

# DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

.....DLCO-EA) .....



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## DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 2011



### **1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS**

**Central Region:** No significant rain fell during December. Nevertheless, light showers occurred a few times during the second half of the month on the southern Red Sea coastal plains in Sudan near Tokar Delta. Consequently, ecological conditions were becoming favorable for small-scale breeding between Suakin and the Eritrean border but were dry on the northern coast. Dry conditions prevailed in winter breeding areas on the Red Sea Coast in Southeast Egypt and along both sides of the Gulf of Aden in Southern Yemen and northern Somalia.

#### **1.1 Djibouti**

Report not received.

#### **1.2 Eritrea**

Report not received.

#### **1.3 Ethiopia**

The weather conditions in the eastern part of the country have remained dry and relatively cooler in December with no rain. However there was some rain in areas bordering Djibouti and

western part of the country during the month. The rainfall decreased in December throughout the country and there were cloud overcasts throughout the month. Although there have been some low to medium rains in a few areas in Southeastern Ethiopia during the previous month, absence of rain and dryness prevailed in December. The vegetation in many areas where locusts survive and breed remained dry and drying in December in eastern Ethiopia. The temperature conditions were largely moderate during the day and cooler during the evening hours and in the early mornings in December.

#### **1.4 Kenya**

During December, most days of the month remained sunny however during the end of the 2nd and 3rd decades of the month, medium to heavy rains fell in the Central, Western and the Rift Valley

regions of the country. Annual and perennial vegetation was green across wider area of the country.

### **1.5 Somalia**

During the first and second decade of December, light rain fell on localized parts of Marodijeh region. No rain was recorded in the other regions of Northern Somalia.

Vegetation is dry to drying

### **1.6 Sudan**

Vegetation green in Tokar and green to greening in south of Tokar, in the Northern part of the Red Sea Coast the vegetation was totally dry , in the central part a few of surveyed areas was green to greening . Last rain received on 25th of December 2011 in the tokar delta. Soil wet in Tokar Delta and south of tokar and dry in the Northern part.

### **1.7 Tanzania**

Very heavy rains were experienced on the Coastal Belt, the Southern Regions and some parts of the Northern Zone. These rains were so heavy in Dare Salam and caused floods, washed away houses and bridges, killing at least 40 people.

In the Northern Zone some District in Kilimanjaro region the rains caused landslides killing 8 people. The rest of the country remained dry.

Vegetations remained green in most parts of the country and dry in the Central regions.

### **1.8 Uganda**

The rains are declining across most parts of the country with a few places, especially in South-western part of the country still recording some heavy rains and thunderstorms.

Vegetation is green across most parts of the country

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

### **2.1 Djibouti**

No locusts were reported.

### **2.2 Eritrea**

A few isolated solitarious adults were present on the central Red Sea Coast

### **2.3 Ethiopia**

In December the desert locust situation continued to remain calm through out its usual breeding habitats in eastern parts of Ethiopia. Overall the ecological conditions have also been getting dry and unfavorable in the spring breeding habitats throughout eastern Ethiopia and not suitable for locust activity.

### **2.4 Somalia**

No Desert Locust was found during survey carried out and no reports of locusts received from the local sources.

### **2.5 Sudan**

Survey operations were carried out in the Red Sea Coast during 18- 27th of December 2011, covered areas of Central part, Tokar Delta and some parts south of Tokar, total surveyed area was 22100 ha, no desert Locust was detected.

## 2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions

*(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 399)*

**Central Region:** A few scattered adults were reported during December in the winter breeding areas along the Red sea Coast in Sudan, Eritrea, Saud Arabia, and Yemen. No locusts were seen during survey carried out in Egypt, Northern Somalia and Oman. Light rain fell on the coast in Sudan where ecological conditions were becoming favorable. Favorable conditions were also present along the Red Sea Coast in Yemen and along eastern coast in Oman. During forecast period, small scale breeding is likely occurring in these places as well as any other areas that receive rainfall. This will cause locust numbers to increase slightly but remain below threatening levels. No significant developments are likely in the region during the forecast period.

**Western Region:** Mainly dry conditions prevailed during December and very little rain fell except in Niger where good rains fell at mid-month in the Air Mountains. Small-scale breeding was in progress there and limited breeding is likely to continue during the forecast period. In Mauritania, locust number declined in northwest where only isolated adults persisted in a few places. In Morocco, no locusts were seen south of Atlas mountains in the Draa valley and in Western Sahara. In Algeria, no locusts were seen during survey but vegetation was becoming green in parts of the southern Sahara. No significant developments are likely in the region during the forecast period.

**Eastern Region:** Dry conditions prevailed throughout the region during December. Isolated solitarious Adults were seen at one place on the coast in western Pakistan. If light to moderate showers occur during the forecast period in the spring breeding areas of western Pakistan and southeast Iran, then small scale breeding is likely to take place but locust numbers are expected to remain low and below threatening levels.

## 3.0 Forecast until mid-November 2011

### 3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.2 Eritrea

Small-scale breeding will occur on the Red Sea coastal plains in areas that receive rainfall, mainly between Massawa and the Sudanese border. Consequently, locust numbers will increase slightly below threatening levels.

### 3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.4 Somalia

Small – scale breeding could occur on northwest coast if rain falls during the forecast period. No significant development is likely.

### 3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding is expected to occur in areas of green vegetation on the southern coast between Suakin and the Eritrean Border, including the Tokar Delta. Consequently, locust numbers will increase slightly.

### Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

The countries 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**

Quelea infestation not reported.

#### **4.1.2 Kenya**

Quelea infestation not reported.

#### **4.1.3 Ethiopia**

Quelea infestation not reported.

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

Except there was information of early Armyworm infestation in the Kenya, the region remained free from Armyworm infestations.

## **SIFO**

**For Director,**  
04 December, 2011

For more information about the Organization,  
please visit DLCO-EA's Website:  
[www.dlcoea.org.et](http://www.dlcoea.org.et)