

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

SITREP No. 12/2005-2006

**DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PEST SITUATION REPORTS FOR
JUNE, 2006**

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS



In the **Central Region**, the ITZC moved progressively northwards during June, reaching 14-15N by the end of the month. Some rain may have occurred along the Red Sea coastal plains in Yemen but dry conditions prevailed in the interior summer breeding areas. In northern Oman, light to moderate rain fell at times and green vegetation was present in some places. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 333)

1.1 Djibouti

During the month, there was no rainfall recorded and vegetation remained dry. Sunny and dry weather conditions dominated, where temperature was varied from 38⁰C to 41⁰C.

1.2 Eritrea

Light rains may have fallen in the southern part of the western lowlands in Eritrea but ecological conditions remained dry

Short shower rains and drizzles continued on a widespread basis on the highlands throughout May. The following were recorded in some rainfall stations:

<u>Locality</u>	<u>Coordinates</u>	<u>Rainfall(mm)</u>	<u>Date</u>
Asmara	1520N 3855E	15	25-5-06
Teramni	1501N 3838E	17	29-5-06
Keren	1540N 3825E	16	29-5-06
Halhale	1504N 3849E	14	29-5-06
Mendefera	1542N 3914E	10	29-5-06
Asmara & Surrounding given		7	29-5-06

With the exception of large Wadis, coastal and sub-coastal areas remained rainless and dry. High and low temperatures for Massawa were 40⁰C and 29⁰ C and for Assab 39⁰C and 27.5⁰C respectively. Prevailing wind direction was North-easterlies at an average wind speed of 9 Mt/sec.

Vegetation: In the western lowlands, it was dry except of some green spot vegetation in the Wadis and their peripheries.

1.3 Ethiopia

Dry and hot weather conditions prevailed in Diredawa and surrounding areas of eastern Ethiopia through out the month. Vegetation was reported generally green in the region.

1.4 Somalia

Moderate to heavy rains were reported in Ainabo areas at Haberi heshay locality in Togdeer region. Vegetation was drying due to heavy dry winds blowing from southwest.

1.5 Sudan

The Central region of the country received heavy but scattered showers. The rest of the country was moving towards dry spell with light scattered showers. Vegetation was green across most part of the country.

1.6 Tanzania

Apart from the Lake basin & Kilimanjaro region, which received light rains, the rest of the Country remained dry.

Irrigated rice in Mbeya and Kilimanjaro Regions was at the ripening stage while most other cereals in the rest of the Country had been harvested.

1.7 Uganda

Central region received heavy, but scattered showers. The rest of the country is moving towards dry spell with light scattered showers.

Vegetation was green across most parts of the country.

2.0 Desert Locust

2.1 Djibouti

Locusts were not reported during the month.

2.2 Eritrea

Desert Locust survey was carried out by locust experts in the summer breeding region in the western lowland areas between 22-27, June 2006. During the survey, locusts were not found.

2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported during April.

2.4 Somalia

Desert Locust situation remained calm. However, an unconfirmed report from EMPRES link person in Hargeisa indicated that solitary adults and hoppers were seen in Gebely and Kalabeydh. Nevertheless, density of the locusts was not reported.

Based on FAO DL Bulletin No. 333, scattered fifth instar hoppers and mature adults were seen at two locations west of Hargeisa in mid-June.

2.5 Sudan

No surveys were carried out and Desert Locust situation remained calm.

2.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

Were not affected by the Desert Locust.

2.7 Other Regions (extracted from FAO Desert Locust bulletin No. 333)

Central Region. No locusts were reported in the region during June except for isolated solitarious adults in southern **Egypt**. Small-scale breeding is expected to occur in the interior of **Yemen** if rains fall.

Western Region. Small-scale breeding has been in progress in eastern **Algeria** since March and in southwest **Libya** since May. Consequently, locust numbers have increased gradually and some populations became *transiens* and formed groups of hoppers and adults in June. Ground control operations treated 394 ha in Algeria (up to 15 June) and 1,995 ha in Libya (12-28 June). More groups could form as vegetation dries out. The situation requires careful monitoring. Local populations of isolated solitarious adults were reported in the summer breeding areas in **Niger**. Although surveys were not conducted in **Mauritania** or **Mali** during June, similar populations are likely to be present there as well. Summer rains have started in a few places in the Sahel and, as they become more widespread, conditions will improve and small-scale breeding is expected to occur during the forecast period in parts of southern Mauritania, northern Mali and northern Niger.

Mainly dry conditions prevailed and no locusts were reported in the **eastern region** during June. Low numbers of adults are expected to appear along both sides of the **Indo-Pakistan** border and breed on a small scale once the monsoon rains start. No significant developments are expected.

3.0 Forecast until mid-August 2006 (*Forecast from FAO D.L. Bulletin No. 333 is sighted*)

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Isolated adults could appear in parts of the western lowlands and breed on a limited scale if rainfall occurs.

3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

3.4 Somalia

Scattered adults may persist in a few places on the escarpment between Boroma and Burao.

3.5 Sudan

Scattered adults are likely to be present in a few places in the summer breeding areas. Small-scale breeding is expected to occur in areas that receive rainfall.

3.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

Are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestation.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

Monitoring continued but no infestation had been reported.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During the month, aerial control operations continued in different regions of the country and were reported as follows:-

a) Shinyanga Region:-

One Colony of 4.8 million birds on 50ha. of Acacia trees was controlled with 100lbs of Queletox killing 90% of the birds.

One Roost of 3.5 million birds on 30ha. of acacia trees was sprayed with 100 lbs. of chemical killing 95% of the bird population.

b) Mwanza Region:-

Two Roosts with a total of 3.5 million birds on a total of 50ha. of acacia trees were controlled with 100lts of Queletox killing 95% of the birds.

On Colony of 3.4 million bird on 40ha of typha grass was sprayed with 100lts of Chemical with a 95% birds mortality.

c) Dodoma

Kondoa District.

One Colony and one Roost with a total 3.2 million birds on a total 70 ha of acacia trees were controlled with a total 175 lts of Queletox killing 90% of the birds.

d) Morogoro

Five Colonies with one Roost with a total of 10 million birds on a total of 150ha. of acacia were controlled with 400 lts of Queletox killing 99% of the birds.

Kilosa District

One Colony of 3 million birds on 15 ha of acacia trees was sprayed with 80 lts of chemical resulting into a 95% bird mortality.

Operation continues in Mbeya, Kilimanjaro & Manyara regions where several outbreaks have been reported & confirmed.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

Quelea infestation has been reported in the southern part of the country. However, extent of infestation was not indicated during the reporting period.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

4.2.1 Kenya

Late Report

Since the onset of the March/April rains there have been continuous outbreaks and re-infestation of Armyworms in almost all parts of the country. Full report of the outbreak until the end of May is received and it was reported as follows;

Districts, which had been affected since the beginning of the infestation were; Kwale, Taita-Taveta, Kilifi, Malindi, Mombasa, Mwingi, Tharaka, Makueni, Machakos, Kitui, Meru North, Meru Central, Suba, Migori, Kajiado, Marsabit, Moyale, Embu, Mbeere, Thika, Trans-Nzoia, West Pokot, Keiyo, Marakwet, Baringo, Narok, Nakuru, Nairobi, Kiambu, Wajir and Laikipia. Re-infestations of Armyworm in already controlled areas and

districts were experienced in Makueni, Kitui, Kajiado, Nakuru and Machakos.

Crops attacked and extent of infestation

Wheat	17900 ha
Maize	13820 ha
Sorghum	510 ha
Millet	376 ha
Pasture	more than 1.5 million hectares

Ground control operation using knapsack and vehicle-mounted-sprayers was initiated and most of the infestations had been controlled.

More infestations occurred during the month of June in different districts of the country and were reported as follows;

<u>Date</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Ha</u>	<u>Crop</u>
2/06/06	Narok	3000	Crop and pasture
2/06/06	Wajir	1500	Maize
		2000	Sorghum
4/06/06	Laikipia	2000	Wheat
9/06/06	Meru	1300	Pasture, Maize, Bulrush millet
14/06/06	Nyeri	80	Pasture

4.2.2 Ethiopia

Apart from the control of a few pockets of infestations remained in the Eastern part of the country and those reported in the north, there was no heavy infestation reported during the month.

Forecast until the end of July 2006

Armyworm moths are likely to migrate further north to the northern, northeastern and northwestern parts of Ethiopia, to the southern and mid-highlands of Eritrea. Therefore, monitoring and routine checkups are requiring for early detection and control interventions.

SIFO

For Director,
5th July, 2006