

# DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

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



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**SITREP No. 01/2011-2012**

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



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

**Central Region:** The ITCZ remained further south than normal over Sudan during the first two decades of July. Consequently, good rains fell south of El Fasher, El Obeid and Kassala. During the second decade, good rains fell slightly further north of these locations. Moderate to heavy rains fell locally in parts of Darfur. Consequently, vegetation was becoming green in many areas. In Yemen, good rains fell in the summer breeding areas of the interior between Shabwah and Thamud, including the plateau north of Wadi Hadhramaut and the southern coast near Mukalla during the first decade. Light rains fell at times along parts of the Red Sea coast. Vegetation was becoming green along the central Red Sea coast and in parts of the plateau north of Wadi Hdhramaut. (FAO DL bulletin No. 394)

#### **1.1 Djibouti**

Report not received.

#### **1.2 Eritrea**

On the highlands, apart from light showers and drizzles, no significant rainfall occurred for the

first and half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> decades. However, during the second half and third decade, light to medium rainfalls occurred in wider areas on the highlands.

**Rainfall Asmara station**  
(1520N/3855E)

<b>Date</b>	<b>(mm)</b>
18/07/2011	21.0
26/07/2011	10.0
27/07/2011	18.0
30/07/2011	23.0
31/07/2011	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>74.0</b>

Reports were also received from various areas that light to medium rains were experienced in many locations to the South of Asmara. No rainfall was reported from coastal & sub-coastal areas, which were reported as having hot weather.

Vegetation on the highlands and western lowlands were greening and green with early stage crops growing. The eastern lowlands were reported dry and no rainfall occurred.

Average maximum and minimum temperature for Massawa and Assab were 42.5/29 and 35/26 Degree Centigrade respectively.

Prevailing wind was South Easterlies at 0.5 m/sec

### 1.3 Ethiopia

During July, the eastern parts of the country remained warm and humid though, there was moderate rainfall reported during the second decade of the month in some parts of those locations, and the eastern mid- and highlands as well. As a result, further greening of vegetation was reported, mainly in the lowland areas between Dire Dawa and the Djibouti border. These areas are known as the main Desert Locust breeding locations.

During the month, there was enough rainfall reported in most of the other parts of the country while, the summer locust breeding lowland areas in the northwestern received only limited amount of rain during the month. Vegetation in Dire Dawa and its surrounding lowland areas was green due to the rains that occurred in the past couple of months.

**Rainfall Dire Dawa station**  
(0936N/4150E)

Date	(mm)
13/07/2011	29.4
17/07/2011	4.8
18/07/2011	2.6
21/07/2011	2.2
23/07/2011	1.3
24/07/2011	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.4</b>

### 1.4 Kenya

Morning hours were mostly cold and unusual medium to heavy rains fell during the first and third dekad of July, mainly in the Central, Western, Rift Valley and the Coastal areas of the country. Vegetation remained green and continued greening in wider areas where rains fell.

### 1.5 Somalia

During the first and second decade of July, low to heavy rainfalls were reported in the

northwestern and in the central parts of the country. Thunderstorms and lightening claimed six lives and damage of many farms was reported in Allaybaday and Sabowanaag districts in the northwestern and eastern parts of Hargeisa. There was also death of people, animals and property damage reported in Mogadishou and surrounding areas due to heavy rains and floods.

Low to medium rains fell in most parts of the sub-coastal areas including Borama (094638N/431033E) and the surrounding areas. Other coastal areas in the north remained dry except of some low precipitation. Vegetation was drying out in most parts in the north except of some, which are green in the above mentioned areas due to the rainfalls that occurred.

### 1.6 Sudan

Ground survey was conducted covering wider summer locust breeding areas. It was reported that by the 3<sup>rd</sup> decade of the month, light to moderate rain fell at times in those areas and vegetation was found greening to green. Soil was also reported wet giving favourable ecological conditions for locusts to breed.

### 1.7 Tanzania

The country is facing a very dry and cold weather condition and most crops have or being harvested.

### 1.8 Uganda

The country continued to record scattered, but heavy rains characterized by thunderstorms, hails storms, and lightening. The middle of the month was characterized by a dry spell in the Central region, and other parts of the country, but it started raining again by end of the month. During July, it was reported that loss of human lives, farm animals, and damage of crops and vegetation continued to occur due to thunderstorms and lightening. On 11<sup>th</sup> July, over 200 acres of crops were destroyed by heavy storms in Adjumani District in Northern

Uganda. There were also related press reports in other parts of the Country.

The 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**

No locusts were seen during a survey conducted by PPD on 29-30 June in the southern part of the western lowlands. No locusts were also reported during July.

### **2.3 Ethiopia**

No locusts were reported

### **2.4 Somalia**

No locusts were reported during July.

### **2.5 Sudan**

Ground surveys were conducted by PPD staff in the summer locust breeding areas around Umm Sailya (1426N/3112E), Ed Dueim (1400N/3220E), near Khartoum (1533N/3235E), Merowe (1830N/3149E), Haiya (1820N/3621E), and Kassala (1527N/3623E) during 25-31<sup>st</sup> of July 2011, covering 44,370 ha. Out of which, 270 ha were found infested with mature solitary, isolated and scattered adults. Density ranged from 50- 200 individuals/ ha.

## **2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions**

*(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 394)*

**Central Region:** Scattered adults are likely to be present north of Wadi Hdhramaut in Yemen and no locusts were seen in the spring breeding areas in the interior of Saudi Arabia.

**Western Region:** Ground control operations were carried out against locally bred hopper and adult groups that persisted during July in

the central Sahara of Algeria (70 ha), northern Morocco (672 ha), and in the Western Sahara (3,756 ha). Low numbers of mature solitary adults began to appear in the summer breeding areas in the Sahel in West Africa. Isolated adults were seen in parts of central and southern Mauritania and in western and northern Niger.

**Eastern Region:** Ground teams treated 210 ha of hopper and adult groups in northern Baluchistan, Pakistan in early July but it was uncertain if these infestations were Desert Locust. Locust numbers decline elsewhere in Baluchistan while they increased in the summer breeding areas along the Indo-Pakistan border, primarily in Cholistan, Pakistan and to a lesser extent in Rajasthan, India. Small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase further along both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border during the forecast period.

## **3.0 Forecast until mid-September 2011**

### **3.1 Djibouti**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.2 Eritrea**

Small-scale breeding is expected to occur in areas of recent rainfall in the western lowlands, causing locus numbers to increase along Khor Barka. Regular surveys should be carried out until the autumn.

### **3.3 Ethiopia**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.4 Somalia**

No significant developments are likely.

### **3.5 Sudan**

Small-scale breeding will occur and low numbers of hoppers will present in parts of North Darfur, North Kordofan, White Nile, River Nile, Northern, Kassala and Red Sea States. Consequently, locust numbers will increase in these areas.

### 3.6 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

During July, *Quelea quelea* outbreak was reported and controlled in Northern Zone; Manyara Region.

A DLCO-EA Aircraft sprayed 8 roosts having an estimated 14.5 million birds, which were roosting on 115 ha of *Acacia* trees. 725 liters of Queletox was sprayed achieving an average 97% of bird mortality. Control operation utilized 4:55 hours of spray time and crop saved from birds attack was Sorghum.

#### 4.1.2 Kenya

##### Late report

A DLCO-EA Aircraft has been deployed to control *Quelea* infestations that are reported attacking Wheat crop in Narok district, in the Rift Valley Zone.

##### **Narok**

On 20<sup>th</sup> June, 37 ha of roosting site was sprayed with 60 liters of Queletox.

On 21<sup>st</sup> June, 27 ha of roosting site was sprayed with 60 liters of Queletox.

##### **Siaya**

On 27<sup>th</sup> of June, 62.5 ha of roosting site at Seka was sprayed using 60 liters of Queletox.

On 28<sup>th</sup> of June, control operation continued in the same area at Luanda and 55.4 ha of roosting site was sprayed using 60 liters of Queletox.

On 30<sup>th</sup> of June 38 ha of roosting site at Ogongo was sprayed using 40 liters of Queletox.

**During July** *Quelea* control operation continued in Dominion farm and on 5<sup>th</sup> of the month, 50.5 ha of roosting site was sprayed with 50 liters of Queletox. On 6<sup>th</sup> 13.2 ha of roost at Weir was sprayed with 10 liters of Queletox.

On 7<sup>th</sup> 25 ha of roost at Goro was sprayed using 25 liters of Queletox and on 9<sup>th</sup> 47 ha of roost at Achuodho was sprayed using 40 liters of Queletox.

On 10<sup>th</sup> 33.4 ha of roosting site at Matera was sprayed using 30 liters of Queletox.

#### 4.1.3 Ethiopia

*Quelea* infestation was not reported.

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

#### 4.2.1 Tanzania

Infestation not reported.

#### 4.2.2 Kenya

Report not received.

#### 4.2.3 Ethiopia

The Armyworm outbreak that occurred since May in the eastern parts has subsided and moved farther into the interior and north of the country. Several locations in Amhara, Tigray and central Oromiya Regional States have seen various levels of infestations of the worms since the end of June and early July.

However, details of the infestation and control operation reports had not been received during the reporting period.

### Forecast until end of August, 2011

Minor Armyworm infestations are expected to continue in the northwestern and northern parts of Ethiopia, likely up-to the second decade of the month.

Same situations are also likely to occur in the central and northern highlands of Eritrea, but will continue to occur until the end of the month. Therefore, regular monitoring of moth traps, pasture and field crops is highly advised.

**CIFO**

**For Director,**  
04 August, 2011

For more information about the organization,  
please visit DLCO-EA's Website:

[www.dlcoea.org.et](http://www.dlcoea.org.et)