

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 153

GENERAL SITUATION DURING MAY 1991 FORECAST UNTIL MID-JULY 1991

The current recession continues with only a few reports of locusts received during May. In Pakistan, small scale laying occurred during April and early May in areas on the Makran where conditions were favourable. Scattered adults have begun to move east towards the summer monsoon breeding area, reaching Lasbela district by mid-month. Adult numbers will increase in Rajasthan of India, where isolated adults are present, and adjacent areas of Pakistan during the forecast period and small scale breeding will commence with the onset of the monsoon rains. Unusually heavy rain fell in Bikaner of Rajasthan and Cholistan of Pakistan, which may trigger early breeding and allow an extra generation to occur. There was an unconfirmed report of immature and mature swarms seen in 8 locations north of Errer in Ethiopia. These swarms, if confirmed as Desert Locust, may be a result of undetected breeding that occurred during the spring in northern Ethiopia.

Light to moderate rains associated with the northern movement of the ITCZ have begun in southern areas of the Sahel of West Africa. Isolated adults were present in southern Tagant of Mauritania and are likely to be present in Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali, Tamesna and Aïr of Niger, north-central Chad and western and central Sudan. Early breeding may have already started in Adrar des Iforas, Tamesna and Aïr, allowing an extra generation to occur.

Although above average rains were reported from eastern and southern Algeria and western Libya in May, no significant numbers of locusts are likely to be present to take advantage of these rains. Elsewhere, isolated adults and small numbers of hoppers may be present in some wadis on the eastern side of Asir mountains in Saudi Arabia and the eastern desert of Yemen.


WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

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

During May, the ITCZ continued its seasonal movement northward. It was centred around 15°N but reached at times up to 18°N over Tamesna and up to 23°N over the Hoggar of southern Algeria during the second half of the month. Significant cloud development was seen over the southern Sahel of West Africa and Sudan. During the first decades of May, ARTEMIS imagery indicated that clouds reached summer breeding areas as far north as Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali, Tamesna and Air of Niger, Lake, Kanem, Ouaddaï and Biltine of Chad. Light to moderate rains were reported in northern Tahoua of Niger during the first decade and widespread rain fell on the 24-25th from central Mali to western Niger. Tessalit (2012N/0059E) in Mali received 24 mm and Agadez (1658N/0759E) in Niger received 16 mm. Heavy rains were reported near Lake Chad where N'Djamena received 118 mm in 36 hours on 22-23 May. A substantial cloud associated with a Sahara depression was seen from Taoudenni, Timetrine and northern Adrar of Mali to eastern Mauritania on 30-31st.

Clouds were seen on METEOSAT imagery over eastern Sudan and the Ethiopian highlands during the entire month, often moving west and reaching central western Sudan at times. However, only light rains were reported mainly in eastern provinces and Northern Kordofan near El Obeid; moderate rain fell in Northern Kordofan at En-Nahud (1242N/2826E) which received 44 mm on the 15th. In the Railway area of Ethiopia, Dire-Dawa received 49 mm during the first decade; Jigjiga received 26 mm on the 21-22nd and light rain fell at the end of the decade in Djibouti. Daily cloud masses continued to build up over northern Somalia. As a result, ecological conditions are expected to be favourable on the north-western coastal plains and adjacent interior areas of northern Somalia and in the Railway area of Ethiopia.

Clouds were seen over the Asir mountains of Saudi Arabia, Yemen highlands and Tihama during the entire first decade where light rains were reported from central Asir and on the Saudi Arabian Tihama, Jizzan received 15 mm on the 8th. Breeding conditions are expected to be generally unfavourable except in some areas of recent rains.

In Baluchistan of Pakistan, light to medium rainfall was reported in Khuzdar on the 5th and Nushki on the 6th, and Quetta and Nushki on the 19th and breeding conditions continue to be favourable. In India-Pakistan summer breeding areas, light to medium rain was reported from Bahawalpur on the 19th, and heavy rains were reported at Bikaner, which received 84 mm on the 21st and in Rahimyar Khan on the 28-29th. The onset of the monsoon in Rajasthan is expected in late June or early July.

Elsewhere, above average rains were reported from Libya and some places in south and south-eastern Algeria. In-Amenas (2803N/0938E) received 53 mm on the 9th and 19 mm on the 12th. Cumulative totals for Tamanrasset and Djanet in Algeria were almost twice the monthly average.


AREA TREATED IN MAY 1991

Pakistan (May)

area details not available



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Isolated adults were seen by nomads in southern Tagant between Tichit (1825N/0933W) and Nijarane (1734N/0943W) during April.

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

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

No locusts were seen up to 25 May.

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

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

No locusts were reported up to 12 May.

ETHIOPIA

There was an unconfirmed report of immature and mature swarms at 8 localities north of Errer (0934N/4124E). No further details are available.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No locust activity was reported during April.

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

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

No locusts were reported during March and April.

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

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

A late report stated that isolated adults were present during the first fortnight of April in the interior of Baluchistan at Gar (2651N/6332E) in Panjgur district and at Bonep (2814N/6543E) in Kharan district on the 5th. Small numbers of solitary hoppers were present on the Makran at Karage (2521N/6322E) in Pasni District on the 10th.

During the second fortnight of April, isolated adults, at a density of 450 per sq. km, were reported on the Makran coast at Chakuli (2523N/6302E) in Pasni district and small numbers of 1st to 5th instar hoppers were seen at Chakuli and two other locations in the same area on the 23rd.

During the first fortnight of May, scattered adults were reported, at a density of 1,150 per sq. km., at Nakti (2537N/6611E) in Lasbela district on the 10th. Low to medium density 1st to 5th instar hoppers persisted on the Makran in Chakuli and adjacent areas. During the second fortnight of May, scattered adults were reported, at a density of 1,800 per sq. km., at Tumpgi (2518N/6328E) in Gwader district on the 21th where ground control operations were undertaken.

INDIA

During the second fortnight of April, isolated adults, at a density of 25 per sq. km., were reported at Bikampur (2745N/7208E) in Bikaner district on the 24th.

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



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Scattered adults present in Tagant and likely in central areas of Hodh el Chargi, Inchiri and Trarza may continue to move towards southern areas and start laying from the beginning of the forecast period if rains occur.

MALI

Scattered adults are likely to be present and early breeding may have started in areas of recent rain in northern Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna, with hoppers appearing early in the forecast period.

NIGER

Scattered adults are likely to be present and early breeding may have started in areas of recent rain in Tamesna and Aïr, with hoppers appearing early in the forecast period.

CHAD

Scattered adults may be present in northern and central areas and start to lay in areas of recent rains in Lake, Kanem, Batha, Biltine and Ouaddaï regions.

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

No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA

Scattered adults may be present and breeding on a small scale south-west and south of Tamanrasset in Tanezrouft Tan-Ahenet and Tassili areas respectively and south of Djanet in Erg d'Admer area, where recent rains may have fallen.

LIBYA, MOROCCO and TUNISIA

No significant developments are likely.

EAST AFRICA

SUDAN

Scattered adults are likely to be present in some areas of Northern Kordofan, Northern Darfur and White Nile Provinces and will begin to lay as rainfall occurs during the forecast period. Small scale breeding may have already started in areas of recent rain in Northern Kordofan, with hoppers appearing early in the forecast period.

ETHIOPIA

If the swarms reported are confirmed as Desert Locust, these are likely to lay during the forecast period in areas of recent rainfall. Every attempt should be made to confirm this report.

SOMALIA

The locust situation continues to remain unclear; however, scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding on the north-western coastal plains from Berbera to Djibouti.

DJIBOUTI

Scattered adults may be present on the coastal plains.

KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Scattered adults may be present in some wadis along the southern Tihama and in the interior east of the Asir mountains and breed where recent rains have fallen.

YEMEN

Scattered adults may be present in coastal areas of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden in the interior near Wadi Jawf, Ramlat Sabatayn and Wadi Hadhramaut.

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

No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

Late fledglings will appear early in the forecast period in Pasni district on the Makran coast and perhaps in adjacent areas of undetected breeding. However, further breeding is not expected in Baluchistan during the forecast period and adult numbers will decrease as they continue to move towards the Indo-Pakistan summer breeding areas. During the forecast period, small numbers of adults will appear in Tharparkar and Cholistan and early laying may occur in Cholistan as a result of recent heavy rains.

INDIA

Adult numbers will increase in Rajasthan and they will start to lay on a small scale with the onset of the monsoon rains. Early breeding may have already commenced in the Bikaner area, due to recent heavy rains which may allow an extra generation this season.

AFGHANISTAN and IRAN

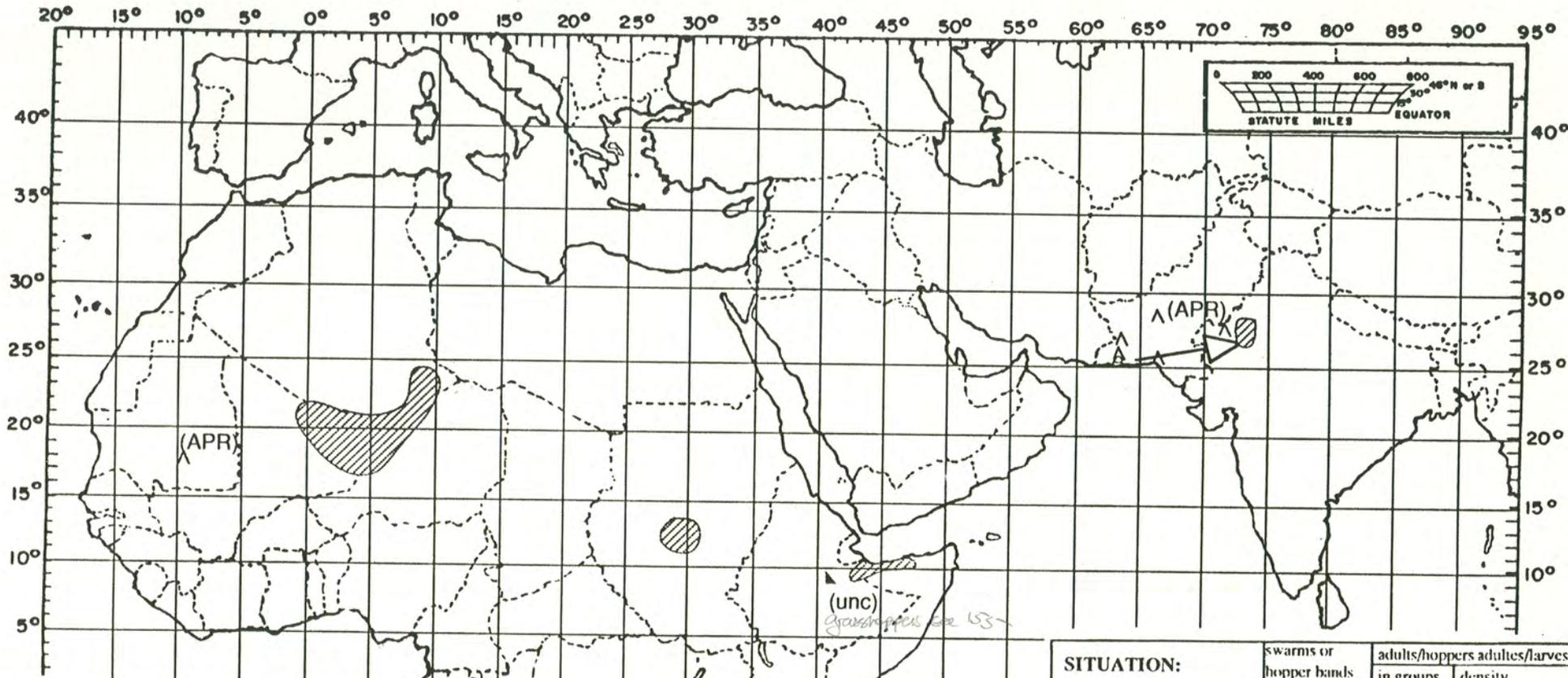
No significant developments are likely.

4 June 1991



Desert Locust: summary Criquet Pèlerin: situation résumée

No. 153



FORECAST TO: PREVISION AU:	15.7.91	LIKELY / PROBABLE	POSSIBLE POSSIBLE
current undetected breeding / reproduction en cours non détectées			
major swarm(s) / essaim(s) importantant(s)			
minor swarm(s) / essaim(s) limité(s)			
non swarm / aîlés non essaimant			

SITUATION: MAY 1991	swarms or hopper bands essaims ou bandes larvaires	adults/hoppers en groupes	adultes/larves density low/unknown densité faible/inconnue
	immature adults aîlés immatures		
mature or partly mature adults aîlés matures ou partiellement matures			
adults, maturity unknown aîlés, maturité inconnue			
egg laying or eggs pontes ou œufs			
hoppers larves			
hoppers & adults (combined symbol example) larves & adultes (exemple de symbole combiné)			