



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

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***SITREP No. 04/2023 - 2024***

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

#### ***Summary***

***Desert Locust:*** Survey operations conducted on **133,771** ha along Nile Vally and east Atbara in addition to Baiyuda breeding groups in **Abu Gdad** (18.207N/ 33.704E) and hoppers bands (1st to 4th instars) in **Algazan** (18.197N/33.652E) in the river Nile state.

Ground control operations treated **3,403 ha**, using **1,699** lits of ULV pesticides.

**Other member countries in the region are free from Desert Locust during the reporting period**

***Quelea bird:*** During October quelea bird outbreak and control was continued in Ethiopia.

The aerial control operation was conducted on 198 ha of 13 roosting sites and estimated populations of 18 million Quelea birds were controlled. The kill was estimated to be 96 to 98 %. A total of 397lts of Bathion 64% ULV was used.

**No reports from other member countries.**

***African Armyworm:*** No reports were received during October, 2023

## 1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS HIGHLIGHTS



### 1.1 Djibouti

Warmer conditions continued to dominate over the entire Country during October, 2023. However, medium to heavy rain was recorded in the last week of October.

### 1.2 Eritrea

There was moderate to high rainfall during the second and third weeks of the month throughout the country especially in the eastern lowlands. As a result, soil moisture was wet, vegetation started to be greening.

### 1.3 Ethiopia

In October, sunny and rainy weather prevailed throughout Ethiopia, and light to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country including Desert Locust winter breeding areas during the second and third weeks of the month. The annual vegetation is green and in some lowland areas was drying out as the perennial vegetation remained green and the soil was wet, particularly in areas with good rains. Generally, the ecology was favorable for Desert Locust activities.

### 1.4 Kenya

Most parts of Kenya received moderate to heavy rainfall during the month.

### 1.5 Somalia

The rains fell during October in the breeding areas have contributed to the creation of favorable ecological conditions for locust breeding, where vegetation became greening and green soil was observed to be wet and moist in the most areas of inland areas of Awdal, Togdheer as well as Sanaag regions.

### 1.6 South Sudan

Report not received

### 1.7 Sudan

During last week of October 2023 moderate to heavy rains fell along the Red Sea coast in winter breeding areas in Sudan. Vegetation cover started greening in the winter breeding areas while in the summer breeding areas the vegetation is drying out.

### 1.8 Tanzania

In the month of October the weather situation was relatively hot and cloudy with average day time temperature of 30°C. However, some few areas in Lake Victoria basin (Mwanza, Kagera and Mara), Northern coast of Indian ocean (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Zanzibar and Pemba isles and Tanga) recorded light showers up to the third week of the month. During the 4<sup>th</sup> week of October some parts of Tanzania reported heavy rainfalls including Western zone (Kigoma and Tabora), Eastern and Northern zones (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga, Kilimanjaro)

### 1.9 Uganda

The month of October 2023 was a wet month across most parts of the Country as had been forecasted by the Uganda National Meteorological Authority. Most parts of Western, Central, West Nile and Mount Elgon recorded enhanced rainfall in most places. Some parts of Karamoja region received average rainfall, with others recording below normal rains. The rest of the Country received moderate rainfall conditions.

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

### 2.1 Djibouti

No Desert locust report received during October, 2023

#### **Forecast**

*No significant developments are likely.*

## 2.2 Eritrea

Desert Locust survey was not conducted and no reports were received. The situation remained calm during October in both the summer and winter breeding areas.

### Forecast

Locust breeding is expected to start in the winter breeding areas. Maintaining regular survey and follow-up is essential in the breeding areas.

## 2.3 Ethiopia

The Desert Locust situation was calm during the month. The ground survey teams conducted a DL survey on 23,940ha and confirmed the absence of the pest in all surveyed areas of the Somali and Afar Administrative Regions.



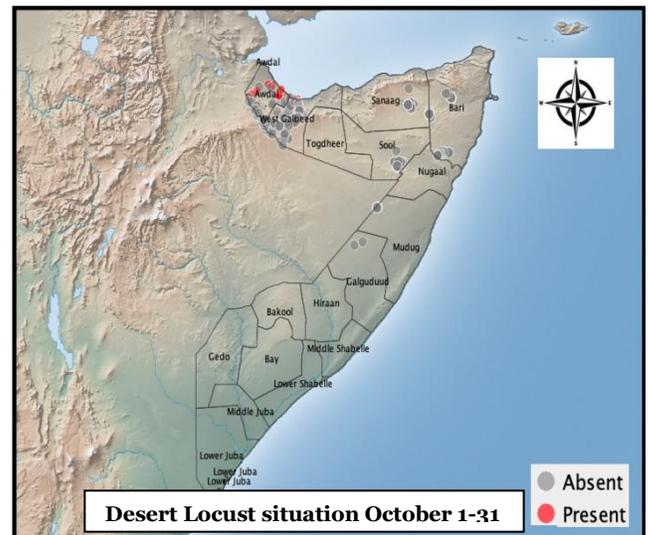
### Forecast

*The Desert locust status in Ethiopia will be expected to remain calm in November, 2023.*

## 2.4 Somalia

Surveys were carried out in the coastal, sub-coastal and inland areas of Desert Locust breeding areas in north-west part of the country where immature solitarious adults with scattered behavior and low density were observed as showed below on the **map**.

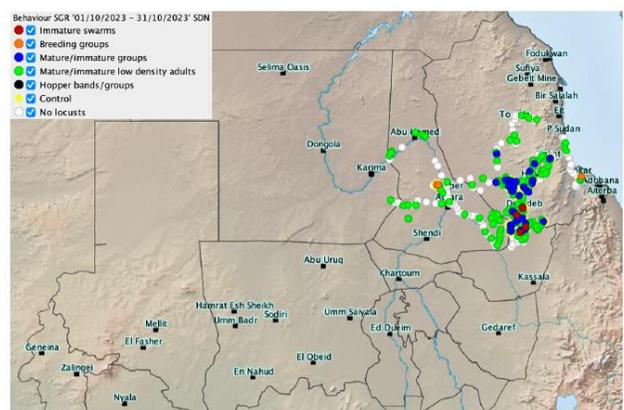
**Forecast:** *Low numbers of solitarious adults will persist in parts of the northwest where small-scale winter breeding will start early Novembre in the coastal areas.*



## 2.5 Sudan

Survey was conducted in the Red Sea, River Nile, Kassala state. Groups and scattered hoppers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> instar were detected in Baiyuda Desert in the River Nile state, as well scattered breeding was seen at Toker Delta, Red Sea state. Moreover, scattered mature and immature adults seen in many locations of the surveyed areas. The total surveyed area was **133,771 ha**

Ground control operations continued against **5** immature swarms, hopper bands/groups (the stages from 1<sup>st</sup> to fledgling) in the River Nile and the Red Sea states, The total treated area was **3,403 ha**, using **1,699** lits of ULV pesticides.



### Forecast

*It is very likely the fledgling and formation of immature groups in Baiyuda Desert will occur*

in November. While the scattered mature adults in summer breeding areas will concentrate and probably migration to winter breeding areas will start during forecasting period. Therefore, vigilance, close monitoring and early intervention in all winter breeding areas are highly recommended during the forecasting period.

## 2.6 Kenya Uganda, South Sudan and Tanzania

During October,2023, no locusts were reported in these countries.

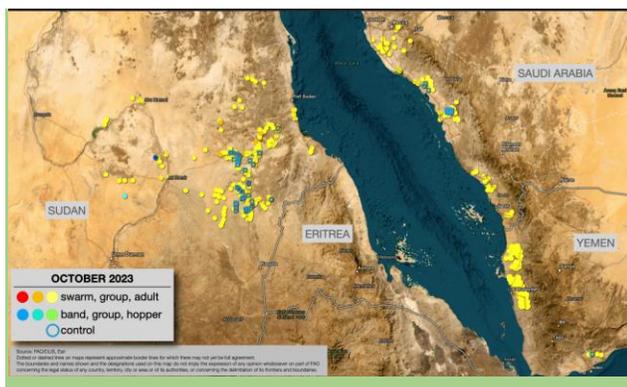
### Forecast

Desert Locust situation will remain calm in November 2023.

## 3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AND OTHER REGIONS

### 3.1 Central Region: CALM

**Situation:** Some hopper and adult groups, small bands and swarms in the interior of eastern **Sudan** (3,403 ha treated) while scattered adults appeared in the winter breeding areas of the Red Sea coastal and subcoastal areas. In Saudi Arabia, small hopper groups, bands and adult groups at two areas on the Red Sea coast and sub coastal (1,170ha). I Yemen, breeding started on Gulf of Aden (2ha) with hopper groups and adults while scattered hoppers and adults occurred on the red Sea coast. A cyclone reached eastern Yemen. Isolated adults in northwest Somalia and the southeastern Red Sea coast of Egypt.



### Forecast

Above-normal rains are expected along both sides of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden during November and December. Locusts from the interior of **Sudan** will continue moving to the Red Sea coast in November. Winter breeding will start in **Sudan, Eritrea, southeast Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen** and northwest **Somalia** where locusts will increase and perhaps some groups. A second generation of breeding could start in early 2024

### 3.2 Western Region: CALM

**SITUATION:** Mainly isolated and scattered hoppers and adults in northern Sahel of Mauritania, Niger, and Chad. Isolated adults in southern Algeria and southern western Sahara.

**FORECAST:** Locust will decrease in **Niger** and **Chad** as vegetation conditions continuous to become dry. Low numbers of hoppers and adults may remain in northwest and north **Mauritania** and parts of southern **Western Sahara** in November. Thereafter, only a few adults will persist unless more rain falls which is not predicted.

### 3.3 Eastern Region: CALM

**SITUATION:** No locusts present

**FORECAST:** No significant developments are likely

(FAO DL bulletin No. 541  
[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 Ethiopia

Quelea birds outbreak and control was continued during October in Oromia (East Harerge, Babile district), Central Ethiopia (Halaba and Silti ), and Amhara region (Kombolcha and Shewarobit areas).

During the month aerial control operation was conducted on **198**ha of **13** roosting sites and estimated populations of **18** million Quelea birds were controlled. The kill was estimated to be **96 to 98 %**. A total of 397lts of Bathion 46% ULV was used.

*In November quelea quelea bird outbreaks and aerial control operations will continue in the northern Rift Valley of the Amhara Administrative region*

#### **4.1.2 Tanzania**

No reports of quelea birds in the reporting period.

*In November Quelea birds are expected in irrigated Rice scheme in Kibaha District of Coast region, Simanjiro District in Manyara region.*

#### **4.1.3 Kenya**

In October there were no reports of quelea birds in the country.

*In November, quelea quelea bird infestation may start at Kirinyaga County where there is Rice in Mwea irrigation scheme, Migori and Narok Counties and Lower Kuja Irrigation Schemes and Wheat in Mau Narok respectively*

#### **4.1.3 Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, and Uganda**

No quelea bird infestations were reported during October, 2023.

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

#### **4.2.1 Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania**

African armyworm presence was not reported during the month of October, 2023, in the region.

#### **Forecast**

*In November, Armyworm outbreak will be expected in **Lushoto** and **Handeni** districts in **Tanga Region, Tanzania** bordering southeastern parts of **Kenya**. It is therefore, advisable to install pheromone traps at the strategic places for monitoring.*

### **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**

04, November 2023

[www.dlco-ea.org](http://www.dlco-ea.org)