

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

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**SITREP No. 05/2008-2009**

**DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT**  
**FOR NOVEMBER, 2008**



**1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL  
CONDITIONS**

In the Central Region, apart from the ecological conditions reported in member countries, light to moderate showers fell during the first decade of November between Hodeidah, Yemen and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Rains also fell in the interior of Saudi Arabia, mainly between Hail, Riyadh and Kuwaiti border. In the interior of eastern Yemen, vegetation became green in parts of Hadhramaut and Mahara that were affected by heavy rains and floods in October. In Oman, green vegetation was present in the central interior near Marmul from October rainfall but was dry along the Yemeni border. (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 362)

**1.1 Djibouti**

Medium to heavy rainfalls were reported by the end of October and the first week of November in many parts of the country.

**1.2 Eritrea**

Due to the tropical cyclone which started by end of September and that continued to the first week of November 2008, the eastern lowland areas from Tio (14 41 21N/40 57 43E) to the Sudanese border had received medium to heavy

rainfalls. The following rainfalls were recorded in areas located on the Red Sea coast:

| Locality | Co-ordinate (N/E) | Rainfall (mm) | Date of Rainfall |
|----------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Shieb    | 1553/3904         | 46.6          | 01/11/08         |
|          |                   | 15            | 02/11/08         |
|          |                   | 10            | 05/11/08         |
|          |                   | 25            | 08/11/08         |
| Mahmimet | 1740/3832         | 04            | 02/11/08         |
|          |                   | 15            | 05/11/08         |
|          |                   | 46            | 07/11/08         |
| Foro     | 1519/3933         | 19            | 03/11/08         |
|          |                   | 40            | 06/11/08         |
| Erafalle | 1505/3950         | 71            | 06/11/08         |
|          |                   | 40            | 08/11/08         |

Most of other areas in the southern sector of the Red Sea coast also received heavy rainfalls and were extensively flooded.

No rainfall occurred on the highlands and Western lowlands.

Vegetation cover over the highlands and western lowlands was green to dry, while on the coastal and sub-coastal areas, including Wadis were observed greening.

Soil was wet in all areas where rainfalls were received and was found conducive for locust breeding.

Average high and low temperatures for Assab and Massawa were 32.5 / 22.5°C and 35 / 26°C respectively. Prevailing wind was South Easterlies at a speed of 5 m/sec.

### **1.3 Ethiopia**

The southeastern parts of the country had received medium to heavy rainfalls, which caused flooding and displacement of many people in Gode area. Dire Dawa and the surrounding areas received light to medium rainfalls during the first week of the month. On 02<sup>nd</sup>, 04<sup>th</sup> and 06<sup>th</sup> of November, 1.7, 3.1 and 22.0 mm of rainfalls were recorded respectively at the rainfall station. Maximum and minimum temperatures in Dire Dawa for the month were 31<sup>o</sup>C/11<sup>o</sup>C respectively. Conditions were favorable for locust breeding as vegetation was green in those areas.

### **1.4 Kenya**

Light to medium and some heavy rainfalls were occurred in most parts of the country during November. Some floods were reported in the western parts of the country. Vegetation was green in most parts of the country.

### **1.5 Somalia**

Vegetation remained green on the plateau near Burao and along the escarpment but was drying out between Boroma and the Ethiopian border.

### **1.6 Sudan**

Some light to moderate rainfalls were occurred on the Red Sea coast from the Eritrean border to Port Sudan during the first decade of November. Vegetation was greening on the northern coast and adjacent coastal areas.

### **1.7 Tanzania**

Scattered moderate to heavy rains were received in the Southern and Northern Highlands, the Coastal regions and the Lake Zone. The rest of the country remained dry and hot.

## **1.8 Uganda**

Showers and thunderstorms were observed in most parts of the Country during the first two weeks of November; however, rains declined tremendously during the last half of the month. Vegetation was green across most parts of the Country.

## **2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)**

### **2.1 Djibouti**

No locusts were reported.

### **2.2 Eritrea**

Ground survey was conducted on the Red Sea coastal areas during the first half of November by PPD staff, and solitary adult Desert Locusts were found at Melet (1515N/3939E) and Shelshela (1555N/3908E) areas. The locusts were feeding on natural vegetation and pearl millet crops and were observed copulating.

### **2.3 Ethiopia**

No locusts were found during surveys carried out in eastern parts of the country during the beginning of November.

### **2.4 Kenya,**

The country remained free from Locust infestation.

### **2.5 Somalia**

No locusts were found between Boroma (0956N/4313E) and Burao (0931N/4533E) during ground surveys on 10-14 November.

### **2.6 Sudan**

No locusts were seen during the first half of November by ground survey teams carried out along the Red Sea coast and in Wadi Diib between Tomala (2002N/3551E) and the Egyptian border.

## 2.7 Tanzania and Uganda

Desert Locusts were not reported.

## 2.8 Other Regions *(extracted from FAO Desert Locust bulletin No. 362)*

**Central Region:** Low numbers of solitary adults persisted during the month in the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coast and Gulf of Aden in Yemen. Adults were also seen on the Red Sea coast in Saudi Arabia and were laying eggs in Eritrea but locusts were not detected in Sudan or Egypt. Small groups of solitary immature adults were present near Lake Nasser in Egypt.

**Western Region:** Small-scale breeding continued in northwest Mauritania during November and limited control operations were undertaken against small groups of hoppers. Solitary adults and local breeding occurred in areas that received heavy rains in September in Western Sahara and a few adults were seen in Morocco. Small-scale breeding occurred in southern Algeria near Mali and scattered adults persisted in northeast Chad.

**Eastern Region:** The locust situation remained calm in the region during November. Scattered solitary hoppers and adults persisted in the Cholistan Desert in Pakistan along the Indian border. No locusts were reported elsewhere in the region.

## 3.0 Forecast until mid-January 2009

*(Forecast is sighted from FAO D.L. Bulletin No. 362)*

### 3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.2 Eritrea

Hatching will occur near Sheib and Mahmimet at the beginning of November and the hoppers are expected to fledge by the end of the forecast period. Small-scale breeding is also likely to occur in other areas along the Red Sea coast between Massawa and Karora, which will cause locust numbers to increase slightly.

### 3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.4 Kenya

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.5 Somalia

Scattered adults may be present on the plateau between Boroma and Burao and breed on small scale. A few adults could appear on the northwest coast by the end of the forecast period.

### 3.6 Sudan

Low numbers of locusts are likely to be present on the Red Sea coast and breed on a small scale, primarily between Aqiq and Karora and in Wadi Diib north of Sufiya. Breeding may also occur in the Tokar Delta and other areas that receive rainfall during the forecast period.

### 3.7 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

Quelea outbreaks were reported at Dominion Rice Farm in the western part of the country however, no control operation was conducted.

#### 4.1.2 Tanzania

Quelea birds not reported.

#### **4.1.3 Ethiopia**

Quelea control operation continued on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November in Amhara region at Dewachea and Kalu districts. An estimated of 1.75million birds were treated on 75ha using 150 liters of Queletox (Fenthion 60%ULV) by a DLCO-EA aircraft.

On 15<sup>th</sup> November, control operation continued in Amhara and Oromiya regions at Dawa Chefa district at Kutubi locality and 2 million birds were controlled using 100 liters of Queletox.

### **4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)**

#### **4.2.1. Tanzania**

The following Armyworm moth catches were reported during the month:

#### **Situation during the week 27-10-2008 to 02-11-2008**

There were no outbreak reports received from any part of the country.

Meanwhile, moth trap catches were reported in Mbozi (3) Songwe (1) and Kilototoni (1) in Mbeya region.

#### **Situation during the week 3-11 to 9-11-08.**

There were no Armyworm outbreaks reported however, Same (85) Shinyanga (10) Bukombe (6) Mbozi (3) and Igunga (3) trap stations reported some moth catches.

#### **Situation during 10-11 to 26-11-08**

There were still no outbreaks reported from any part of the country.

Only Shimbi Mashariki (2) and Mengwe Chini, both in Kilimanjaro region, Same (9) Songwe (1) and Shinyanga (1) reported moth catches.

#### **4.2.2 Kenya**

The following Armyworm moth catches were reported from Isiolo:

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 22/10/08 | 3 |
| 23/10/08 | 5 |
| 27/10/08 | 3 |

SIFO  
**For Director,**  
5<sup>th</sup> December, 2008