

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

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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR
JUNE, 2007

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS



In the **Central Region**, tropical cyclone Gonu brought heavy rains (upto 300mm in a single day) and floods to northern Oman and the Musandam Peninsula on 4-9 June. A second cyclone, Yemyin, caused further heavy rains to fall on 22-25 June in the interior of Yemen from Al Abr to Hayma in central Oman. Rainfall was heaviest in southern Oman. Consequently, breeding conditions remained favorable over a large portion of the interior of Yemen as well as in Dhofar region in Oman and between Sur and Musandam. Breeding conditions were improving in Shabwah and Marib regions in Yemen. Light to moderate rains fell on the Red Sea coast from Qunfidah, Saudi Arabia to Bab El Mandeb in Yemen. Ecological conditions remained favorable on the plateau in northern Somalia between Boroma and Burao as well as in adjacent areas of eastern Ethiopia. (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 345*)

1.1 Djibouti

Report not received.

1.2 Eritrea

Good amount of rainfall was reported in most areas of the Western lowlands in mid-June. The rainfall amount was ranged between light to moderate (25-50 mm). Some of the areas which received rain includes Haikota (15 12 36N, 37 05 13E), Alebu (15 13 23N, 36 52 44E), Tessenay (15 06 45N, 39 41 00N), Aligidir (1 06 56N, 37 35 29E), Telata-Asher (15 05 28N, 36 39 16E), Golige (14 19 30N, 36 38 44E), Om-Hajer (14 20 00N, 36 39 00E), Forto-sawa (15 34 56N, 36 59 34E), Afhimbol (15 53 42N, 37 2117E), Kerkebet (16 01 51N 37 26 02E) and others. Most of the above mentioned areas are ideal summer Locust breeding places and received rain continuously for three to four days (from 25-29 June, 2007). Soil moisture in all the above mentioned areas was wet.

Drizzles and showers were also occurred in and around Asmara during the last week of the month but coastal areas remained rainless.

Average maximum and minimum temperature for Assab and Massawa was 42⁰ 31⁰C and 42.5⁰ 32⁰C respectively. Prevailing wind direction was northerly at 12 meters/sec.

Vegetation in some places on the highland and Western lowland was partly greening.

1.3 Ethiopia

The seasonal rainfall continued over most eastern parts of the country. During the month, a total of 70.5mm of rainfall is recorded in Dire Dawa rainfall station (09 36N/041 50E) and reported as follows;

	Rainfall in mm
01/06/07	15.6
02/06/07	1.4
10/06/07	0.6
11/06/07	3.2
12/06/07	5.5
24/06/07	3.4
29/06/07	36.3
30/06/07	4.5

Vegetation was green in several parts of the region.

1.4 Kenya

The weather started to cool down, some areas had dry weather conditions except the western parts and the Coastal strip, which had experienced some rainfall.

1.5 Somalia

Light rains fell on some areas around Boroma, Burao and the escarpments.

1.6 Sudan

ITCZ was passed northern Kassala, Madani and southern Khartoum and Fashier. Prevailing wind direction in the northern parts of Sudan was northerly to south westerly, in central and southern parts it was southerly to south westerly. Shower of rains were received in all parts of Kordofan and Darfur States and it is expected that vegetation status will improve during July.

1.7 Tanzania

Weather report not received.

1.8 Uganda

Moderate to heavy rains were received across most parts of the country. During the first week of June, some unusually heavy storms and thunderstorms were recorded, with flooding and destruction of properties reported in some parts of the country. The country experienced some tremors in the Western Rift valley that were also attributed to the heavy rains.

During the month, vegetation was green across most parts of the country.

2.0 Desert Locust

2.1 Djibouti

No locusts were reported during the month.

2.2 Eritrea

Desert Locust survey was carried out by PPD staff in the summer locust breeding areas in the western lowlands from 25-30th June, 2007. No locusts were found and ecological conditions were observed not favorable for their breeding.

One immature female Desert Locust was seen in Asmara town on 12th June. This could be an indication of locust presence either in Western or Eastern lowlands.

2.3 Ethiopia

PPD team surveyed Dembel and Awberi localities bordering Northern Somalia to observe Desert Locust situation and were found free of infestation. Survey continued by the end of the month at Shinille area however, detail of the report was not received during the reporting period.

Based on the FAO DL bulletin No. 345, during the first week of June, a few late instar hopper bands, at densities up to 110hoppers/m² and 2.5ha in size, were still present in the Harawa (0953N/3836E) area near Dire Dawa from breeding that occurred during May. Fledgling continued until mid-month, and adults formed a few very small immature groups and swarms, up to 27ha in size, that were seen to the east of Dire Dawa (0935N/4150E) and Hara (0919N/4206E). Ground control operations treated 116ha. No locusts were seen after the 16th between Dire Dawa and the border of northern Somalia.

2.4 Somalia

During the first week of June, small but dense late instar hopper bands persisted on the plateau between Boroma (0956N/4313E) and Hargeisa (0931N/4402E) and Shikh Abdaal (0957N/4441E) where breeding had occurred during May. Fledging and swarm formation were in progress. Crop damage was reported in some areas. Groups of immature adults were present on the coast near Berbera (1028N/4502E). At mid-month, there were several reports of immature swarms over Hargeisa (0931N/4402E), followed by reports of swarms passing east of Erigavo (1040N/4720E) through the Gebi Valley and Golis mountains in eastern Sanaag region, and reaching the Bari region near Bosaso (1118N/4910E) on the 23rd. Damage occurred to fruit trees in Bosaso area. By the end of the month, only scattered immature adults were present on the coast and escarpment near Berbera (1028N/4502E). (*FAO DL Bulletin No. 345*)

2.5 Sudan

During 12-23rd June, ground survey and control operations were conducted in the Northern State. Hopper bands of all instars, at densities 3-13 hoppers/m² were present in the Northern State in few cropping areas south of Nile River and Merowe (1830N/3149E). Total infested area was 250ha and ground control operations treated 157 ha using 240liters of Malathion 57%EC.

2.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

Were not affected by the Desert Locust.

2.7 Other Regions (*extracted from FAO Desert Locust bulletin No. 345*)

Central Region: Aerial and ground control operations ended in mid-June against hopper bands in the spring breeding areas in the interior of Saudi Arabia. Substantial breeding occurred within a large portion of the interior of Yemen where egg-laying, hatching and band formation was reported throughout the month. More hatching and band formation are expected during July and August, and new swarms are likely to start forming by the end of July. Ground control operations treated a few hopper bands in northern Sudan and southern Egypt where small-scale breeding occurred. Breeding may occur in areas of recent rainfall in Oman.

Western Region: The situation remained calm in the region during June. Low numbers of solitarious adults were present in a few places in Morocco and southern Algeria. Limited breeding occurred in northwest Algeria where ground control operations were carried out against groups of hoppers and adults. Small-scale breeding will commence the onset of the seasonal rains in southern Mauritania, northern Mali and Niger, and in eastern Chad, causing locust numbers to increase slightly during July and August.

Eastern Region: Control operations against groups of adults ended on the southeast coast of Iran in early June. Locust numbers declined in western Pakistan

due to control operations and adult movement to the summer breeding areas along the Indo-Pakistan border. Locust numbers increased on both sides of the border and laying occurred in parts of Rajasthan, India. There is a strong possibility of several swarms arriving on the coast of Pakistan and Gujarat and Rajasthan from northeastern Somalia during the first week of July. If so, the adults are likely to mature quickly and lay eggs. Consequently, locust numbers will increase and small hopper bands could also occur in areas of recent rainfall on the coast in western Pakistan.

3.0 Forecast until mid-August 2007 (*Forecast is sighted from FAO D.L. Bulletin No. 345*)

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Scattered adults and perhaps a few small groups may be present in the highlands. These populations are expected to move to the western lowlands and breed on small scale once the seasonal rains commence.

3.3 Ethiopia

Small residual adult populations may be present between Dire Dawa and northern Somalia. If conditions remain favorable, these adults are likely to mature and lay eggs that could hatch by the end of the forecast period.

3.4 Somalia

Although there is a good possibility that many of the adults moved east along the plateau to the Bari region and beyond, small adult infestations are likely to remain between Boroma and Erigavo, mature and lay eggs that could hatch by the end of the forecast period.

3.5 Sudan

Small residual populations may persist in cropping areas near the Nile River in Northern State. Small-scale breeding will occur in parts of Kassala, Nile, Northern, Khartoum, White Nile, North Kordofan and north Darfur with the onset of the summer rains and cause locust numbers to increase slightly.

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 Tanzania

A DLCO-EA aircraft continued spraying Quelea birds in different regions of the country during the month. However, full and detailed report of the operation was not received during the reporting period.

4.1.2 Kenya

A DLCO-EA aircraft sprayed Quelea birds in Naivasha and Narok districts, in the Rift Valley region and Siaya, Kisumu areas in the western part of the country. However, full and detailed report of the operation was not received during the reporting period.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

Member countries remained free from any infestation

4.3 Tsetse fly

There were press reports of **tsetse flies** invading Amuru District (especially in Pabbo and Purungo sub-counties), in Northern Uganda. Flies were spreading Nagana, mainly to the cattle of the returnees to their homes and villages from the camps after several years of insecurity in that area.

SIFO
For Director,
5th July 2007