 Somalia

During May Somalia, received moderate to heavy rain fall in the North, East and south Eastern parts of the country.

1.6 Sudan

Report not received due to the ongoing conflict in the country.

1.7 Tanzania

Some parts of Tanzania received moderate to heavy rainfall during May 2023 especially during the 3rd and 4th weeks of the month, while most parts remained cloudy and cold conditions. Areas that reported light to moderate showers include Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Geita, Shinyanga and Mara regions). Others are Eastern zone (Northern Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Coast and Isles of Zanzibar) and in North Eastern including Kilimajaro, Arusha and Manyara which is seasonal.

1.8 Uganda

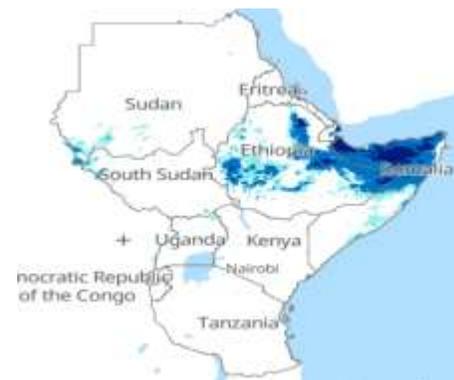
Most parts of the Country continued to receive heavy showers up to the middle of the month though the rains started declining significantly by the last week of the month in several places. Some parts of North Eastern Uganda like Bulambuli district reported some heavy showers that resulted in landslides. Vegetation was green in many places across the Country



May 2- 7, 2023



May 10- 17, 2023



May 23- 30, 2023

- Very heavy rainfall
- Heavy rainfall

Fig 1: Rainfall amount for May - ICPAC East Africa hazard watch

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

2.1 Djibouti

During May, no locusts were reported.

Forecast

No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

Desert Locust surveys were carried out on the Northern Red Sea coast between Shieb and Karura during 26-31 May, 2023.

Isolated solitary mature and immature adult locusts were detected in the Northern Red Sea region of the country in areas around Sheib and Afabet. Gregarious groups of mature adults were also detected in Timie Gafrit area (16.4256'32"N/ 0388929'5"E). Low hopper groups were also present in few areas around Miedab (17.1579"N/ 0387176'7"E). No locusts were reported in the other surveyed areas.

Forecast

Hoppers and adults will continue on the red sea coastal area during June but then decline as temperature increases. No significant development are likely.

2.3 Ethiopia

The Desert Locust situation continued to remain calm during May. A field survey was conducted on 32,050 Ha by Federal Plant Protection Directorate and Regional Agricultural Bureau experts in Afar, Somali and Oromia Administrative Regions.

Forecast

Desert Locust situation will remain calm.

2.4 Somalia

During May, isolated mature solitarius adults were seen at one place on the northwest coast south of Zeylac.

Forecast

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

2.5 Sudan

No locust reports received in May.

Forecast

A few locusts may appear near cropping areas in Nile valley between Shendi and Dongola.

No significant development (FAO DL bulletin 536).

2.6 Kenya Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

During May, no locusts were reported in the countries.

Forecast

Desert Locust situation will remain calm.

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS

3.1 Central Region

Situation: Groups of hoppers and adults as well as bands on the Red Sea coast and interior in **Saudi Arabia** (17,745ha treated). Scattered hoppers and adults on the Red Sea coast of **Eritrea**: Isolated adults in southeast **Egypt**, the interior of **Yemen** and northwest Somalia.

Forecast: Adult groups should decrease in the Red Sea coast of **Saudi Arabia** but will continue in the interior until the end of June, and then decrease due to temperature increase and no rainfall. Small scale breeding may occur in the interior of **Yemen** while adults may appear on the Red Seacoast. Adults will finish in southeast **Egypt**, the Red Sea coasts of Eritrea, and northwest **Somalia**.

3.2 Western Region

Situation: Groups of hoppers and adults as well as bands south of Atlas Mauritania in **Morocco** and Western Sahara, with the total treated area 29,453 Ha. Adult groups in Western **Algeria** (475Ha) and some moved to the central Sahara, Small groups crossed into the northern border of **Mauritania** (259Ha)

Forecast: Any locust groups that are not controlled in the northwest will move south to the northern Sahel in **Mauritania** and perhaps southern **Algeria**, northern **Mali**, and **Niger** where they are likely to disperse. Summer rains should start from third week of June with breeding shortly thereafter with hatching in July. Small-scale breeding can also occur in **Chad** starting in July (*FAO DL bulletin No. 536*).

3.3 Eastern Region

Situation: No locust present

Forecast: The summer season and the onset of the monsoon are predicted to be drier than normal along both sides of the indo-Pakistan border. Consequently, very few breeding is expected and no significant developments are likely. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 536*).

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

Incidences were not reported during May.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During May 2023, Quelea control operations by DLCO-EA - Beaver 5Y BCL continued in Morogoro Region. Nine (9) sites were

sprayed up to 24th May, covering 290Ha using 875Lts of Bathion 64%ULV, controlling about 17 million birds. During this month the crew also positioned in Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International airport for Quelea control in Kibaha rice irrigated scheme in Coast Region

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Quelea birds have already started to migrate from southern traditional breeding sites to the roosting sites where sorghum plantation is at the milky stage (Konso and Derashe Districts of Southern Nations and Nationalities People Administrative Region).

4.1.4 Eritrea, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda

No incidences of quelea birds were reported during May.

4.2 Armyworms (*Spodoptera spp*)

4.2.1 Eritrea

No report of Armyworm infestation

4.2.2 Ethiopia

African Armyworm infestation was reported in Amhara administrative and Southern Nation Nationalities (SNNP) Administrative Regions. The infestation was covered four Zones, seven Districts (Amhara Region). About 5829 hectares of Teff, sorghum, maize, and grazing land (678ha) in Amhara Region and 277ha SNNP regions were infested. In both regions chemical and cultural control was conducted on 864 and 457ha respectively and a total of 782.5lts of pesticides were used.

4.2.3 Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania

African armyworm presence was not reported during the month of May 2023.

Forecast until end of June, 2023

African Armyworm

The development and migration of the African Armyworm will continue in Ethiopia and may reach to Tigray and border of Eritrea in July.

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 reported everywhere in irrigated and seasonal Maize crops were 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, The Tsetse flies remain a big problem across some parts of the Country affecting tourism, domestic animals and human beings.

Plans are under way to manage the problem through joint project activities among the stakeholder's concerned.

SIFO

for the Director, DLCO-EA

06 June, 2023

For more information about the Organization visit DLCO-EA website
www.dlco-ea.org