DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

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

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SITREP No. 12/2012-2013

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

JUNE, 2013

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, the ITCZ was well north of 15N in Sudan by the end of June which is further than usual. Consequently, seasonal rains commenced in parts of the summer breeding areas in Kordofan, Darfur and the White Nile States. Light rains also fell in a few places of the western lowlands of Eritrea. Nevertheless, vegetation remained dry and unfavorable for breeding in both countries. In Egypt, vegetation was drying out in all areas except near irrigated crops. In Yemen, green vegetation and favorable breeding conditions were present in the main Wadis of Shabwah and Hadhramaut in the interior summer breeding areas. Light rains also fell in some other places. Good rains fell in the interior of northern Oman and vegetation was green. *(FAO DL bulletin No. 417)*

Djibouti

Report not received.

1.1 Eritrea

Good summer rain has started in both the central highlands and western lowlands of the country.

With the onset of the long rains, it is expected that ecological conditions to improve in the summer breeding areas along Eritrea/Sudanese boarder and be favorable for locust developments.

1.2 Ethiopia

The rainfall amount increased in its distribution and intensity in the second dekad and towards the end of June in most parts of the country. Consequently, light to heavy rains with a wider coverage fell in the western half and the eastern highlands, and moderate amount of rains fell in the eastern lowlands and in all the spring Desert Locust breeding areas of the country.

Annual and perennial vegetation have remained green in the eastern lowland areas and the Rift Valley where solitary populations of Desert Locusts could breed.

The following rainfall data is obtained from Dire Dawa meteorological station:

Date	Dire Dawa (0936N/04150E) Rainfall in mm
13/06/2013	Trace

14/06/2013	Trace
15/06/2013	0.2
23/06/2013	3.6
27/06/2013	Trace
Total	-----

1.3 Kenya

During June, most parts of the country experienced cloudy and cold weather conditions with some sparsely distributed drizzling.
Perennial and annual vegetations remained green across most parts of the country during the month.

1.4 Somalia

The weather and ecological conditions in the northern parts of the country generally remained rainless and dry during most days of the month except for some localized areas that received light to moderate rains. The vegetation in the potential locust breeding habitats mainly in the coastal areas remained dry, while on the plateau and escarpment it remained green to drying.

Rainfall record during June for some stations

Date	Hargeisa	Oodweyne	Erygavo	Dhubato	Gabiley
01			28.5		
02			10.0		
03					24.0
05				3.5	
07	2.0				
08	5.0				
11			7.0		
12			12.0		
23				5.0	
24				11.0	
25		6.0			
26		7.0			
27	12.0				
28	2.0				
Total	**21.0**	**13.0**	**57.5**	**19.5**	**24.0**

1.5 Sudan

During June, vegetation was green in the cultivated cropping farms along the River Nile stretching from Khartoum up to the Northern States. All Desert Locust summer breeding areas have received light to moderate amount of rainfall showers and vegetation has started greening and soil was moist, which created favorable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

1.6 Tanzania

During June, most parts of the country remained dry and windy.
Vegetation was reported drying up in most parts of the country, but Arusha, Kilimanjaro, the Southern highlands and Manyara have remained green.

1.7 Uganda

It has been mostly dry and hot in most parts of the Country, with scattered showers and thunderstorms recorded in some parts of the country at the beginning and towards the end of the month.
The vegetation situation was reported very green across most parts of the Country.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

Report not received.

2.2 Eritrea

No surveys were conducted and no locusts were reported.

2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported during June.

2.4 Somalia

Ground survey operation was conducted during 24 to 29 of June covering Boroma(09,57N/43,09E), Berbera(10,26N/45,00E), Hargeisa (09, 34N/44,07E) and the localities along the Ethio-Somali-Djibouti

border. During the survey, ecological conditions were found unfavorable for locust breeding and no locusts were found.

2.5 Sudan

1. Khartoum State

2,400 ha were surveyed by ground and 190 ha were found infested with mature solitarious and scattered adults. Density was estimated 200 – 250 adults/ha.

2. River Nile state

19,400 ha were surveyed and 170 ha along the banks of the Atbara River, irrigated schemes of the River Nile near Berber, Eldamer and the cultivated areas north of Abu Hamed have been found infested with scattered, immature and mature solitary adults. Densities varied from 50–400 adults/ transect. Vegetation status was green and soil wet.

3. The Northern State

9,400 ha were surveyed and 16 ha have been found infested with low densities of mature solitary adults in cultivated farms near Eddeba and south of Wadi Halfa. Vegetation status was green and soil wet.

2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions *(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 417)*

Central Region: Groups of immature adults continued to form during June in the Sinai, northwest Saudi Arabia and mostly likely in western Israel. The groups as well as several small swarms moved south through Israel, Jordan and Saudi Arabia to the interior of Yemen. A few groups appeared on the Red coast in Saudi Arabia flying towards Sudan. Small groups and swarms were also in the western Desert in Egypt. Control operation continued in Saudi Arabia and Egypt but could not been undertaken in Yemen due to beekeepers and insecurity. During the forecast period, there is a risk that a few more groups and perhaps small swarms may move from the interior of Saudi Arabia to Yemen and Sudan. Similarly, a few small groups may also move from Egypt to Sudan. Consequently, initial locust numbers will be higher than normal in the vast summer breeding areas of Sudan where at least one generation of breeding will occur, causing locust numbers to increase further. Breeding is also expected to occur in the interior of Yemen where hopper bands are likely to form

Western Region: Hoppers and adults continued to form during June in the spring breeding areas south of the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and Algeria as well as in parts of southern and southwest Libya. Control operations were in progress in the three countries. As vegetation continued to dry out, an increasing number of groups and perhaps a few small swarms are likely to form and move south to the summer breeding areas in the southern Sahel of Mauritania, Mali, Chad and Niger in July. So far only local breeding has occurred in the Air Mountains of Niger and scattered adults appeared on the Tamesna Plains in June. Once the seasonal rains commence in the Sahel, breeding will cause locust numbers to increase in southern Mauritania, northern Mali and Niger and in the north east and central Chad.

Eastern Region: Small-scale breeding continued during June in the Jaz Murian Basin in southeast Iran where low numbers of hoppers were present. Unusually good rains fell on the summer breeding areas on both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border. Consequently, ecological conditions will become favorable and small-scale breeding will cause locust numbers to increase in Pakistan and India.

3.0 Forecast until mid-August, 2013

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Low numbers of adults are likely to appear in the western lowlands and breed in areas of

recent rainfall, causing locust numbers to increase.

3.3 Ethiopia

No significant developments are likely.

3.4 Somalia

No significant developments are likely.

3.5 Sudan

There remains a low to moderate risk that a few groups and perhaps small swarms may appear during early July in the summer breeding area between Chad and Eritrea. Breeding will cause locust numbers to increase in Darfur, North Kordofan, White Nile, Khartoum and Kassala States.

3.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

The countries are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestations.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

4.1 Red-billed Quelea birds (Quelea quelea sp.)

4.1.1 Tanzania

A DLCO-EA spray aircraft continued control of Quelea birds infestations during June in different regions of the country as presented below;

1. Morogoro Region (Central Zone)

- On 7th of June, colonies of 2.0 million birds on 25 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0614S/3739E) using 75 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Millet and Rice crops.
- On 8th of June, colonies of 1.5 million birds on 20 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (061S/3742E) using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Millet and Rice crops.
- On 9th of the month, roosts of 2.5 million birds on 15 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0613/3740E) using 75 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice and Millet crops.
- On 10th of June, roosts of 1.5 million birds on 25 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0615S/3733E) using 75 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice & Millet crops.
- On 11th of June, colonies of 1.5 million birds on 25 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0611S/3737E) using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice & Millet crops.
- On 12th of June, colonies of 3.0 million birds on 20 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0612S/3740E) using 75 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice and Millet crops.
- On 13th of June, colonies of 3.5 million birds on 30 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0602S/3744E) using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice and Millet crops.
- On 14th of June, colonies of 1.5 million birds on 20 ha of Sugar Cane were controlled at Mvomero (0616S/3734E) using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice and Millet crops.

4.1.2 Kenya

A DLCO-EA Aircraft have been deployed in Narok County, in the Rift Valley area and Kisumu in the western parts to control Quelea infestations during June. However, details of the operations conducted were not received during this reporting period.

4.1.3 Eritrea

Report not received.

4.1.4 Ethiopia

Quelea infestation not reported.

4.2 African Armyworm *(Spodoptera exempta)*

4.2.1 Tanzania

No outbreaks were reported.

4.2.2 Kenya

Report not received.

4.2.3 Ethiopia

The Armyworm outbreaks that occurred in the southern, eastern and central parts of the country have been brought under control before any significant damages have been caused to crops and pasture. The control operation is being carried out by ground teams through the joint efforts of the MoA, the respective Bureaus of Agriculture (BoA) and the communities living in the outbreak areas. However, the outbreak has progressed to the northern and northwestern parts of the country towards the end of June.

Forecast during July 2013

It is expected that as the rainfall and storms progress to the north more migrations of moths likely to continue and cover wider areas in the northern and northwestern parts of Ethiopia, and to the southern and Gash Barka regions of Eritrea. Therefore, it is advisable to continue monitoring and organizing survey operations in order to detect and control early outbreaks mainly in suspected and traditional breeding locations.

4.3 Tsetse fly

No infestation reports received.

CIFO

For Director,

04 July, 2013

For more information about the Organization, please visit DLCO-EA's Website: **www.dlcoea.org. et**