



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

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**SITREP No. 02/2023 - 2024**

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

#### **Summary**

**Desert Locust:** Based on the survey conducted in Eritrea, no locust was found and no report was received from regions. **Ethiopia** Survey and control by both aerial and ground during August in Amhara, Afar, Oromia and Somali regions of the country the locust moved to further south to Afar and Somali regions; low numbers of adults in northwest **Somalia**. Scattered adults, groups, and some hatching along both sides of the Nile River and in the Red Sea coast of **Sudan**. 119,300ha was surveyed and 53ha, was treated with 52 liters of ULV pesticides.

**Quelea bird:** Control operations in Tanzania continued using DLCO-EA aircraft. Bird infestations were reported in three Regions **Coast** (Kibaha) **Manyara** (Babati) and **Tabora** (Igunga) and control was done in 14 sites. An estimated of 25 million birds were controlled using 1,010 liters of Bathion 64% ULV on an area of 362 hectares mainly of rice. Other countries in the region were free from quelea infestation.

**African Armyworm:** No reports were received but infestations are expected in southern Eritrea bordering Ethiopia

**Ecological conditions:** Light to moderate rain fell in Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan. In Tanzania most parts of the country remained dry, cloudy and cool except some isolated parts in Lake Victoria Basin, and in most Highlands where light showers with low temperatures were observed. In Uganda, dry conditions continued to be experienced in most parts of Southern Uganda, including Western, South western, with a few scattered showers.

## 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS



### 1.1 Djibouti

Warmer and dry conditions continued to dominate over the entire Country during August, 2023.

### 1.2 Eritrea

During the second and third weeks, light to moderate rains fell in parts of western lands and highlands as a result, vegetation was green and greening in most surveyed areas with wet soil moisture

### 1.3 Ethiopia

In August, 2023 Moderate rain fell in Tigray, Eastern Amhara, Dire Dawa city administration, Hararghe highlands of Oromia region, in Afar region areas bordering of Amhara and Tigray regions were received approximately normal and below normal rain fell creating conducive environment for Desert locust survival and breeding.

### 1.4 Kenya

Report not received

### 1.5 Somalia

During August, light rains fell, at part of the plateau in northwest Somalia

### 1.6 South Sudan

Report not received

### 1.7 Sudan

During August 2023 moderate to heavy rains fell in the most of summer breeding areas in the Sudan. Vegetations cover was green in most of surveyed areas in the summer breeding zone while the coastal areas were dry. Light rain was received in some areas of the summer breeding zone in Kassala, River Nile and Red Sea states, ITCZ position during the second week north the western states and

north Khartoum and Kassala. The green vegetation was confined along the river Nile, irrigated schemes and some areas which received rains particularly in Kassala state and Baiyuda desert in the River Nile state.

### 1.8 Tanzania

In the month of August, most parts of the country remained dry, cloudy and cool except some isolated parts in Lake Victoria Basin, and in most Highlands where light showers with low temperatures were observed

### 1.9 Uganda

During the month of August 2023, dry conditions continued to be experienced in most parts of Southern Uganda, including Western, South western, with a few scattered showers and thunderstorms recorded in the Central and Lake Victoria Basin as the month ended, signifying the onset of the second seasonal rains in the regions. Several parts of Northern and Eastern Uganda continued to record some rains and thus were fairly wet.

## 2.0 DESERT LOCUST (*Schistocerca gregaria*) SITUATION AUGUST, 2023

### 2.1 Djibouti

During August, no locusts were reported.

#### *Forecast*

*No significant developments are likely.*

### 2.2 Eritrea

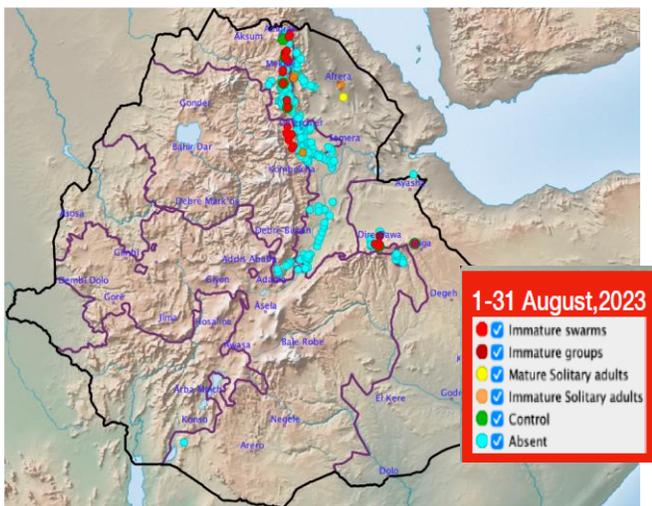
Desert Locust situation was calm during the reported month. Survey was conducted in the Gash-barka region from Emni-hajer to Forto-sawa sub-regions during 21-30 August, 2023. No locust was seen in the western lowlands and no locust was reported in the whole country.



**Forecast**

During the forecast period, small-scale breeding may be occurring western lowlands of the country. Moreover, invasion of locust from neighboring countries is possible

**2.3 Ethiopia**



Immature Desert Locust swarms and groups movement reported in Tigray regional state (Eastern and Southern zones), Amhara regional State (Raya kobo, Gubalafito, Habiru, Worebabu, Argoba and Kalu districts), Dire Dawa City administration, Oromia regional state (Chinaksen district)

and Somali regional state (Shinle district). Immature and Mature Solitary Adults were also reported in Afar region (Abala, Kuneba and Bidu districts). During the month 105,621 ha of survey were undertaken in summer breeding areas and 615 ha control operations done by hand held and Back Back sprayers in Tigray, Oromia regional states and Dire Dawa city administration. Aerial (using DLCO-EA aircraft) and Ground Survey and control operations are ongoing.

**Forecast**

In September, 2023 breeding may occur in the border of Amhara and Afar regions (Chifra, Iwa, Ada'ar and Awura districts), due to good rain fell, green vegetation and soil moisture in the areas. A few immature groups will stay northern Somali region, mature and breed

**2.4 Somalia**

During August, isolated and few scattered mature solitarious adults were seen in the northwest near the coast near Silil and Lughaye, in the escarpment, and on the the plateau near borema. No locusts were seen in the the northwest interior east of Erigavo, near Gardoand Las Anod, and further south near Dusa Mareb

**Forecast**

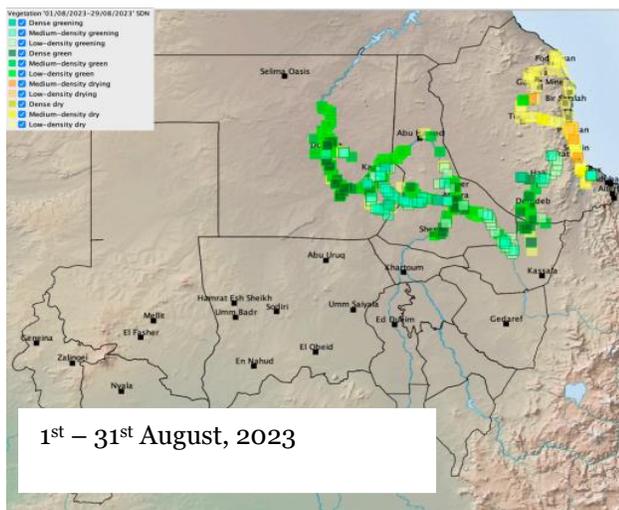
Low numbers of solitarious adults may persist in parts of the northwest. There is a chance that a few groups or swarms may arrive from Ethiopia. Small-scale winter breeding is likely to start early this year in the coastal areas about the end of October.

(FAO bulletin 539)

**2.5 Sudan**

Desert Locust (DL) situation in the Sudan is relatively calm during August 2023. Survey operations conducted in the Northern, River Nile and summer breeding belt in the Red Sea states and part of Kassala state. Limited ground control operations carried out against mature/ immature groups in the River Nile and Northern states, total treated area was

53ha, and 51.5 L of ULV pesticides was used. Elsewhere, scattered hoppers of the 1st and 2nd instar were present in the River Nile and Red Sea states, copulating gregarious groups and scattered gregarious adult were seen last decade in the River Nile and Red Sea states, few mature/ immature solitrious and transients adult groups present in the Red Sea and River Nile states, scattered mature/immature solitrious adults were reported in the most of surveyed area. The total surveyed area was 119,300 ha.



### Forecast

Hatching will continue until the first decade of September 2023 in the areas southwest Deurdeb to east Sessional Atbara River and Baiyuda Desert and fledging will appear in the last decade of September. Therefore, regular surveys close monitoring and early intervention in summer breeding areas are highly recommended during the forecasting period.

### 2.6 Kenya Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

During August,2023, 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: CALM

**Situation:** A few small immature swarms migrated from **Eritrea** (100ha treated) to north east **Ethiopia** (615ha) and continued further south to Afar and Somali regions; low numbers of adults in northwest **Somalia**. Scattered adults, groups, and some hatching along both sides of the Nile River and in the Red Sea coast of **Sudan** (53ha); isolated adults in southern Nile Valley, **Egypt**. Scattered adults, a few groups and, and immature swarms in the interior of **Yemen**; adults, laying and a group near the eastern coast of **Oman** (20ha; scattered adults on the central Red Sea coast of **Saudi Arabia**.

**Forecast:** small -scale breeding will continue in the interior of Sudan, Eritrea and Yemen and could occur in eastern Ethiopia, northwest Somalia, and the coast of Yemen if more rain fall. Isolated adults may remain near the southern Nile Valley in Egypt and decrease in Oman

### 3.2 Western Region: CALM

**SITUATION:** Mainly isolated solitary adults in the northern Sahel of **Mauritania**, including a few hoppers, and in the central pasture of **Niger**. Immature adults in northeast **Morocco** (66ha treated) and isolated adults in **Algeria**.

**FORECAST:** Small-scale breeding will continue in the northern Sahel in **Mauritania, Mali, Niger, and Chad**. Due to above -normal rainfall in September and October. Low numbers of adults may arrive in southern Western Sahara and the southern Sahara in **Algeria** where breeding could eventually occur

### 3.3 Eastern Region: CALM

**SITUATION:** Low numbers of hoppers and adults in the Rajasthan, India; few adults with some copulating in Tharparkar, Nara and Cholistan deserts, **Pakistan**

**FORECAST:** Only very small breeding along both sides of the indo-Pakistan border where the monsoon will withdraw during the end of September

(FAO DL bulletin No. 539  
[www.fao.org/ag/locusts](http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts)).

## 4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

#### 4.1.1 Tanzania

Control operations continued in August on 14 sites using DLCO-EA aircraft in areas reported to have bird infestation at three Regions **Coast** (Kibaha) **Manyara** (Babati) and **Tabora** (Igunga).

An estimated of 25 million birds were controlled using 1,010 liters of Bathion 64% ULV on an area of 362 hectors. The crop under threat was rice.

#### 4.1.2 Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda

No quelea bird infestations were reported during August 2023.

### 4.2 Armyworms (*Spodoptera* spp)

#### 4.2.1 Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania

African armyworm presence was not reported during the month of August 2023, Probably Armyworm infestation can be seen in Eritrea.

#### **Forecast until end of September, 2023**

The Armyworm infestation is expected to be southwest of Eritrea bordering to Ethiopia and monitoring using the pheromone traps is very important

### **Fall Armyworm (FAW) (*Spodoptera frugiperda*)**

In all DLCO-EA member countries FAW is reported in most maize and sorghum growing areas both in irrigated and rain feed farm lands. As the report this pest became resident. Therefore, it is advised to monitor the field regularly

### 4.3 Tsetse Fly (*Glossina* spp.)

No reports received about Tsetse flies and the associated diseases during August, 2023

### **SIFO, for the DLCO-EA**

06, September 2023

For more information about the Organization visit DLCO-EA website  
[www.dlco-ea.org](http://www.dlco-ea.org)