

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 152

GENERAL SITUATION DURING APRIL 1991 FORECAST UNTIL MID-JUNE 1991

The current recession continues with only one report of locusts received during April. Isolated adults were present on the Makran coast of Pakistan where above average rain continued to be reported on the coast and adjacent areas in the interior of Baluchistan during the month. As a result, conditions are expected to be favourable on the Makran coast and small scale breeding is likely to be in progress. Small numbers of adults will begin to move eastward towards the Indo-Pakistan summer breeding areas during the forecast period.

No locust reports were received from countries around the Red Sea. Isolated adults are likely to be present in some wadis on the Tihama of Saudi Arabia and Yemen. However, vegetation is expected to be dry in most areas and any adults present are likely to move towards the interior where recent rains have occurred. In Sudan, adults are likely to have already begun moving from the Red Sea coast to the summer breeding areas of the interior where early rains may have started in some areas. Isolated adults are likely to be present and breeding may occur on the north-western coast of Somalia, and a few adults may be present on the northern Red Sea coast of Ethiopia.

No locusts were reported during April from central Tunisia or adjacent areas of eastern Algeria and western Libya. However, small residual populations may be present and breeding may have occurred in areas of recent rainfall. Adults are likely to start moving towards to the summer breeding areas of the Sahel during the forecast period.

Isolated adults may be present in some areas of the Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali and in Tamesna and Aïr of Niger. These may start breeding if early rains occur, with hoppers first appearing by the end of the forecast period. Isolated adults may be present in some areas of western Mauritania and in Tibesti of Chad. Some adults may appear in southern Mauritania and north-central Chad and start laying at the end of the forecast period if early rains occur.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

During April, several eastward-moving depressions passed through the Mediterranean area producing light to moderate rainfall over parts of North Africa, the Arabian Peninsula and South-West Asia.

METEOSAT and ARTEMIS imagery indicated several cloud masses during the three decades over northern coastal zones and mountains of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia and over north-west Libya. Light to moderate rainfall was reported in these areas during most of the month. Gafsa in Tunisia received light rainfall on the 11th. These depressions extended to northern Saudi Arabia on the 3rd and the 15th with light rainfall, over Baluchistan on the 5th and the 15th, and over northern Egypt on the 27-30th with light rains. Isolated cloud masses were seen over Egypt on the 4th and 7-8th over the South-West Desert. A larger mass extended from this area on the 12th to the south-eastern Red Sea coast of Egypt on the 13-14th, associated with a depression on the 14th, extending to central Saudi Arabia on the 13-19th, and then joining a depression over the Gulf on the 18-19th. There was an unconfirmed report of heavy rainfall at Luxor on the 12th.

The ITCZ began its seasonal northward movement over the Sahel of West Africa, reaching as far north as 15°N at times and some cloud masses started to appear over southern parts of the Sahel with some light rainfall.

Clouds were seen on METEOSAT imagery for the first time of this season over Mali, south-west of Adrar and Tamesna on the 2nd and from south-west Mali to south-east Mauritania on the 17th. Hombori (1517N/0142W) and Nara (1510N/0717W) received light rainfall on the 16-17th. Depressions were present over the central Sahara on 12, 16, 19 and 21, but only upper level clouds were associated with them. Cloud masses associated with a depression indicated by the Bracknell model were seen from south-eastern Chad to western Sudan on the 4-6th and from the western Ethiopia highlands to south-eastern Sudan on the 8th, over central Chad again on the 25, 27 and 29.

Seasonal rains have already commenced in some parts of central Sudan. Localised clouds were seen over western Sudan from the 18th to the end of the month, extending to south of central regions at times from the 22d. In central Sudan, Kosti received 10mm and Gedaref received traces on the 19th, El Obeid received light rain on the 28-29 th. Clouds were seen on METEOSAT and ARTEMIS imagery on the 7-8th between Tokar and Karora, over Tokar on the 15th, and isolated cloud masses were seen over the northern coast of Eritrea at times during the first two decades.

As a result of isolated masses of clouds present on the northern coast of Somalia during the entire month, showers may have occurred. Breeding conditions are expected to be favourable mainly in the north-western coastal plains, the Railway Area of Ethiopia, and Djibouti. Although convective clouds were seen more frequently than in March on METEOSAT over both sides of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and these may have produced some localised showers in mountains and perhaps coastal areas, breeding conditions are not expected to be favourable on the Tihama of Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

METEOSAT and ARTEMIS imagery have shown cloud masses on northern and central Saudi Arabia on 2-3, 6, and 8-10 with light rainfall. 25 mm of rain was reported from Riyadh on the 11th. During the first two decades, isolated clouds were seen over the Asir mountains and Yemen highlands, extending at times to the coast with light rainfall reported in the Asir mountains on the 14-17, 20 and 30. Cloud masses were seen on METEOSAT imagery from the central Arabian Peninsula to Oman and UAE on the 6th, on Jebel Akhdar and along the coast from the Tihama of Yemen to Oman on the 24th.

A cloud mass was seen over the south-eastern coast of Iran and the Makran of Pakistan on the 2nd and 23-28th. Light to heavy rainfall was reported during the first fortnight of April in Baluchistan of Pakistan. Light to moderate rain fell on 2, 7-8 and 11, and moderate to important and widespread rainfall on 12-14 in Quetta district; light rainfall occurred in Nushki, Bahawalpur and Rahimyar Khan on the 8th. As a result, conditions are expected to be favourable in most parts of coastal areas and in some parts of the interior of Baluchistan.

In India, Bikaner received 11 mm on 11 April; however, breeding conditions are expected to be unfavourable in Rajasthan at present.



During April, there were no control operations.



WEST AFRICA

No locust information had been received from countries in the region up to 30 April.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

No locusts were seen during April.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 April.

EASTERN AFRICA

DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No locust activity was reported during the second half of March.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 April.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

A late report was received stating that no locusts were reported in February.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 April.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

IRAN

A late report was received stating that low densities of adults were seen in Sistan and Baluchistan provinces, mainly in the coastal areas near Chahbahar (2520N/6030E) during February.

PAKISTAN

Scattered solitary adults were reported on the Makran coast with a maximum density of 900 per sq. km at Goranichah (2521N/6222E) in Gawadar district on 8 April.

INDIA

No locust activity was reported during the second half of March and the first half of April.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 April.



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Scattered adults may be present in Dakhlet Nouadhibou, Inchiri, Trarza and Tagant and move towards southern areas and, if early rains occur, start laying at the end of the forecast period.

MALI

Scattered adults may be present in some wadis of Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna and start to breed if early rains occur, with hoppers first appearing at the end of the forecast period.

NIGER

Scattered adults may be present in some wadis of Tamesna and Aïr and start to breed if early rains occur, with hoppers first appearing at the end of the forecast period.

CHAD

Scattered adults may be present in some wadis of Tibesti and other adults may appear by the end of the forecast period in Borkou and Ennedi regions, and in northern areas of Kanem, Batha, Biltine and Ouaddaï regions if early rains occur in these areas.

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

No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

A few isolated adults may be present in some wadis south of the Atlas in Oued Draa and in the extreme south-west of the Sahara. Numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move towards summer breeding areas of the Sahel.

ALGERIA

Scattered adults may be present and small scale breeding may have occurred in some areas in the central Sahara in Tademait plateau, Tidikelt plain, Tinhert plateau, Adrar N'Ahnet and Mouydir. Numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move towards summer breeding areas of the Sahel.

TUNISIA

Isolated adults may have persisted and small scale breeding may have occurred in a few areas of central Tunisia south of Gafsa; however, numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move towards summer breeding areas of the Sahel.

LIBYA

A few isolated adults may be present in some areas in Al Hamada Al Hamra; however, numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move towards summer breeding areas of the Sahel.

EAST AFRICA

SUDAN

Small numbers of adults will move towards summer breeding areas, primarily the interior of Red Sea, White Nile and Northern Kordofan provinces, but may reach as far west as Northern Darfur, and start laying at the end of the forecast period in areas of early rainfall. However, no significant developments are likely.

ETHIOPIA

Scattered adults may be present on the northern Red Sea coast of Eritrea. However, numbers will decrease during the forecast period as the adults move towards summer breeding areas.

SOMALIA

Scattered adults may be present and breeding on the north-western coastal plains from Berbera to Djibouti where recent rains have occurred.

DJIBOUTI

Scattered adults may be present in some coastal areas and breeding in areas of recent rainfall.

KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

EGYPT

A few isolated adults may be present in the South-Eastern Desert and adjacent areas of the southern Red Sea coast.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

A few isolated adults may be present and breeding in some wadis along the southern Tihama. However, ecological conditions are expected to be dry; numbers will decrease as adults move towards the interior and breed in areas of recent rainfall.

YEMEN

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding in some wadis along the southern Tihama. During the forecast period, adults and hoppers may appear in the interior from Wadis Najran and Jawf to Ramlat Sabatayn and Wadi Hadhramaut and breed in areas of recent rainfall.

OMAN

A few isolated adults may be present on the Batinah coast and in Sharqiya; however, numbers will decrease by the end of the forecast period.

UAE

A few isolated adults may be present on the Fujairah coast; however, numbers will decrease by the end of the forecast period.

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

No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

Small scale breeding is likely to be in progress in areas of recent rainfall on the Makran coast and perhaps in the interior desert of Baluchistan. However, numbers will decrease by the end of the forecast period as adults move towards the Indo-Pakistan summer breeding areas.

INDIA

Isolated adults are likely to be present in some areas of Rajasthan. By the end of the forecast period, numbers will increase as adults move in from the west and start to lay.

IRAN

A few scattered adults may be present on the Sistan and Baluchistan coasts; however, numbers will decrease as adults move towards the Indo-Pakistan summer breeding areas.

AFGHANISTAN

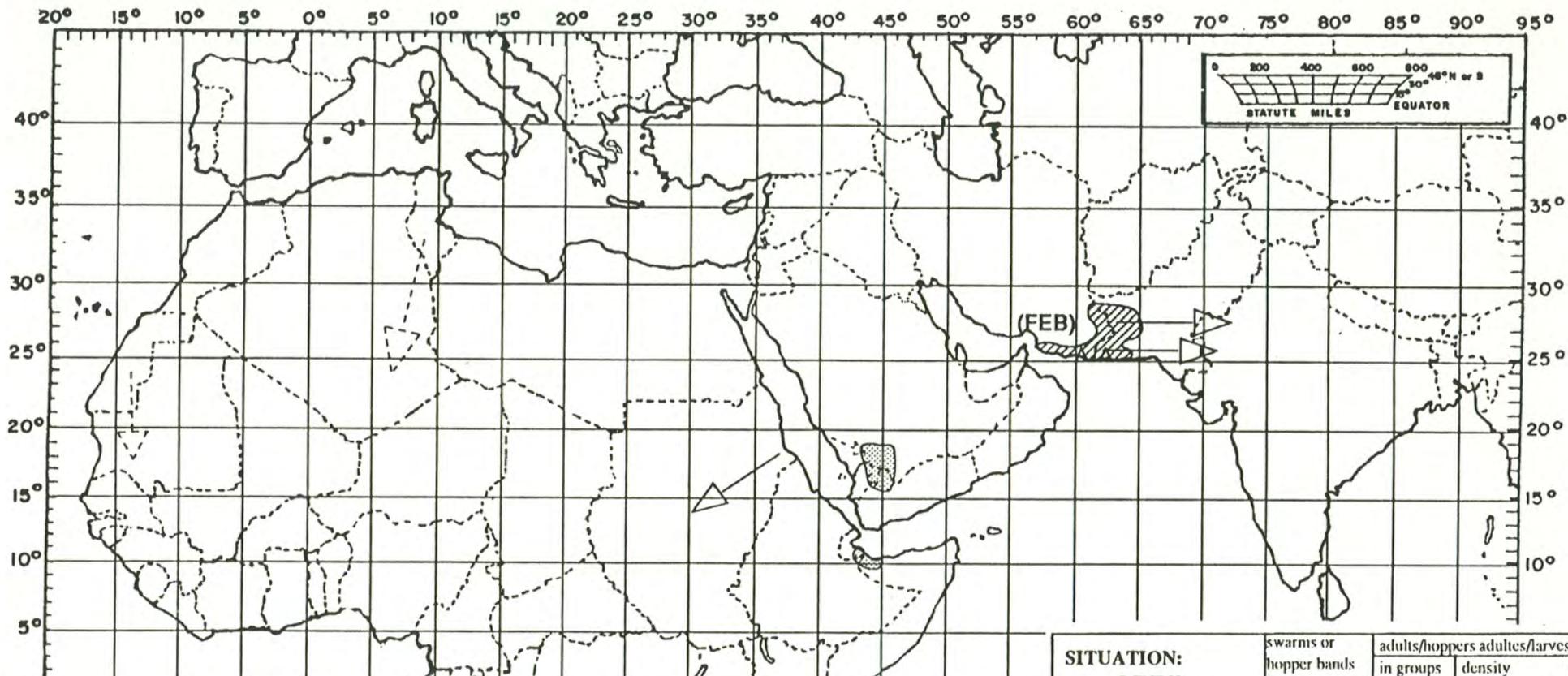
No significant developments are likely.

2nd May 1991



Desert Locust: summary Criquet Pèlerin: situation résumée

No. 152



FORECAST TO: PREVISION AU:	15.6.91	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: APRIL 1991	swarms or hopper bands essaims ou bandes larvaires	adults/hoppers in groups 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)		