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. 04/2019- 2020

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

1.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

In the Central Region: The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) continued its seasonal movement southwards but generally about 200-300 kms further north than usual during the first two dekads of October over the interior of Sudan. By the last dekad, the ITCZ had moved south of the summer breeding areas in Sudan. As a result, light to moderate rains fell primarily during the first dekad and less so during the second dekad in the summer breeding areas of West and North Darfur. North Kordofan White Nile States, the Baiyuda Desert and near Kassala extending to the western lowlands in Eritrea. Light rain fell in a few places along the western side of the Red Sea Hills, including parts of Wadi Oko/Dilb. Light to moderate showers fell at times during the first two dekads in eastern Ethiopia, including the Ogaden and adjacent areas of northwest and central Somalia. Rainfall declined in the Afar region and northern Ethiopia. Heavy rains and flash flood as far north as Badr. Rainfall was particularly heavy during the second dekad. Good rains fell on the southern coast of Yemen near Aden where breeding conditions were favourable on the 1st and 8th. In Oman, moderate showers fell in the north during the first half of the month. (FAO DL Bulletin No. 493).

1.1 Djibouti

During the first dekad of October, light to moderate rains fell mainly in the western, central and southern parts of the country. Vegetation statuses have slightly improved in very localized areas where rains occurred.

1.2 Eritrea

During October, light to moderate rains fell on the highlands western lowlands and in some parts in the coastal plains.

Both annual and perennial vegetations remained partially green in most parts of the country including in some parts on the Red Sea coastal and sub-coastal plains.

1.3 Ethiopia

During October, cloudy and rainy weather conditions prevailed in all parts of the country. Light to moderate rains also fell during the first and second dekads of the month in Dire Dawa and Ayisha towns, where locust activities were observed. Consequently, the weather and ecological conditions remaind favourable for Desert Locust breeding during the month.

Rainfall during October

Date	Dire Dawa (0936N/04150E)	Remark
1	21.0	
2	2.5	
3	35.0	
5	10.0	
8	1.0	
9	Trace	
11	Trace	
13	Trace	
18	13.0	
20	2.0	
Total	84.5	

1.4 Kenya

During October, Moderate to heavy rains fell in most parts of the country causing heavy floods, death of people and animals, heavy infrastructure damages and displacement of thousands of people. Overall, vegetation status was green in most parts of the country.

1.5 Somalia

During October, light to moderate rains may have fallen in the northern and northwestern parts bordering eastern Ethiopia, the plateau and the escarpments. Heavy flooding was also reported in central parts of the country; causing heavy damages to properties and displacement of thousands of people.

1.6 Sudan

Light to moderate rains fell mainly during the first and the second dekads in the summer breeding areas of West and North Darfur. North Kordofan White Nile States, the Baiyuda Desert and in the eastern parts near Kassala. Light rains also fell in a few places along the western side of the Red Sea Hills, including in parts of Wadi Oko/Diib.

1.7 Tanzania

During October, most parts of the country received moderate to heavy rain falls. Death of people damages of infrastructure; like roads, bridges houses and farms were reported due to heavy flooding. The most affected parts include northeastern, eastern and central parts of the country.

Vegetation was greening and green in most parts of the country.

1.8 Uganda

During October, most parts of the country recorded heavy showers with floods and peoperty destructions reported in many places.

The vegetation remained very green in most parts of the Country.

2.0 DESERT LOCUST (SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIA) SITUATION AND FORECAST UNTIL MID-DECEMBER, 2019

2.1 Djibouti

No reports were received during October.

Forecast: No significant developments are likely.

2.2 Eritrea

During October, no surveys were carried out and no locusts were reported.

Forecast: Breeding is almost certainly in progress and will continue on the Red Sea coastal plains, causing locust numbers to increase between Mersa Fatima and the Sudanese border. Small groups of hoppers and adults are likely to form. There is a low to moderate risk of a few groups and swarms from northeast Ethiopia appearing in the highlands on their way to the coast.

2.3 Ethiopia

Desert Locust situation remained severe in Amhara, Tigray, Somali, Oromiya and Afar Administrative regions during October. Field crops trees and pasturelands in 39 Districts were reported infested with 3rd to 5th instar hopper bands, immature and mature adults. Small to medium size swarms were seen crossing from Afar region to Amhara and Tigray Regions. Small size immature and mature swarms probably have crossed from northern Somalia reaching Ogaden and locations close to Jigjiga. Immature adults and dominantly 5th instar hopper bands were also found on 9,712 ha. Hatching was reported in Ogaden and large egg fields were identified in Kebridehar (0644N/4416E), Warder (0658N/4520E) and Mersin areas in the Somali Administrative region.

Ground and aerial control operations treated 4,621 ha using 2,514.5 litres of Malathion 95% ULV mainly on groups of hoppers and adults in all affected regions.

Forecast: Small swarms will continue to form in Afar in November and move north to Tigray where they are likely to continue to Eritrea. A few swarms will form along the railway area and move to the Ogaden and Oromiya. Hatching and bank formation will occur in the Ogaden during November.

2.4 Somalia

There were unconfirmed reports from locals by radio swarms arriving on the northwest plateau between Gebiley (0942N/4337E) and Las Anod (0828N/4721E) on 8-13 October. These are likely to have originated from earlier infestations in northeast Somalia, perhaps supplemented by a few swarms from Yemen and adjacent areas of eastern Ethiopia. (FAO Bulletin No. 493).

Forecast: A few adult groups and small swarms from adjacent infestations in Ethiopia may appear on the northern plateau south of Hargeisa. Burao and Las And, and in central areas between Garowe and Galkayo. Small-scale breeding could occur in some areas that might give rise to hopper groups and small bands. Breeding in areas of recent heavy rains on the northwest coast may cause hopper and adult groups to form.

2.5 Sudan

During October, solitarious hoppers of all instars were seen by ground survey teams in the western side of the Red Sea Hills between Derudeb (1731N/3607E) and Haiya (1820N/3621E). a few groups of immature and mature adults formed near Umm Saiyala (1426N/3112E) in North Kordofan.\\derudeb and near Kassala (1527N/3623E). Ground teams treated 3,025 ha.

Forecast: As vegetation continues to dry out, a few small groups may form in the interior and move the Red Sea coastal plains and sub-coastal area where small-scale breeding will commence with the onset of the winter rains. There is a low risk that a few small swarms could appear from the south on the southern coast near the Eritrean border.

2.6 Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

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

However, there is a likely situation that swarms might arrive in the north eastern parts of Kenya from the Ogaden region of Ethiopia.

2.7 Desert Locust Situation in the Central and other Regions (Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin No. 493).

Central Region: Swarms formed in Ethiopia (4,064 ha treated) and moved to east to lay eggs that hatched near northern Somalia where mature swarms were seen. A fe groups formed from summer breeding in Sudan (3,025 ha treated). Breeding continued on the Red Sea coast in Yemen (32 ha treated) and Saudi Arabia (1,805 ha treated). Isolated adults were present in northern Oman.

Western Region: Small-scale breeding occurred in Mauritania and Niger (29 ha), extending to southern Algeria (15 ha). Groups formed in Niger. Isolated adults were present in Morocco and Libya.

Eastern Region: Control operations continued in India (82,944) ha) and Pakistan (22,650 ha) against second-generation groups, bands and swarms, Isolated adults persisted in southern Iran.

4.0 OTHER MIGRATORY PESTS

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

4.1.1 Kenya

Incidences were reported in Embu County mainly in Moya irrigated Rice Scheme during October. Preparation for aerial spray was progressing.

4.1.2 Tanzania

Incidences no reported during October.

4.1.3 Ethiopia

During October, Quelea birds outbreaks were reported and confirmed in three districts in the Oromiya Administrative region (in East Showa Zone). The birds were roosting in four sites with estimated population of 15.6 million. Consequently, 182.5 ha was sprayed by air using 365 litres of Avicide and mortality was estimated 90-98%. No crop damage was reported.

4.1.4 Eritrea

Quelea birds remained a problem to crops in the western parts of the Country around Tesseney and Goluj.

4.1.5 Sudan

It was highly likely that incidences were occurring in the main seasonal Sorghum growing areas of the Country.

4.1.6 Uganda

Incidences not reported during October.

4.2 African Armyworm (Spodoptera exempta)

4.2.1 Tanzania

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Damages were not reported during October.

4.2.2 Uganda

African Armyworm

Not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Moderate FAW incidences were reported in Kiruhura (south western). Mukono (Central) and Buramburi (eastern) Districts during October. It was also reported that early planted Maize crops were towards maturity, and overall, the FAW incidences were not alarming as the damages were limited to some older plant leaves.

4.2.3 Eritrea

African Armyworm

Monthly report not received.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Monthly report not received and the situation is unknown.

4.2.4 Ethiopia

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

During October, Fall Armyworms infestations continued in Oromya, Dire Dawa, Amhara, Benishangul Gumz, Tigray and Southern Nations Nationalities and peoples Adminsitrative Regions on the main seasonal Maize and Sorghum crops. Infestations were reported on 479,067 hectares of Maize and Sorghum fields in 42 Zones, 342 Districts and 4,794 villages. Chemical and cultural (hand picking) control operations were conducted on 81,401 and 366,127 hectares respectively, and 71,477 litres of pesticide was sprayed to control the pest.

4.2.5 Kenya

African Armyworm

Incidences not reported.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

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

Forecast until end of November, 2019

African Armyworm

It is less likely that outbreaks to appear in the region.

Fall Armyworm (FAW)

Fall Armyworm are likely to continue appearing widely during November in all previously affected Member Countries and continue feeding on irrigated and main seasonal Maize and Sorghum crops. Consequently, Member Countries are highly advised to continue monitoring of moth movements for early detections and control 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,
06 November, 2019

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