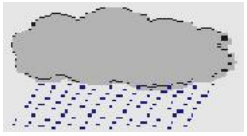
DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA
..... (DLCO-EA) .....

Headquarters (Addis Ababa)
Tel: 251-1-16461477/0287/0290
Fax: 251-1-16460296

Operations Office (Nairobi)
Tel: 254-020-6002305/6001488
Fax: 254-020-6001575

SITREP NO. 12/2018 -2019

DESERT LOCUST AND OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION REPORT FOR JUNE, 2019



1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region: The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued to move northwards over the interior of Sudan, reaching just south of Abu Uruq in North Kordofan by the end of the month. Consequently, good rains fell West and North of Darfur, North Kordofan as far as about Sodiri. White Nile and near Kassala in the east. Breeding conditions are likely to be improving in most of these areas. In Saudi Arabia temperatures increased and ecological conditions dried out in the spring breeding areas of the interior while good rains fell mainly during the first dekad in the southern parts of the Asir Mountains in the southwest, extending to the highlands of Yemen and to adjacent areas on the Red Sea coastal plains in both countries. Good rains also fell along parts of the southern coast of Aden as well as in northern Somalia and eastern Ethiopia. Consequently, breeding conditions may be favorable in coastal areas and parts of eastern Ethiopia. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 483).

1.1 Djibouti

During June, dry conditions with some heat waves existed throughout the country and temperatures were oscillating between 34°C during the night and around 43°C during the day.

1.2 Eritrea

During June, light to moderate and some heavy rains fell on the southern central southwestern parts and in the northern highland of the Country. It is also probable that some runoffs had occurred from the eastern escarpment to the coastal lowlands.

During the month, some crops and infrastructure damages, and domestic animal deaths were reported in few locations as a result of the heavy downpours, which were also associated with strong winds and floods.

Annual vegetation mainly on the central highlands and the southwestern parts of the

country have started greening abundantly while it remained dry on the coastal plains.

1.3 Ethiopia

During June, rainy, cloudy but hot weather conditions prevailed all over the country. Light to heavy rains fell in some parts of the country including in the main Desert Locust breeding areas in the eastern parts of the Country.

Both annual and perennial vegetation were green and the soil was wet in areas where rains fell. Consequently, the weather and ecological conditions have improved and were favorable for Desert Locust developments in most of the Desert Locust breeding places.

Rainfall during June

Date	Dire Dawa (0936N/04150E)	Remarks
01	6.0	
02	3.9	
08	22.0	
09	17.0	
22	Trace	
23	Trace	
24	Trace	
25	Trace	
27	5.0	
Total	53.9	

1.4 Kenya

During the first half of June, light to moderate rains fell in most parts of the Country. Consequently, annual and perennial vegetation remained green and dense in areas where rains continued falling.

1.5 Somalia

During the first dekad of June, moderate to heavy rains fell in all parts of the plateau, the escarpments and the northern coastal plains of Somaliland and Puntland where Desert Locusts breed. As a result, annual and perennial vegetation continued greening creating favorable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

1.6 Sudan

During June, good rains fell mainly in Darfur, North Kordofan, Sodiri, White Nile and in some parts near Kassala State; bordering western Eritrea and Ethiopia, creating favorable ecological conditions for locust breeding.

1.7 Tanzania

During June, the country was generally dry except for few areas in the Lake Victoria Basin and northeastern highlands; mainly Mara region and Ngorongoro district which received moderate rainfall. Few locations in the northern coast and the Isles of Unguja and Pemba also received light amount f rains. The northeastern highlands; Tabora region and southern coast experienced dry conditions, while the central areas, southwestern highlands and southern region featured partly cloudy. Although, vegetation including pastures country wide remained green but some were drying out. Field crops like Maize were maturing and drying out in some parts of the country.

1.8 Uganda

Records of heavy rains continued falling across most parts of the Country during June. The rains did not show any signs of declining as it was predicted instead seem steadily crossing to July that should normally be a dry month.

The vegetation remained green in most parts of the Country due to the continuous rainfalls.

2.0 DESERT LOCUST (SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIS) SITUATION AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-AUGUST

2.1 Djibouti

On the 23rd of June, Desert Locust swarms were seen at the location of 1146N/4238E in the Tadjoura region. Further details were not given.

Forecast:

No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

Mature Desert Locust swarms were seen flying from east to west in the Southern Red Sea Coastal areas during the third dekad of June. The swarms flew over Gahro, Abo and Rahayta villages which are located between the port city of Assab and the Djiboutian border. The swarms have originated from Yemen where they were reported forming in the country during the previous months. As the ecological conditions were not favorable in the coastal areas of Eritrea, the swarms continued flying to the eastern parts of Ethiopia.

Forecast

Low numbers of adults are expected to appear in the western lowlands and breed on a small-scale in areas that receive rains. This could be supplemented by a few small swarms crossing the southern coast from Yemen and moving through adjacent areas of northern Ethiopia.

2.5 Ethiopia

During the second and third dekads of June, Desert Locust swarms were seen flying from northern Somalia to the northeastern and eastern parts of Ethiopia.

Ground survey teams of the Ministry of Agriculture confirmed the presence of Desert Locusts at the following locations: (1416N/3927E,1413N/3929E, 1418N/3926E, 1248N/3945E,1250N/3945E, 1248N/3938E).

The report indicated that 92 hectare of crops and grazing land were infested by the locusts. Few scattered matured Desert Locust adults were also seen flying from east to west of Ayisha district. Presence of Desert Locust adults were also reported in Awbere district in Jigiga.

Forecast

Breeding will occur in areas of recent rainfall in northern and eastern regions, which could give rise to hopper groups and bands.

2.4 Somalia

From 20 June onwards, there were reports of small mature swarms arriving from Yemen on the northern coast from Zeylac (1121N/4328E) near the Djibouti border to Lughaye (1041N/4356E), Berbera (1028N/4502E0 and further east between Ceelaayo (1114N/4853E) and Lasqoray (1109N/4811E) as well as on the escarpment south of Berbera, north of Hargeisa (0931N/4402E) and northwest of Boroma (0956N/4313E). (FAO bulletin No. 489).

Forecast

Breeding may occur along parts of the northern coast between Djibouti and Bossaso and perhaps on the plateau between Boroma and Hargeisa, and Burao and Erigavo where good rains fell in early June. This could cause small hopper groups and bands to form.

2.5 Sudan

During the first and second dekads of June, groups of immature and mature adults persisted near irrigated schemes in the Nile

Valley of River Nile and Northern States near Abu Hamed (1932N/3320E) and between Dongola (1910N/3027E) and Wadi Halfa (2147N/3122E), and at least one group was reported laying eggs near Dongola. Control teams treated 3,77 ha. Scattered immature and mature solitarious adults appeared further south in the Baiyuda Desert north of Khartoum (1533N/3235E) (FAO Bulletin No. 489).

Forecast

Small-scale breeding is likely to continue in parts of the Nile Valley between Berber and Wadi Halfa. There is a moderate to high risk of small immature swarms arriving from the Arabian Peninsula, Initially in the Nile Valley and then in the summer breeding areas of North Darfur, North Kordofan and White Nile states. A few small swarms may also arrive from northern Ethiopia. Breeding will commence with the onset of the summer rains.

2.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

No locusts were reported and the countries are expected to remain free of Desert Locust infestations.

2.7 Desert Locust Situation in the Central and other Regions (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 489).

Central Region: Control operations continued in Saudi Arabia (39,270 ha) against declining spring-bred populations. Numerous swarms were in the Yemen highlands and some moved to northern Somalia and Ethiopia. Adult groups persisted in northern Sudan (3,700 ha treated) Hopper bands and adult groups were treated in Egypt (604 ha).

Western Region: small-scale breeding occurred in Algeria (399 ha treated). There were unconfirmed reports of adults in northeast Niger.

Eastern Region: Control operations continued in southern Iran (247,270 ha) and Pakistan (8,684 ha) against declining infestations of spring bred hopper and adult groups. Swarms arrived and laid eggs in India, and control was undertaken (3,991 ha).

3.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

3.1.1 Kenya

Aerial control operations were conducted on one quelea roost in Timau Rice scheme in Nanyuki County on 29th of June. During the operation, nearly 6 million birds were killed and, rice worth of US$ 2.4 million per day was saved from loss.

3.1.2 Tanzania

During June, aerial control operations by a DLCO-EA Aircraft continued on 896 hectares of roosting sites in Kilosa and Mvomero district in Morogoro. Babati district in Manyara and Kibaha District in Coast regions of the country. During the operations, 950 liters of Bathion 60% was sprayed on an estimated of 78.6 million birds, and crops saved from the birds feeding were Paddy and Sorghum. It is also estimated that crops worth of US$ 62,400.00 per day were saved from loss.

3.1.3 Ethiopia

Quelea Birds outbreak was reported in Konso and Derashe Districts of the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Administrative Region (SNNPR). However, detailed survey report was not received during compiling of this Sitrep.

3.1.4 Eritrea

Monthly report not received but it is out-off breeding season.

3.1.5 Sudan

Incidences not reported and it is out-off breeding season.

3.1.6 Uganda

There was a report of low incidences of Quelea birds feeding on Rice fields within Kibimba irrigated Rice Schemes of Eastern Uganda. The farms employed human scares to ward off the pest. It is forecasted that Quelea populations and associated damages are likely to increase in the coming months of July and August due to the favorable ecological conditions created for breeding.

3.2 African Armyworm (Spodoptera exempta)

3.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

During June, Maize damages by the worms were reported mainly on irrigated Maize crops in Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Morogoro regions.

3.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Low incidences (less than 15% of FAW were reported in some Maize fields with those planted late recording more damages. The continuous rains are likely contributing to the management of FAW plus farmers and agriculture extension efforts.

3.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received but it was less likely that infestation to occur.

Fall Armyworm

Monthly report not received and the situation is unknown.

3.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm

During June, FAW infestations mainly on short-rain fed farms were reported in Oromya and Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Administrative Regions and on main-season Maize and Sorghum crops in Oromya, Dire Dawa and Amhara Administrative Regions.

The pest has infested 37,378 hectares (7,342 ha on Sorghum) in 35 Zones, 277 Districts and 3,091 villages of the regions. Chemical and cultural (hand-picking) control measures were introduced on 14,565 and 68,911 hectares respectively, and, 13,844.7 liters of pesticide was sprayed to control the pest.

3.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported

Fall Armyworm

During June, it was likely that FAW infestations continued in Maize and Sorghum growing areas of the Country.

Forecast until end of July, 2019.

African Armyworm

It is less likely infestation to appear in the secondary breeding locations.

Fall Armyworm

Infestations are likely to continue appearing widely during July and affect irrigated and seasonal Maize and Sorghum crops. Consequently, Member Countries are highly advised to continue monitoring of moth movements for early detections and control of the warms.

3.3 Tsetse Fly (Glossina spp.)

3.3.1 Uganda

3.3.1.1 Tsetse Flies

Incidences not reported.

CIFO
For Director,
5th July, 2019

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