



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

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SITREP No. 05-2023/2024

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS' SITUATION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 2023

Summary

Desert Locust: Winter breeding continued in **Sudan** from Egyptian border in the North up to Eritrean border in the South including subcostal areas *Wadi Oko and Diib*, in additions to *Toker Delta and Khor Baraka*, **Eritrea** the Northern Red Sea coast of Eritrea and **Somalia** Northwest from the border of South Djibouti to Berbera. Survey and control of hoppers started Sudan total surveyed area was **124,810** ha and **1,628** ha was treated using **684** L of ULV pesticides. A total of **6,240** ha area was treated successfully in Eritrea using conventional pesticide and in Somalia Insect growth regulator on 2nd and 3rd instar hoppers, Eritrea treated A total of 8,665 ha and Control is on progress on hoppers bands (L1 & L2 instars) using insect growth regulator (IGR & mechanical).

Other Member Countries in the region are free from Desert Locust during the reporting period.

Quelea bird: During November Quelea bird outbreak was reported in Tanzania. Control operation in Ethiopia was completed in the first week of November. 108 ha with 7 roosting sites and estimated populations of 6.2 million Quelea birds were controlled using 215 lts of Bathion 46% ULV. The kill was estimated to be 85 to 95%. In South Sudan quelea control operation started in the last week of November.

Quelea infestation reported from Kirinyaga County, Kenya in Mwea irrigation scheme.

No reports from other Member Countries.

African Armyworm: African Armyworm infestation was also reported in Tanzania.

No reports from other Member Countries.



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 November, 2023 throughout the country especially in the eastern lowlands.

As a result, soil moisture was wet, vegetation started to be greening.

1.3 Ethiopia

In November, during the day sunny and during morning and night, chilly weather conditions prevailed throughout Ethiopia, and unexpected light to heavy rains fell in some parts of the country including Desert Locust winter breeding areas of the Somali Administrative Region where floods were also reported during the first and second weeks of the month.

The annual vegetation were green and in some lowland areas were drying out as the perennial vegetation remained green and the soil wet, in areas with good rains. Generally, the ecological conditions are favorable for Desert Locust activities.

1.4 Kenya

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

1.5 Somalia

During November, 2023 moderate and light rains fell in North-west (around Awdal region) and North-east (Nugal, Mudug as well as Sanaag regions) which was favorable for Desert locust breeding. The Dryer rain season expected to continue particularly in the Northwestern part of the country.

1.5 South Sudan

Report not received.

1.6 Sudan

During the first and second week of November 2023 moderate to heavy rains fell along the Red Sea coast of DL winter breeding areas in Sudan. Vegetation cover is green in the winter breeding zone while in the summer breeding areas the vegetation is drying out.

1.7 Tanzania

In the whole month of November 2023, most parts of Tanzania reported heavy rainfall with some parts reporting heavy and above normal rains with floods being witnessed across the affected regions, destroying not only houses but also threatening livelihoods of the affected families. So far, the floods have washed away crops considering majority of the displaced populations are farmers, businessman, and pastoralists. The worst affected areas include Arusha Kilimanjaro and Manyara Regions in the northern zone, Kigoma, Geita and Kagera Regions in the western zone, the Coast Region as well as Zanzibar and Pemba Islands and Dar es Salaam in the eastern zone.

According to reports by the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) in Tanzania, the latest update received from local government, shared on mid November, reported more than 10,090 people, or 2,018 households suffered floods and landslide with 12 deaths reported, 1,245 houses completely destroyed.

1.8 Uganda

The month of November 2023 was a continuation of the heavy rains recorded in October across most regions of the Country as had been forecasted by the Uganda National Meteorological Authority. However, much wetter conditions occurred in areas around and adjacent to Lake Victoria, Central and Western region of the country. Exceptional rainfall amounts were in areas within and surrounding Lake Victoria, Southwestern sub region, and parts of Kyoga basin extending to West Nile sub region. The forecasted el nino rains became a reality in several places with heavy storms, flooding and destruction of several infrastructures. However, some parts of Karamoja region received average to below normal rains.

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

2.1 Djibouti

No Desert locust report received during November, 2023.

Forecast

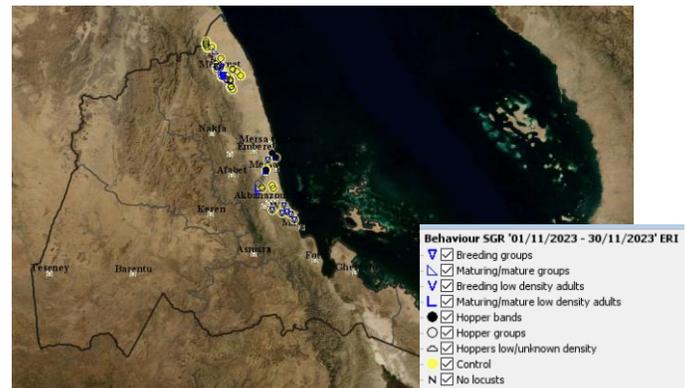
No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

Desert locust survey and control operation was conducted in the winter breeding areas of Eritrea North coast up to the border of Sudan. Early instar hopper groups also

reported around Foro sub-region in the Northern Red Sea and around Tio in the Southern Red Sea regions.

Control operation was conducted against 1st, 2nd, 3rd instar hopper groups, bands and breeding groups on the Northern Red Sea Coast around Shieb, Afabet and Mehimet. A total of 8,665 ha was treated successfully during the month and the survey and control operations are in progress



Desert Locust situation 01 -30-November
(Migratory pest and desert locust control unit Eritrea)

Forecast

In December, breeding will continue along the Red Sea Coastal areas as favorable environment is created to breed and continue their generation and there is probability of locust migration from neighboring countries (Sudan) might be expected.

2.3 Ethiopia

The Desert Locust situation was calm during the month. Ground DL survey was conducted on 5,620ha and the survey team confirmed the absence of the pest in all surveyed areas of the Somali and Afar Administrative Regions.

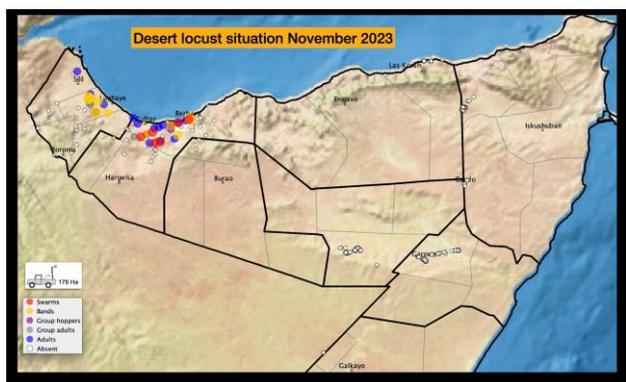
Forecast

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

2.4 Somalia

Ground survey and control operations conducting in Northwest coastal, sub-coastal areas of the country. Matured, copulating and laying adults, hopper of different stages was detected during survey in the reporting month. the survey & control team still in field, (**Map below**).

Control undergoing on hoppers bands (L1& L2 instars) using insect growth regulator (IGR & mechanically).



Desert Locust situation November, 2023 (**Elhadj Bocar Lemine Sakho Locust Information Specialist**)

Forecast:

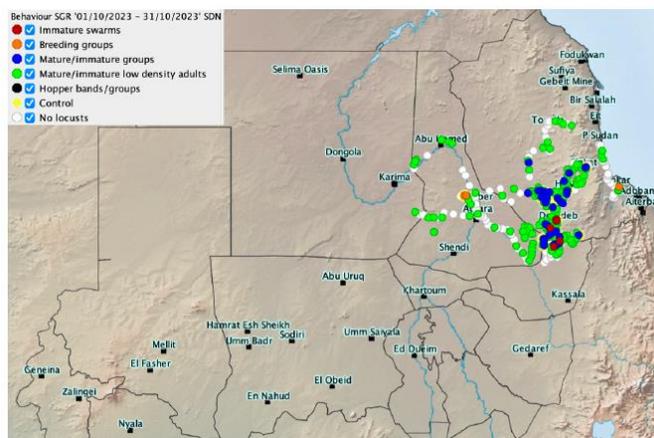
The winter season started earlier this year with above-normal rain on both sides of the Indian ocean coast and the Gulf of Aden coast of northern Somalia. Predictable weather indicated above-normal rains are likely in breeding areas during December. The hatching will continue in forecasting period, hoppers will fledge and start to form small swarms.

2.5 Sudan

During November 2023, Desert Locust (DL) situation is at the **caution** level in Sudan. The winter campaign launched at the first week of November, comprehensive surveys covered the winter breeding areas from Egyptian borders in the North up to Eritrean borders in the South, and extended far northwest of the Red Sea hills to include subcostal areas Wadi Oko and Diib, in additions to Toker Delta and Khor Baraka. Surveillance continued also in the summer breeding areas in the Red Sea, River Nile, Northern and Kassala states. The total surveyed area was **124,810** ha (**Map below**).

breeding swarms, hopper bands/groups (1st to fledgling) and mature/immature groups in the Red Sea, River Nile and Northern states. In addition, scattered copulating, laying, scattered mature/immature adults were seen and reported at subcostal areas in Red Sea state.

Ground control treated a total of **1,628** ha, using **684** L of ULV pesticides



Desert Locust situation 01–30 November 2023 (**Locust control Department, Sudan**)

Forecast

The hatching will continue in the central coast and southern coast. The fledgling will occur at the second week of November. 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 November, 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

No report received.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Ethiopia

Quelea birds' outbreak and control continued during November in 3 districts (Kewet, Efratanagidim, and Jiletimuga) of the Amhara Administrative Region.

Aerial control operation was conducted from 2nd to 4th November 2023 on 107.5ha with 7 roosting sites and estimated populations of 6.2 million Quelea birds were killed by spraying 215lts of Bathion 46% ULV. The kill was estimated to be 85 to 95 %.

In December the season for quelea bird will be over.



In Ethiopia areal control operation of quelea birds conducted from September 8, 2023 up to November 4, 2023. A total of 69 million birds controlled on 712ha using 1424lits of Bathion 64% ULV. Kill assessment was 60- 98%

4.1.2 Tanzania

Reports of quelea birds threatening rice crop received from new District in Southern Morogoro (Kilombero) which has never reported previously and so counted as new invasion. Survey team have been sent for verification.

Forecast

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

4.1.3 Kenya

Quelea birds reported in **Kirinyaga County** Mwea irrigation scheme.

In December, quelea quelea bird infestation may continue at Kirinyaga County where there is Rice in Mwea irrigation scheme, and also Migori and Narok Counties and Lower Kuja Irrigation

Schemes and Wheat in Mau Narok will get quelea infestation.

4.1.3 South Sudan

Reports of Quelea birds received from South Sudan in November. Aerial control started in at the end week of November, detail report will be presented in December, 2023.

Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda

No quelea bird infestations were reported during November, 2023.

4.2 Armyworms (*Spodoptera spp*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

African armyworm infestation reported at Mbeya and Lindi Regions on seasonal maize crop and other cereals.

Forecast

During **December**, Armyworms are expected at the areas where early crops and pasturelands are green in Central, Eastern, North Eastern highlands and Lake Victoria zones.

4.2.2 Kenya

No reports received from counties

Forecast

During December, armyworm infestations are expected on crops and pasturelands in Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kitui, Kwale, Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Counties. Moth migrations from one location to others will be expected during the month.

Therefore, installation of traps at strategic places for close monitoring and early action is advised.

4.2.3 Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda

No report of armyworm infestation.

Forecast

In December the situation remains calm

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 November, 2023.

SIFO, for the DLCO-EA

06, December 2023

www.dlco-ea.org