

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 162

GENERAL SITUATION DURING FEBRUARY 1992 FORECAST UNTIL MID-APRIL 1992

No significant Desert Locust activity was reported during February. Control operations were carried out against low density adults and hoppers on the southern Red Sea coast of Sudan in late January and remaining populations will decrease during the forecast period as adults start to move toward summer breeding areas. Elsewhere, only isolated adults were seen at one location in Rajasthan of India and one on the Batinah of Oman.

No significant rainfall occurred in the winter/spring breeding areas of North-West Africa and around the Red Sea. However, widespread light to moderate rains fell on the coast and interior of Baluchistan of Iran and Pakistan and, as a result, low density adults in the Makran of Pakistan and possibly in south-eastern Iran will start to breed during the forecast period.

Widespread heavy rains fell in northern Somalia and parts of Eritrea in late January; however, the locust situation in these areas remains unclear.

In the Sahel of West Africa, low density adults are likely to be present at some locations of north-western Mauritania, and may be present in the Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali, Tamesna and Air of Niger, and Tibesti of Chad. These are expected to persist during the forecast period.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

(Information compiled from field reports, METEOSAT and ARTEMIS satellite imagery, and daily Météo-France synoptic charts and rain gauge data)

During February, very little rainfall occurred in the Desert Locust winter/spring breeding areas of North-West Africa. Light rains, associated with several weak eastward-moving Mediterranean depressions, fell north of the Atlas Mountains and in coastal areas of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya throughout the entire month. Some of these rains reached as far east as the Egyptian coast during the third decade. Isolated showers occurred in central Tunisia at Gafsa (22 mm on the 22nd) and in northern and south-western Mauritania where a total of 10 mm fell at Bir Moghrein on the 13th and 15th and 6 mm fell at Boutilimit on the 12th.

No significant rainfall occurred during the month in the winter/spring breeding areas on both sides of the Red Sea except for light rainfall reported on the southern Tihama and Hijaz Mountains of Saudi Arabia on the 3rd. Green vegetation was reported at some locations on the southern coast.

As a result of heavy rains and flooding in northern Somalia in late January, breeding conditions were reported to be favourable near Hargeisa, the northern escarpment, El-Afwein, Bulhar, and Erigavo. In Ethiopia, ecological conditions were favourable in the Harar Highlands and Railway area between Awash and the Djibouti border, and also in Djibouti.

Light to moderate rains, associated with several eastward-moving depressions over the Persian Gulf, fell in UAE and northern Oman during the first week of the month. Moderate rainfall was reported on the 11th on the southern Batinah and in the interior of Oman at Nizwa which received 33 mm. Vegetation conditions were improving on the Batinah and in Sharqija.

Widespread rains occurred over coastal and interior areas of Baluchistan of Iran and Pakistan during the first half of February. On the Makran of Pakistan, Gwadar received 28 mm and Pasni 31 mm. Conditions are expected to be improving in these areas. Light rain fell in Rajasthan of India on the 12th, where Jodhpur received 15 mm.



AREA TREATED IN FEBRUARY 1992

Sudan (January)

no details available



WEST AFRICA

No locust information had been received from countries in the region up to 29 February.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

LIBYA

No locusts were seen up to 26 February.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 29 February.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Small scale control operations were carried out during the second half of January against low densities of hoppers and adults on the southern Red Sea coast in Tokar Delta and Khor Ashat (1842N/3724E).

ETHIOPIA

The locust situation remains unclear as no surveys were carried out during January. However, unconfirmed infestations were reported during the second week of January in the north-western lowlands of Eritrea and during the third week in the Hamasien region where dense populations were being controlled. These infestations may be Tree Locusts or African Migratory Locusts.

SOMALIA

The locust situation remains unclear as no surveys were carried out during January.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No locust activity was reported up to 31 January.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

No locusts were seen during surveys on the southern Tihama from Jeddah to Al-Birk and from the Hijaz and Asir mountains to the coast during the last week of January.

OMAN

A single adult locust was seen on the southern Batinah at 2340N/5740E on 16 February. No locusts were seen during surveys in Sharqiya, Wahiba, and Jalaan on the 20-21st.

KUWAIT

No locusts were reported during November and December 1991.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 29 February.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

No locusts were seen during surveys undertaken during the second half of January and first half of February.

INDIA

No locusts were found during surveys undertaken in the second half of January.

Scattered adults, at a density of 15 per sq. km., were seen at Siwana (2539N/7417E) of Barmer district on 4 February.

AFGHANISTAN

No locusts were reported from November to January.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 29 February.



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Low density adults are likely to be present and may be breeding at a few locations in north-western Tiris-Zemmour and Adrar and Dakhlet-Nouadhibou; these are expected to persist during the forecast period.

MALI

Isolated adults may be present at a few locations in the Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna.

NIGER

Low density adults will persist in Tamesna and may be present in Aïr.

CHAD

Isolated adults may be present in some wadis of Tibesti.

BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, GAMBIA, GUINEA BISSAU, GUINEA CONAKRY and SENEGAL

No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

Isolated adults will persist at a few locations in Oued Draa and breed if rainfall occurs. Scattered adults may be present and breeding in the extreme south-western desert.

ALGERIA

Low density adults may be present in a few wadis between Tamanrasset and Tademait Plateau and near Tinrhert Plateau.

LIBYA and TUNISIA

No significant developments are likely.

EAST AFRICA

SUDAN

Low density adults will persist on the southern Red Sea coast, primarily in the Tokar Delta; however, numbers will decrease by the end of the forecast period as adults begin to move toward summer breeding areas in the interior of Sudan.

ETHIOPIA

Low density adults may be present and breeding on the northern Red Sea coast of Eritrea; however, numbers will decrease by the end of the forecast period as adults begin to move towards summer breeding areas.

SOMALIA

Low density adults may be present and breeding in areas of recent rains on the northern coast.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST**KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

Low density adults may be present at a few locations on the southern Tihama between Lith and the Yemen border and are expected to persist and breed during the forecast period in areas of green vegetation. A few scattered adults may be present in the central interior.

YEMEN

Low density adults may be present along the Tihama and coastal plains west of Aden and breed if rainfall occurs.

OMAN

A few isolated adults may be present on the Batinah coast and breed in areas of recent rainfall.

UAE

A few isolated adults may be present on the Fujayrah coast and breed in areas of recent rainfall.

BAHRAIN, EGYPT, IRAQ, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, QATAR, SYRIA and TURKEY

No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA**PAKISTAN**

Low density adults are likely to be present on the Makran of Baluchistan and breed during the forecast period. Isolated adults may be present in interior areas of Baluchistan.

INDIA

Low density adults will persist at a few locations in Rajasthan.

IRAN

Low density adults may be present on the south-eastern coast and breed during the forecast period in areas where rainfall has occurred.

AFGHANISTAN

No significant developments are likely.

29 February 1992

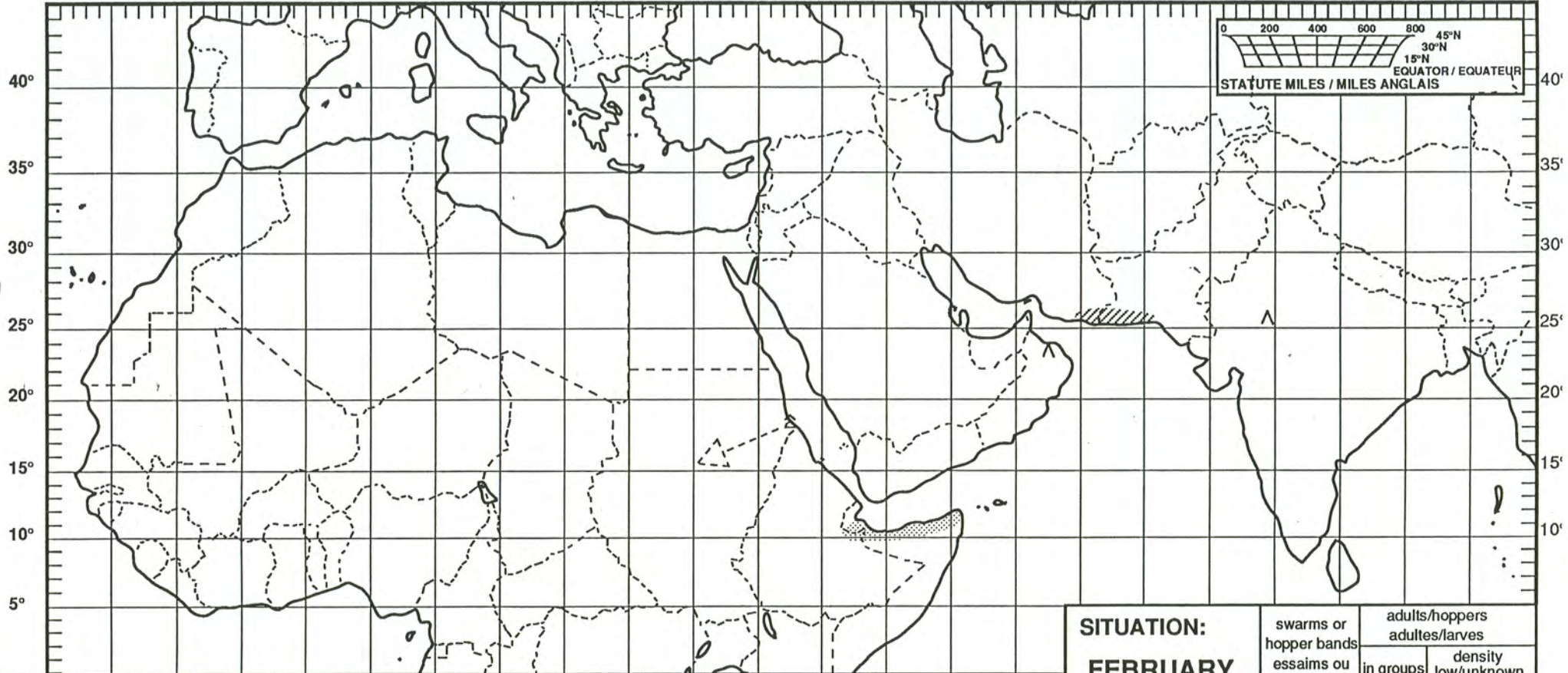


Desert Locust: summary Criquet pèlerin: situation résumée

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20° 15° 10° 5° 0° 5° 10° 15° 20° 25° 30° 35° 40° 45° 50° 55° 60° 65° 70° 75° 80° 85° 90° 95°



FORECAST TO: PREVISION AU:	15.4.92	LIKELY PROBABLE	POSSIBLE POSSIBLE
current undetected breeding reproduction en cours et non détectée			
major swarm(s) essaim(s) important(s)			
minor swarm(s) essaim(s) limité(s)			
non swarming adults adultes non essaimant			

**SITUATION:
FEBRUARY
1992**

	swarms or hopper bands essaims ou bandes larvaires	adults/hoppers adultes/larves	
		in groups en groupes	density low/unknown densité faible/inconnue
immature adults adultes immatures	■	□	▭
mature or partly mature adults adultes matures ou partiellement matures	▲	△	└
adults, maturity unknown adultes, maturité inconnue	▲	△	∧
egg laying or eggs pontes ou œufs	▼	▽	∨
hoppers larves	●	○	◐
hoppers & adults (combined symbol example) larves et adultes (exemple symboles combinés)	◼	◼	◻