

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 156

GENERAL SITUATION DURING AUGUST 1991 FORECAST UNTIL MID-OCTOBER 1991

The recession continues with only isolated adults and hoppers reported in the summer monsoon breeding areas of Rajasthan in India during August. Populations are of very low density and are widely distributed throughout Rajasthan. Although no reports of similar populations have been received from adjacent areas of Pakistan. It is possible that small numbers of adults are present in parts of the Cholistan and Tharparkar deserts. Locust numbers will increase slightly as small scale breeding continues during the forecast period.

Seasonal rainfall in most places of the Sahel of West Africa and Sudan is far below long-term averages and has been for the past few months. As a result, it is unlikely that there are widespread areas favourable for locust breeding at this time except for perhaps in Tamesna and Air of Niger where good vegetation was reported in early August.

Although no locust surveys were carried out during August in West Africa, it is likely that isolated adults are present in a few places in southern Mauritania, central Mali, and eastern Chad which may have received enough rain to allow small scale breeding during the forecast period. Isolated adults are also likely to be present and breeding in some places of Sudan, primarily in Northern Darfur near El Fasher and in the Eastern region near the Gash Delta. Surveys are recommended in all of these areas to monitor the locust situation.

Elsewhere, small scale breeding is likely to be in progress in areas of recent rainfall on the Tihama of Saudi Arabia, south of Lith, and Yemen where isolated adults were reported in June.



This information is compiled from field reports, METEOSAT and ARTEMIS satellite imagery, and daily Météo-France synoptic charts and rainfall data.

During August, the ITCZ was located over the Sahel between 17°N and 22°N and associated with localized depressions over central regions of the Sahara. On the 7th, the ITCZ moved to 25°N over Algeria. Rainfall reports received indicated that rains during the month were below the long-term average in most areas of the Sahel from Mauritania to Sudan except for Boutilimit and Nouakchott in Mauritania, near Gao in Mali, and near Agadez in Niger. Unusual rains were reported during the second decade from northern Mauritania at Bir Moghreïn (21 mm) and in southern Algeria at Tamanrasset (17 mm). The long-term average is 3 mm and 10 mm, respectively. However, locusts are unlikely to be in these two areas to take advantage of such rains.

Satellite imagery suggested that rains improved slightly during the second decade of August in southern Mauritania, central Mali, northern Tamesna of Mali and Niger, eastern Chad, and in Northern Darfur of Sudan near Nyala and El Fasher and also in the Eastern region. Rains decreased during the second decade in other areas such as the northern Adrar des Iforas and south-eastern region of Mali, throughout Niger, central Chad, and central Sudan. During the third decade, a widespread cloud mass was seen over Mauritania on the 23-24th which produced medium to heavy rainfall in Trarza and Tagant. For example, Nouakchott reported 65 mm, Boutilimit 81 mm, and Tidjikja 20 mm.

Analysis of earlier rainfall reports suggests that below-average rainfall also occurred during June and July throughout Mauritania (except at a few locations in west-central and northern areas), Mali (except near Gao), Niger (except Agadez), and Sudan despite the early onset of rains this year. For example, Nema in Mauritania received a total of 34 mm during June and July, well below the long term average of 105 mm. Similarly, Tombouctou in Mali received 24 mm compared to 84 mm; Tahoua in Niger 99 mm compared to 162 mm; in Sudan, El Fasher 15 mm compared to 99 mm and El Obeid 11 mm compared to 140 mm. Although, some rains may not have been reported, current cumulative rainfall is well below the long-term average.

Based on rainfall reports and satellite imagery for the last few months, it is unlikely that there are widespread areas favourable for locust breeding in the Sahel at this time except for perhaps in Tamesna and Air of Niger where good vegetation was reported in early August. In addition, there may be a few isolated sites which have received enough rain to allow limited breeding to occur; for example, near Kiffa and Aioun El Atrouss in Mauritania, near Gao and Hombori in Mali, near Abeche in Chad, and near En Nahud in Sudan. Breeding conditions are expected to be improving in the Eastern region of Sudan north of Kassala in Gash Delta as a result of heavy rainfall in the adjacent Ethiopian Highlands in late July. Surveys are recommended in all of the above mentioned places and adjacent areas to monitor the locust situation.

Elsewhere, weak depressions were present at times during the month over the southern Arabian Peninsula and clouds were visible on METEOSAT over the Tihama of Yemen. However, no reports of rainfall were received except for 14 mm at Jizan on the 10th.

Most districts of Rajasthan in India remained dry during the first half of August except for Jaisalmer which reported 38 mm.



No control operations were reported during August.



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

No locust surveys had been carried out up to 28 August.

NIGER

There was an unconfirmed report of isolated locusts near Bilma (1841N/1256E).

CHAD

No locust surveys had been carried out up to 19 August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to August 31.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

A late report stated that no locust surveys were undertaken during June.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to August 31.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

No locusts were found during surveys undertaken the last half of July and in early August in the Northern Region near Ed-Damer, in the Khartoum Region east of Khartoum, near Kassala in the Eastern Region, in the Central Region near Sennar and Gezira, and in Northern Kordofan Region near El Obeid.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No locust activity was reported up to 15 August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to August 31.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

No locusts were reported during July.

YEMEN

Late reports stated that isolated adults, at densities of 2-3 per sq. km., were present at several locations on the northern Tihama and in the Marib area of the eastern desert at Al Jobah (1518N/4520E) during June and July.

OMAN

No locusts were found during surveys carried out on the northern and southern Batinah coast and in the Dhahira region up to 17 August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to August 31.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA**PAKISTAN**

No locust activity was reported during the last fortnight of July and the first fortnight of August.

INDIA

During the second fortnight of July, isolated breeding was reported in Bikaner district where one third instar hopper was found at Madhagarh (2750N/7240E) on the 26th. Elsewhere, isolated adults were present at 7 locations in Bikaner, with a maximum density of 250 per sq. km. at Madhagarh, and at 8 locations in Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, and Kutch districts, with a maximum of 300 per sq. km. at Swami ki Dhani (2623N/7150E) on the 30th.

During the first fortnight of August, a fifth instar hopper was seen at Madhagarh on the 9th and isolated adults continued to be present at 7 locations in Bikaner as mentioned above. Isolated adults were also reported from 6 locations in Jaisalmer district, with a maximum density of 225 per sq. km. at Bahla (2746N/7123E) on the 10th, and at one location in Nagaur district at Jaswantgarh (2735N/7425E) with a maximum density of 150 per sq. km. on the 14th.

IRAN

No locust activity was reported during July in southern and south-eastern provinces.

AFGHANISTAN

No locust activity was reported during July.



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Isolated adults are likely to be present and small scale breeding in progress in areas of recent rain in the south-east near Aioun El Atrouss and Nema and in Trarza between Nouakchott and Boutilimit. Elsewhere, breeding conditions are expected to be unfavourable and only a few locusts may be present.

MALI

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding on a small scale in the central region near Gao, further north in some wadis of the Adrar des Iforas, and to the east in Tamesna.

NIGER

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding on a small scale in Tamesna, between Agadez and Arlit, and in some wadis of Air.

CHAD

Isolated adults may be present and breeding on a small scale in eastern areas, primarily Ouaddai and Biltine regions, and perhaps further north near Fada and Faya where recent rains may have occurred.

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

No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA, LIBYA, MOROCCO and TUNISIA

No significant developments are likely.

EAST AFRICA

SUDAN

Isolated adults are likely to be present and breeding on a small scale in areas of recent rainfall in Northern Darfur province near El Geneina and El Fasher, in Northern Kordofan province near En Nahud and El Obeid, in White Nile province between Kosti and Ed-Dueim, and in the Eastern region near Kassala and the Gash Delta.

ETHIOPIA

Isolated adults may be present in some parts of Eritrea.

SOMALIA

Isolated adults may be present on the northern coastal plains.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Isolated adults are likely to be present and breeding on a small scale in some wadis of the southern Tihama and in areas of recent rain near Jizan.

YEMEN

Small scale breeding may be in progress on the northern Tihama in areas of green vegetation. Elsewhere, isolated adults will persist in the Marib area and may be present in adjacent areas of Ramlat Sabatayn and Wadi Hadhramaut, and on the coastal plains near Aden.

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

No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

Isolated adults are likely to be present in the Cholistan and Tharparkar deserts near the Indian border and numbers will increase and small scale breeding will commence during the forecast period.

INDIA

Small scale breeding is likely to be in progress at scattered locations throughout Rajasthan, primarily in Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner, and Nagaur districts and will continue during the forecast period.

AFGHANISTAN and IRAN

No significant developments are likely.

2 September 1991

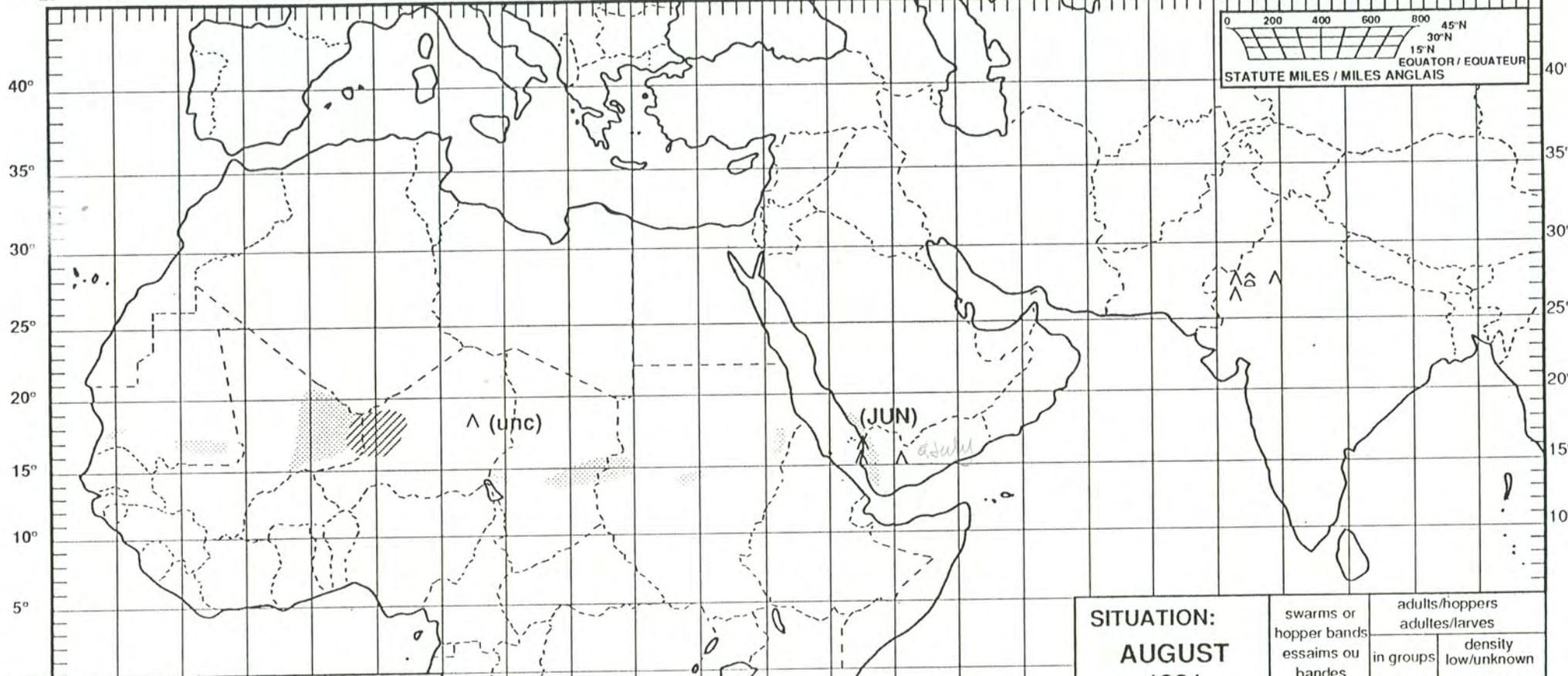
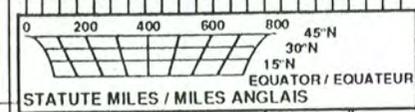


Desert Locust: summary Criquet pèlerin: situation résumée

No.156



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:	15.10.91	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:
AUGUST
1991**

	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)	◼	◼	◼

15° 20° 25° 30° 35° 40° 45°