

# DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

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



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**SITREP No. 04/2012-2013**

## DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

OCTOBER, 2012



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

**In the Central Region**, the ITCZ continued to move south over the summer breeding areas in the interior of Sudan during October. By the end of the month, it had reached Southern Darfur and Southern kordofan. Vegetation was becoming green in Tokar Delta, Sudan and near Jizan, Saudi Arabia but remained dry elsewhere along both sides of the Red Sea. In the Horn of Africa, heavy rains fell at the end of the month on the northwest coast of Somalia between Berbera and Lughaye. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 409*)

#### **Djibouti**

Report not received.

#### **1.1 Eritrea**

Late report indicated that rainfall had occurred in the western lowlands of the country during September that continued to mid- of October. Heavy rainfalls were also reported during October in the Southern and Mae'kel Regions in the central highlands of the country. Despite of some rainfalls that occurred, vegetation continued drying out steadily in all regions of the country.

#### **1.2 Ethiopia**

Generally, the weather and ecological conditions during October had remained mostly dry and warm, with light rains reported in some very few localized areas in the eastern parts of the country.

There has been also moderate to heavy rainfall that occurred in the western parts. Annual vegetation was dry in most parts of the eastern lowlands, while it was drying in Wadis and low-laying areas. However, perennial vegetation in the locust prone areas in the eastern parts and in the Rift Valley remained green or partially drying.

#### **Rainfall record at Dire-Dawa rainfall station**

<b>Date</b>	<b>(0936N/04150E) Rainfall in mm</b>
22/10/12	trace

#### **1.3 Kenya**

During October, mostly hot and windy weather conditions prevailed in most parts of the country. Build-up of heavy rain clouds was also observed, and moderate to

heavy rains fell at times in some of the central, Rift Valley and Western parts of the country. In some of the areas where rainfall had occurred, annual vegetation had started greening while perennial vegetation were partially green.

#### 1.4 Somalia

The northwestern regions of the country received light and localized rainfalls during the month except for the last days of the month where parts of Sool and Sahil regions received very heavy torrential rains.

The northeastern, central and southern regions had received light to moderate and some heavy rains as the first downpour of the Deyr season commenced mostly in these regions.

Vegetation was reported green in many parts of the northwestern regions, mainly in the plateau and parts of Haud, while the northeastern and southern regions remained dry except in the central region, where it had steadily improved and many parts were observed green.

Some of the rainfalls that had been occurred were recorded and are tabulated below;

##### Some of the rainfall data reported (mm)

Date	Galka'a yo	Mandher a	Ga'an- Libah	Xud un	Ceel- Afwey n
10/10/12	-	4.0	-	-	-
12/10/12	60.7	-	-	-	-
14/10/12	11.1	-	-	-	-
15/10/12	54.6	-	-	-	-
17/10/12	-	2.2	-	-	-
21/10/12	-	2.0	-	-	-
23/10/12	-	-	30.0	-	-
27/10/12	-	-	-	12.0	12.0
28/10/12	-	-	25.0	18.0	15.0
29/10/12	-	-	-	20.0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>126.4</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>27.0</b>

#### 1.5 Sudan

Light rain fell early in October in West Darfur and in the central areas between Umm Saiyala, Ed Dueim, Khartoum and the Atbara River. Vegetation was drying out in most places except for northwest of Khartoum. In the winter breeding

areas, vegetation was becoming green in the Tokar Delta.

#### 1.6 Tanzania

The short rains, which normally start in mid-October, were late and started at the end of the month in most parts of the country.

Vegetation remained dry in larger parts of the country.

#### 1.7 Uganda

Report not received.

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

#### 2.1 Djibouti

No reports were received during October.

#### 2.2 Eritrea

No locusts were reported during October.

#### 2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported during October.

#### 2.4 Somalia

No locusts were reported during October.

#### 2.5 Sudan

During October, small-scale breeding was detected in Northern Kordofan enar Abu Uruq (1554N/3027E) where hoppers and adults were forming groups, and in Baiyuda Desert northwest of Shendi (1641N/3322E). Breeding continued in northwest of Khartoum near Wadi Muqaddam where groups of adults were laying eggs and hoppers were forming small groups and bands. Control teams treated 1,804 ha from 1 to 21 October. Scattered mature solitarious adults persisted in Northern Kordofan near

Sodiri (1423N/2906E) and Umm Saiyala (1426N/3112E) and in the Northern State near Dongola (1910N/3027E). From mid-month onwards, an increasing number of mature solitarious adults appeared on the western side of the Red Sea Hills near Haiya (1820N/3621E) as well as in the winter breeding areas in the northeast near Tomala (2002N/3551E) and Wadi Oko, and in Tokar Delta on the Red Sea coast. (FAO DL bulletin No. 409)

## 2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions

(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 409)

**Central Region:** Low numbers of adults moved from the summer breeding areas in Sudan to the winter breeding areas in the northeast and along the Red Sea coast of the country. Isolated adults were present in southern Egypt and on the Red Sea coast of Yemen. During the forecast period, small-scale breeding will commence on the coastal plains along both sides of the Red Sea, primarily in Sudan and, to a lesser extent, in Egypt, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia and Yemen in those areas that received rainfall. No locusts were reported elsewhere in the region.

**Western Region:** A second generation of breeding continued during October in northern Niger and Chad causing locust numbers to increase further in both countries. National teams treated 1,800 ha of hopper bands and swarms in Chad, and more than 7,500 ha of hopper bands and groups of hoppers and adults in Niger. The locust situation in northern Mali is probably similar to that in Niger and Chad but it remains unclear because survey and control teams cannot access the area due to insecurity. During November, more adult groups and small swarms are expected to form in the three countries and migrate northwards to Libya and Algeria, as well as west towards northwest Mauritania where small-scale breeding is already in progress and nearly 3,000 ha of hopper and adult groups were treated in October. There is a moderate risk that some locusts could reach the Western Sahara where local breeding is underway in western Algeria. Elsewhere, low numbers of adults were present

in central, southern and southeastern Algeria and northeast Morocco.

**Eastern Region:** Low numbers of solitarious adults persisted along the Indian border in Pakistan and in a few places in Rajasthan, India during October. No significant developments are likely.

## 3.0 Forecast until mid-December, 2012

### 3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.2 Eritrea

Low numbers of solitarious adults may appear in the winter breeding areas along the central and northern Red Sea coast. Small-scale breeding will occur in those areas that receive rainfall during the forecast period.

### 3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

### 3.4 Somalia

Isolated adults may appear in areas of recent rainfall on the northwest coast and eventually breed on small-scale if more rains occur.

### 3.5 Sudan

Small groups of adults are likely to form in parts of the summer breeding area and move to the winter breeding areas in the northeast and along the Red Sea coast. Upon arrival, the adults will mature and lay eggs in those areas that receive rainfall. Consequently, small-scale hatching is expected to cause locust numbers to increase

slightly in the winter breeding areas during the forecast period.

### **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**

Quelea infestation was not reported during October.

#### **4.1.2 Kenya**

Quelea outbreaks and infestations were reported in Narok, in the Rift Valley region and in the western parts of the country during October. Consequently, a DLCOEA spray Aircraft was deployed and conducted control operations in both areas however, details of the operations were not received during this reporting period.

#### **4.1.3 Eritrea**

##### **Late report:**

During September, Quelea birds outbreak and infestation were occurred in the sub-zone of Goluj in Gerset (1452N 3642E) and Dresä (1448N3628E) locations.

Birds were reported roosting on Acacia trees, bushes and Sugar Cane plantation feeding on Sorghum and Pearl-Millet crops.

Consequently, the MoA had deployed a spray Aircraft and an estimated of 9.75 million birds, which were roosting on an estimated of 168.75 ha were sprayed with 675 liters of Queletox 60% ULV

Mortality rate was estimated 98% and the efficiency was excellent where no birds were detected or reported after the spray.

#### **4.1.4 Ethiopia**

Quelea infestations were reported in several locations in the Oromiya region in eastern Shoa zone during October. Consequently, a DLCO-EA spray Aircraft was deployed and an estimated of 22 million birds in roosts and colonies were controlled between 7<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Birds were roosting on 550 hectares of Typha grasses at Endokontolla, Sheled, Tute, Dodota and Gogetgoro localities, and 1,250 liters of Avicide was sprayed to control them.

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

No infestation was reported from the region.

### **Forecast during November**

No major developments are likely.

### **4.3 Tsetse fly**

No reports received.

## **CIFO**

**For Director,**

05 November, 2012

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