



**DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA
(DLCO-EA)**

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DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR

AUGUST, 2018



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region: The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued its seasonal movement northward over the interior of Sudan during August, reaching its peak during the first dekad at Dongola. Thereafter, it retreated slightly southwards. Nevertheless, its position was 100-250 kms further north than usual. This caused widespread good rains to fall from Darfur to the Red Sea Hills with particularly heavy rainfall in the western lowlands of Eritrea. Consequently, ecological conditions were favorable for breeding in most of these areas. Good rains also fell in the highlands Eritrea and Yemen and in southwest Saudi Arabia that extended onto the Red Sea coastal plains in these areas. Showers also fell in eastern Ethiopia along the railway and in adjacent plateau areas of northwest Somalia. Light rains fell in the interior of Yemen between Marib and Hadhramaut. It is likely that breeding conditions will improve in some of these areas especially if further rains fall. (*FAO DL bulletin No. 479*)

1.1 Djibouti

Even though the summer temperature started to cool down due to the 2 cyclones which occurred in the area however, temperature records for the

month ranged from 33⁰C in the night and 42⁰C during the day.

Some light rains fell mainly in the western and central parts of the country but generally, dry conditions dominated over the whole country during August.

1.2 Eritrea

Medium to heavy rains, associated with strong winds, which fell during August have caused some infrastructure and crops damage in some locations in the central highlands and western lowlands.

Media reports also indicated that heavy rains which fell on 26th of August in the eastern escarpments, mainly in Ghinda and Qrora sub-zones had caused heavy damage to some infrastructure.

Annual and perennial vegetations were abundantly green in most parts of the country as a result of the continuous rainfalls during the month. Some greenness was also reported in areas between Mahimet and Afabet sub-regions in the eastern coastal plains, where will create favorable conditions for Desert Locust breeding.

1.3 Ethiopia

During August, though dry and humid weather conditions prevailed mainly in the Desert Locust

summer breeding areas, however most areas have received intermittent light to moderate rains (example: DireDawa 108.8mm and Ayisha 64.4). Both annual and perennial vegetations were green and the soil was wet in the summer breeding areas. Consequently, ecological conditions generally were favorable for desert locust breeding.

Rainfall during August, 2018

Dates	DIRE DAWA (0936N/04150E)	Remark
03	5.5	
06	2.3	
08	20.0	
10	Trace	
12	1.0	
13	11.0	
21	2.5	
22	7.5	
27	10.5	
28	34.0	
29	5.5	
31	9.0	
Total	108.8	

1.4 Kenya

The country continued experiencing colder weather conditions during August, and some parts of the country also received intermittent light to moderate amount of rains.

Annual and perennial vegetations remained green across most parts of the country during the month.

1.5 Somalia

Light rains may have fallen during August mainly in the northwestern coastal plains, areas bordering eastern Ethiopia, on the escarpments and the plateau.

1.6 Sudan

During August, moderate to heavy rains fell from the western parts to the Red Sea Hills and to the east bordering Eritrea. Flooding was also reported in Ghedaref due to heavy rains which fell in Ethiopia and Eritrea. Consequently, ecological conditions in the summer breeding areas were favorable for locust developments.

1.7 Tanzania

During August, most parts of the Country remained dry except for few areas in the Lake Victoria zone that received light showers.

Agricultural crops and rangelands in most parts of the country were drying and dry, and harvest was progressing in some parts of the Country.

1.8 Uganda

During August, the Central, Southern and Southwestern parts of the Country started recording early second rains, with records of showers and thunderstorms in many places. Some parts in the North and Northeastern continued to record moderate and heavy showers during the month.

The vegetation was green across most parts of the Country, with parts of Central, Western and Southwestern began to recover (greening) from the short dry spell.

2.0 Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*)

2.1 Djibouti

Incidences were not reported.

2.2 Eritrea

No survey was conducted and the locust situation remained calm. .

2.3 Ethiopia

Ground survey was conducted by PPD staff in the main Desert Locust breeding areas in the eastern parts of the Country. During the survey, no locusts were found and situations remained calm.

2.4 Somalia

No reports were received in August.

2.5 Sudan

During August, scattered mature solitarious adults persisted along Wadi Muqaddam northwest of Khartoum (1533N/3235E) as well as in the Nile

Valley from Ed Debba (1803N/3057E) to north Dongola (1910N/3027E). Scattered adults were also present in one place in the Tokar delta on the Red Sea coast.

Desert Locust situation in Central and other Regions, and Forecast (Extracted from *FAO DL Bulletin No. 479*)

Central Region: scattered adults were present in Sudan

Western Region: small scale breeding occurred in central Algeria while scattered adults were present in southeast Mauritania and eastern Chad.

Eastern Region: Isolated adults were present at a few places on both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border.

3.0 Forecast until mid-October, 2018

3.1 Djibouti

No significant developments are likely.

3.2 Eritrea

Small-scale breeding is likely to be in progress and will continue in areas of recent rainfall in the western lowlands, causing locust numbers to increase slightly. Adults may appear in areas of recent rainfall and runoff on the Red Sea coastal plains where early breeding may occur on a small scale.

3.3 Ethiopia

Small-scale breeding could occur in areas that received rains from Cyclone Sagar in the railway areas of Dire Dawa and perhaps on the plateau near Jigjiga.

3.4 Somalia

There is a moderate risk that small-scale breeding could occur in areas that received heavy rains associated with Cyclone Sagar.

3.5 Sudan

Small-scale breeding is likely to be in progress and will continue in areas of recent rainfall, causing locust numbers to increase slightly in North Darfur, North Kordofan, White Nile, Khartoum, River Nile, Northern and Kassala States. Adults may appear in areas of recent rainfall and runoff on the Red Sea coastal plains where early breeding may occur on a small scale.

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 Kenya

During August, Red billed Quelea birds outbreaks were reported in Narok County. The birds were feeding on Wheat and control operations using fire bombs was carried out against an estimated of 3 million birds by the Plant Protection Services Branch.

4.1.2 Tanzania

During August, big Quelea flocks were seen in Morogoro Region, which were feeding on wild grass seeds near Rice production schemes

1.3 Ethiopia

Incidences not reported.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received.

4.1.5 Sudan

Monthly report not received.

4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences not reported.

4.2 African Armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*)

4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

During August, incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Reports from Maize growing regions indicated of significant loss resulted from FAW attack.

28 Mobile phones for CBFAMFEW project from FAO Tanzanian office was distributed to the CFP in the Kilosa, Iringa and Mbeya districts during the month for monitoring activities.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall armyworm (FAW):

Infestations of **fall armyworm (FAW)** were reported in Karamoja Region that experienced a unique rain season, compared to the rest of the Country. In Nakapiripiri District, moderate to heavy FAW incidences and damages (of 15-30%) were recorded mainly on late Sorghum crop. The rest of the Country was generally calm and preparing farmlands for the **second rains** cropping season and there were no reports of pest outbreaks during the month.

4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

Fall Armyworm

No report received.

4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm

Fall Armyworm infestations continued to occur during the main cropping season in Oromya, Amhara, DireDawa, BeniShangul, Gambella and Tigray Administrative Regions. Infestations were reported in 41 zones, 363 Districts and 5,558 villages of the above indicated regions.

The pest was reported damaging Maize and Sorghum crops, which are planted on 594,239 ha of land. Chemical and some cultural (hand picking) control measures were conducted on 144,670 ha and 384,753 ha of infested crops respectively. During the operations, 121,161 liters of pesticide was sprayed to control the pest.

FAW infestations were also reported on 66,676 hectares of short rain season Maize plantations in the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative Region. Attacks of the pest were reported in 14 zones, 99 Districts and 1,804 villages. Consequently, chemical and cultural controls were carried out on 19,818 and 42,148 ha respectively. A total of 17,599 liters of pesticide was sprayed to control the pest.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported

Fall Armyworm

No report received. .

Forecast until end of September, 2018

African Armyworm: the outbreak season has come to an end and no infestations are expected to occur in the region.

Fall Armyworm

Infestations are likely to continue during September and affect mainly irrigated Maize crops once the summer season harvest is done in some of the member Countries. Consequently, member countries are advised to continue monitoring of moth movements for early detections of the worms.

4.3 Tsetse fly (*Glossina spp.*)

4.3.1 Uganda

4.3.1.1 Tsetse flies:

Incidences not reported.

CIFO

For Director,

04 September, 2018

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