

DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA

..... DLCO-EA)



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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

MAY, 2013



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region, good rains fell over the Arabian Peninsula during the first decade of May. Rainfall was heaviest in the Empty Quarter from south of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to Hazar, Yemen. Lighter showers fell in the interior of Yemen and in northern Oman. As a result, vegetation was becoming green in several wadis in the Hadhramaut and Shabwah regions in Yemen and in Shariqiya, Oman. Good rains fell over the southern Sinai Peninsula where small areas of green vegetation were present in some wadis. Good rains fell at times in the Eritrean highlands, eastern Ethiopia, Djibouti and adjacent areas of northern Somalia. Vegetation became green over large areas of the Somali plateau and adjacent areas of the Somali region in eastern Ethiopia. In northern Sudan, ecological conditions remained dry and unfavorable for breeding except in or near cultivated areas along the Nile Valley between the Atbara River and the Egyptian border. At the end of the month, heavy showers fell in the southern highlands of Yemen, extending to the southern coastal plains of the Red Sea. Heavy rains also fell on the eastern coast of Oman near Duqum. (FAO DL bulletin No. 416)

Djibouti

Report not received.

1.1 Eritrea

Report not received.

1.2 Ethiopia

There has been light to heavy rainfall occurred in much of the country during May and significant amount of rains also fell in almost all the spring Desert Locust breeding areas in the eastern parts. This situation has been extended to the Afar region and to the borders of Djibouti and northern Somalia. Although, the rainfall amount decreased in its distribution and intensity during the second decade and towards the end of the month in the east, however it continued as it was in early May in the central and western parts of the country. Vegetation was green in almost all areas of the country, where rainfall has occurred, including in the Rift Valley areas and the eastern lowlands.

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

Date	Dire Dawa (0936N/04150E) Rainfall in mm
03/05/13	1.2
04/05/13	1.2
05/05/13	trace
06/05/13	2.2
10/05/13	19.0
14/05/13	0.5
Total	24.1

1.3 Kenya

During the beginning of May, light to medium rains fell in some parts, mainly in the coastal, Rift Valley and western parts of the country.

Perennial and annual vegetations remained very green across most parts of the country during the month.

1.4 Somalia

During May, the rainfall intensity and distribution has greatly subsided comparing to the previous month. Nevertheless, low to moderate amount of rain fell in many parts of the northwestern, eastern, central/and southern regions of the country.

Consequently, annual, biennial and perennial vegetation turned very green and created conducive environment for Desert Locust and other Migratory Pests breeding.

Rainfall record during May for some stations

Date	Hargeisa	Oodweyne	Balli-Gubadle	Dhubato	Gabilay
02/	-	-	-	7.5	-
03/	7.0	-	-	5.0	2.0
04	-	-	-	4.5	-
05/	-	-	30.0	-	24.0
06/	2.0	2.5	90.0	-	-
07/	-	34.0	0.5	-	32.0
08/	15.0	-	-	-	-
09	-	-	-	13.5	-
11/	4.0	-	-	-	-
14/	-	6.0	-	-	-
Total	28.0	42.5	120.5	30.5	58.0

1.5 Sudan

During May, ecological conditions remained favorable for DL breeding in cultivated areas along the Nile Valley in River Nile and the Northern States. However, drying conditions prevailed in the other summer breeding areas despite the occurrence of some showers during the second half of May in Khartoum, White Nile, West Darfur and North Kordofan States.

1.6 Tanzania

During May, heavy rains were received along the coastal belt e.g. Dar-es-Salaam & Pwani regions, while moderate rains were received in the Lake Zone. The rest of the country remained hot and dry. Vegetation was reported drying up in most parts of the country.

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 end of the month. The vegetation was very green in most parts of the Country.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

Report not received.

2.2 Eritrea

Late report

During April 1,060 hectares of cropland was found infested with transient hoppers and has been treated successfully in the Sub-Zoba Afabet, in the Northern Red Sea region at Embre (166433N/390969E).

Pest situation report for May has not been received during the compilation of this report.

2.3 Ethiopia

No locusts were reported

2.4 Somalia

No locusts were reported during May.

2.5 Sudan

1. The Northern state

45,300 ha were surveyed by ground and 1,456 ha were found infested with 3rd to 5th instar hopper bands and fledglings at Wadi Halfa (2147N/3122E). Ground control operation was conducted during early May on 1,412 ha and 706 liters of insecticide has been used to contain the infestation. Low densities of scattered solitarious/gregarious adults were also observed in some of other locations.

2. River Nile state

10,300 ha were surveyed along the Nile Valley and only 18 ha near Abu Hamed (1932N/3320E) were reported infested with low densities of mature/immature scattered solitarious adults.

2.6 Situation in Other countries & Regions *(Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 416)*

Central Region: Groups of immature adults and a few small swarms formed during May from hopper groups and bands in northwest Saudi Arabia. Several mature adult groups moved to the interior and laid eggs near irrigated areas that should hatch by early June, causing hopper groups and perhaps a few small bands to form. Hopper groups and bands were present on both sides of the border in Sinai, Egypt and Negev Desert in Israel where small groups of immature adults formed by the end of May. Hopper groups were also present near Lake Nasser in Egypt. In northern Sudan, hopper bands and fledglings were reported in the Nile Valley near Egypt but declined during May. Aerial and ground control operations were in progress in Saudi Arabia and Israel, while

ground control was carried out in Egypt and Sudan.

Western Region: Hopper groups and bands continued to form during May in the spring breeding areas south of the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and Algeria as well as in parts of southern and southwest Libya. By the end of the month, fledging commenced and immature adults formed a few small groups. Adult groups and perhaps few small swarms are likely to form as vegetation dries out, and move to the summer breeding areas in the northern Sahel of Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Chad in June. In Niger, small-scale breeding occurred during May in the Air Mountains where fledging is expected after mid-June. There is a slight risk that a few adult groups may also appear in Chad or perhaps Niger from northern Sudan.

Eastern Region: Small-scale breeding occurred during May in the Jaz Murian Basin in southeast Iran where a few small groups may form in June.

3.0 Forecast until mid-July, 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 on a small scale with the onset of the seasonal rains.

3.3 Ethiopia

Scattered adults may be present in areas of recent rainfall in parts of the Somali region..

3.4 Somalia

Low numbers of locusts may be present and breeding on a small scale in areas of recent rainfall on the plateau between Boroma and Erigavo.

3.5 Sudan

There remains a low t
few groups and perha

form in the Nile Valley from undetected infestations. Adult groups and perhaps a few small swarms from northern Sudan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia may appear in the summer breeding areas where they will disperse between Darfur and Kassala and breed with the onset of the seasonal rains.

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 May in different regions of the country as presented below;

1. Shinyanga Region (Western Zone)

- On 29th of April, mixed roost/colonies of 0.8 million birds on 50 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled at Mwakala NGA (0353S/3323E) using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Sorghum and Rice crops.
- On 1st of May, mixed roost/colonies of 1.5 million birds on 65 ha of Reeds and *Acacia* trees were controlled at Kishapu (0351S/3332E) using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Sorghum and Rice crops. In Shinyanga district a colony of 0.8 million birds on 15 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled at Galampa (0341S/3321E) using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 2nd of May, mixed of roost/colony of 2.0 million birds on 60 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled at Shinyanga Rural (0322S/3247E) using

70 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop. At Manoge (0327S/3244) mixed of roosts/colony of 2.0 million birds on 40 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop. At Nyasubi (0324S/3246) mixed of roosts/colony of 1.0 million birds on 15 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.

- On 5th of May, mixed of roost/colony of 1.5 million birds on 50 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled at Sengerema (0253S/3244E) using 75 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 9th of May, mixed of roost/colony of 6.0 million birds on 60 ha of *Acacia* trees were controlled at Kishapu (0354S/3359E) using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice, Sorghum and Millet crops.
- On 10th of May, re-spray was done at Kishapu on mixed of roost/colony of 1.5 million birds on 65 ha of Reeds using 100 liters of Avicide.

2. Mbeya Region (Southern Zone)

- On 22nd of May, roosts of 2.0 million birds on 70 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 23rd of May, roosts of 4.0 million birds on 120 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali/Kapungai-I using 200 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 24th of May, roosts of 2.5 million birds on 120 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali/Kapungai-III using 150 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 25th of May, roosts of 2.0 million birds on 80 ha of Reeds/*Acacia* trees were controlled at Mbarali/Isonura using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 26th of May, roosts of 2.0 million birds on 60 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali/Mbarali using 75 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.

- On 27th of May, roosts of 1.5 million birds on 80 ha of Reeds/Acacia trees were controlled at Mbarali/Isunura using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 28th of May, roosts of 4.5 million birds on 150 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali/Madibira-I using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On th of May, roosts of 3.0 million birds on 120 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali/Madibira II using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.
- On 30th of May, roosts of 2.0 million birds on 120 ha of Reeds were controlled at Mbarali/Madibira -III using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Rice crop.

3. Manyara Region

- On 12th of May, colony of 3.0 million birds on 36 ha of Acacia trees were controlled at Hanang/Basuto using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Wheat crop.
- On 13th of May, colony of 3.3 million birds on 26 ha of Acacia trees were controlled at Hanang/Warret using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Wheat crop.
- On 14th of May, roosts of 1.5 million birds on 20 ha of Acacia trees were controlled at Hanang/Basuto using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Wheat crop.
- On 17th of May, roosts of 6.5 million birds on 43 ha of Pigeon Peas were controlled at Babati/Galapo using 100 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Sorghum crop.
- On 18th of May, roosts of 1.2 million birds on 25 ha of Acacia trees were controlled at Hanang/Basuto-III using 50 liters of Avicide. Birds were feeding on Wheat crop.

4.1.2 Kenya

Report not received.

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

Situation during the week 04/05/2013 – 10/05/2013

During the above indicated week, Meatu district in Shinyanga region (Western part), Singida Rural and Kondoa Districts in Central Zone and Mbulu district in Northern part reported outbreaks.

Traps that reported moth catch during the week were as follows:-

Shinyanga (17), Arusha Seed Farm (356), Rombo (60), Newala (60) Karatu (8), Tengeru (11) and Handeni (13). Traps at Moshi, Muheza, Siha, KIA and Korogwe Reported NIL catch.

4.2.2 Kenya

Report not received.

4.2.3 Ethiopia

The scale of Armyworm outbreaks have increased in May in the southern and eastern parts of the country. It is reported that control operations undertaken have covered wider areas during the month than the previous month's operations. More than 350 liters of pesticide was sprayed against the outbreak in the surrounding areas of Dire Dawa. In eastern Hararghe, Armyworm outbreaks occurred in more than 10 districts, although no significant damage on crops was reported.

Forecast during June 20

Infestation will come to an end in Tanzania and likely continue and increase in the Rift Valley and central parts of Kenya. It is also likely that migration of moths from the south to the north will continue and cover more areas in Ethiopia, mainly in the north-central and northern parts of the country. It is also more likely, early infestation will start in the southern parts of Eritrea. Therefore, it is advisable to continue monitoring and organizing survey operations in order to detect and control early outbreaks in suspected and traditional breeding locations.

4.3 Tsetse fly

No infestation reports received.

CIFO

For Director,

07 June, 2013

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