

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 151

GENERAL SITUATION DURING MARCH 1991 FORECAST UNTIL MID MAY 1991

The current recession continues with only one report of locusts received during March. A few isolated mature adults were seen by ground surveys in central Tunisia in early March. These are almost certainly residual populations from last November. Although ground surveys in March found no locusts in adjacent areas of eastern Algeria and western Libya, scattered adults may be present in some areas that received rains during the month. Small scale breeding may be in progress and early fledglings may appear by the end of the forecast period.

Although no locusts were reported elsewhere, small numbers of adults are likely to be present and breeding on the south-eastern coast of Iran and the Makran coast of Pakistan and adjacent interior areas of Baluchistan where light to heavy rains fell during March. A late report indicated that low-density adult populations were present in Sistan and Baluchistan of Iran during January. By the end of the forecast period, small numbers of adults may begin to move east towards the Indo-Pakistan summer monsoon breeding areas.

It is likely that a few scattered adults are present in some wadis along the coastal plains on both sides of the Red Sea in Sudan, northern Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. However, vegetation conditions are believed to be dry in most coastal areas and locust numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move toward summer breeding areas of the interior of Sudan and Saudi Arabia. A few adults may also be present in Ramlat Sabatayn and Wadi Hadhramaut of Yemen and on the Batinah coast and Sharqiya of Oman where METEOSAT imagery suggested that light rain may have fallen during the month.

Small numbers of adults are likely to be present on the north-western coast of Somalia and will breed in areas where rains may have recently occurred.

Isolated adults may be present in some areas of western Mauritania, Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali, Tamesna and Air of Niger, and Tibesti of Chad.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

During March, several eastward-moving depressions passed through the Mediterranean area and may have resulted in rainfall in parts of North-West Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, and South-West Asia. Light to moderate rain may have occurred in northern Morocco on the 4th, 12th, 23rd, and 29-30th, northern and central areas of Algeria and Tunisia on the 1-2nd, 13-15th, 24th, and 29-30th, most of Tunisia on the 8th, 16th, 18-19th, and 30th, western Libya on the 19-20th and 30th, central Arabian Peninsula on the 22-24th and 30th, UAE and northern Oman on the 13th, 16th, 18-19th, 25-28th, and 31st, and Baluchistan of Iran and Pakistan on the 13th, 15-17th, and 25-31st. There was an unconfirmed report of torrential rains in the M'zab area of eastern Algeria on the 14-15th. ARTEMIS satellite imagery suggested that rain may have occurred in Tunisia as far south as Tozeur, Gafsa, and Kebili during the second decade. Widespread light rains were reported from Pakistan during the first half of the month in the Kharan, Nushki, Quetta, Khuzdar, Turbat, Pasni, and Karachi areas. Rain was also reported from Sistan and Baluchistan of Iran during the 23-24th. Breeding conditions are expected to be favourable or improving in these areas.

Clouds were seen on METEOSAT imagery during most of the month over southern Red Sea coastal areas. As a result, localized light to moderate rainfall may have occurred at times on the Ethiopian coast during the 5-20th, 29th and 31st, over the southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia and Yemen during the second decade, along the coasts of Djibouti and north-western Somalia during the 11-13th and 24-25th, extending to the north-eastern coast of Somalia on the 26-31st, and from the coast of Sudan to the central Tihama of Saudi Arabia on the 22-23rd, moving south to the Ethiopian coast and Yemen Tihama on the 24th. METEOSAT imagery suggested that localized thunderstorms may have occurred near Dire Dawa and railway area of Ethiopia on the 1-2nd and north-western Somalia on the 4th. The incidences of these storms appeared to be increasing by the end of the month. Vegetation conditions are generally dry along the Red Sea coastal plains except in some wadis and cropping areas and along the north-western coast of Somalia.

METEOSAT and ARTEMIS imagery indicated several cloud masses associated with a depression over the interior of the south-western Arabian peninsula which may have produced localized rainfall in Wadi Najran of Saudi Arabia on the 6th and 25th, widespread light rains from Yemen to Oman on the 7th and from Hadhramaut of Yemen to central Oman on the 11-12th and the 26-28th. Breeding conditions are expected to be improving in these areas.

A substantial cloud mass was seen on METEOSAT over the extreme south-western area of Morocco from the 1-4th. Clouds, possibly upper level, were seen over western-central Algeria on the 11th, and a band of clouds were visible over the Sahara on the 26-27th with a substantial cloud mass over Tibesti of Chad; however, no significant rain is expected to have fallen.



AREA TREATED IN MARCH 1991

During March, there were no reports of control operations.



WEST AFRICA

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

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

No locust surveys were undertaken during February.

ALGERIA

No locusts were seen during surveys undertaken from 21 February to 13 March in the eastern region.

TUNISIA

A few isolated mature adults were present in the Nefzaoua region of central Tunisia at Chereb Ed Dakhilani (3400N/0909E) in early March.

LIBYA

No locusts were seen during surveys undertaken from 21 February to 13 March in the Al Hamada Al Hamra of western Libya.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

No locusts were seen on the Red Sea coast up to 11 March.

SOMALIA

No locust surveys were undertaken during the second half of February and first half of March.

DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA, and UGANDA

No locusts were reported during the second half of February.

NEAR EAST

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

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

No locusts were reported during the first half of March.

INDIA

No locusts were reported during the second half of February and the first half of March.

IRAN

A late report was received stating that low-density scattered adults were seen in Sistan and Baluchistan provinces during January.

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



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Scattered adults may be present and breeding in northern and western areas of Tiris-Zemmour and Adrar, and in Dakhlet-Nouadhibou and Inchiri. Some of these may begin to move south towards Trarza and Tagant during the forecast period.

MALI

Isolated adults may be present in some wadis of Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna.

NIGER

Isolated adults may continue to be present in some areas of Tamesna and Air.

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

Scattered adults may be present and breeding in areas of green vegetation south of the Atlas in Oued Draa and in the extreme south-western parts of the Sahara.

ALGERIA

Scattered adults may be present and breed in some wadis of the central Sahara near M'zab, Tademait Plateau, Tidikelt Plain, Tinrhert Plateau, Adrar N'Ahnet, and Mouydir.

TUNISIA

Small scale breeding is likely to be in progress in areas of green vegetation between Kebili and Gafsa. Early fledglings may appear by the end of the forecast period.

LIBYA

A few scattered adults may be present and breeding in some areas of Al Hamada Al Hamra.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Locust numbers will decrease on the Red Sea coast during the forecast period as adults move toward summer breeding areas of central and western Sudan. A few scattered adults may appear in White Nile, Northern Kordofan, and Northern Darfur provinces by the end of the forecast period; however, these are not likely to be present in significant numbers.

ETHIOPIA

A few scattered adults may be present on the northern Red Sea coast of Eritrea; however, numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move toward summer breeding areas.

SOMALIA

Small numbers of adults are likely to be present on the north-western coastal plains from Berbera to Djibouti and breed in areas of recent rainfall.

DJIBOUTI

Scattered adults may be present on the coastal plains and breed in areas of recent rains.

KENYA, TANZANIA, and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST**EGYPT**

A few scattered adults may be present in the South-Eastern Desert.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Scattered adults are likely to be present in some wadis along the Tihama from Lith to the Yemen border; however, numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults move into the interior. A few adults may appear in the Wadi Najran area during the forecast period and breed in areas of recent rainfall.

YEMEN

Scattered adults are likely to be present along the Tihama and coastal plains of Aden and Abyan and breed if rainfall occurs. A few adults may appear in interior areas from Wadis Najran and Jawf to Ramlat Sabatayn and Wadi Hadhramaut during the forecast period.

OMAN

A few scattered adults may be present on the Batinah coast and Sharqiya and breed early in the forecast period. However, numbers are likely to start to decrease by the end of the forecast period.

UAE

Scattered adults may be present on the Fujairah coast and breed early in the forecast period. However, numbers are likely to start to 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 numbers of adults are likely to be present and breeding on the Makran and in interior areas of Baluchistan with fledglings appearing during the forecast period. By the end of the forecast period, adults may begin to move towards the Indo-Pakistan summer monsoon breeding areas. Surveys are recommended in Makran and Baluchistan.

INDIA

Isolated adults are likely to be present and persist in some areas of Rajasthan.

IRAN

Small scale breeding is likely to be in progress and continue during the forecast period on the south-eastern coast and in interior areas of Sistan and Baluchistan with fledglings appearing during the forecast period. By the end of the forecast period, adults may begin to move towards the Indo-Pakistan summer monsoon breeding areas. Surveys are recommended in Baluchistan and Sistan.

AFGHANISTAN

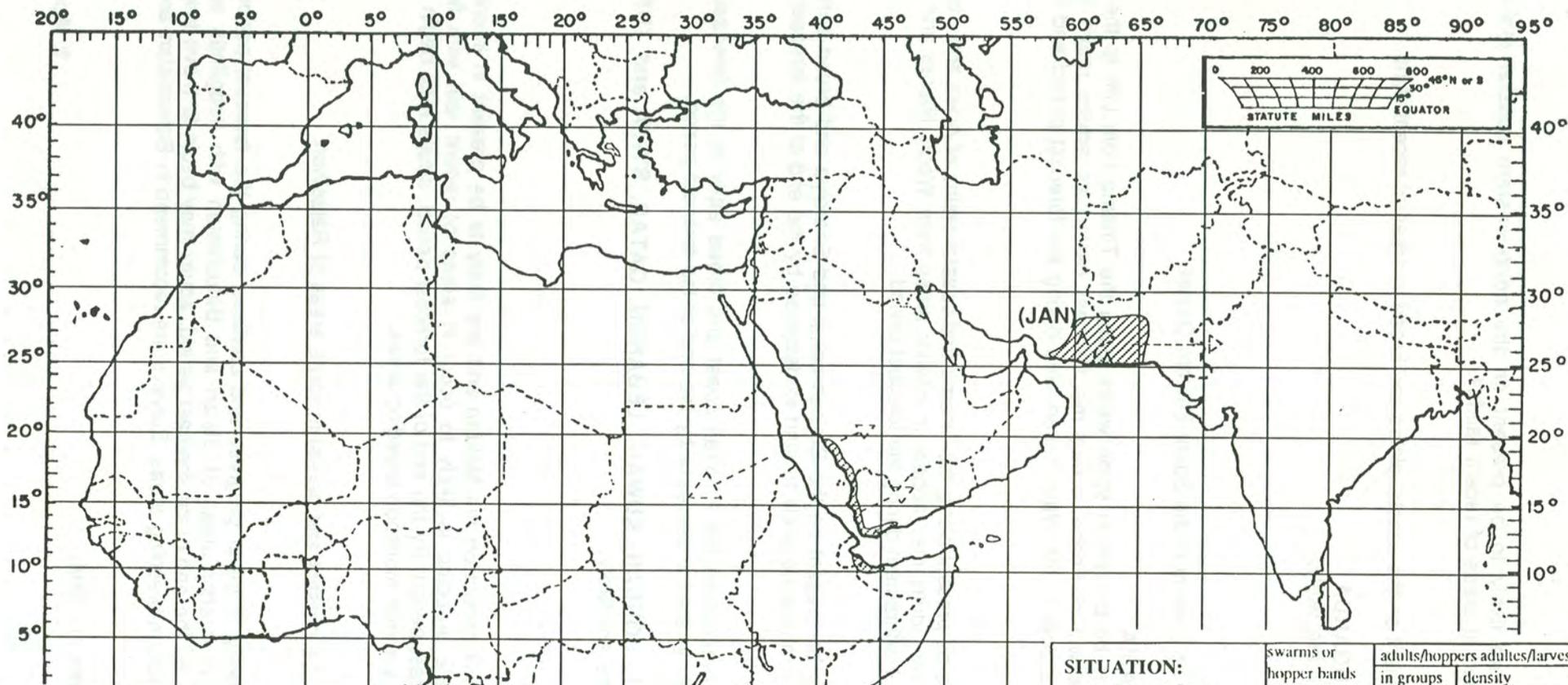
No significant developments are likely.

2 April 1991



Desert Locust: summary Criquet Pèlerin: situation résumée

No. 151



FORECAST TO: PREVISION AU: 15.5.91	LIKELY / PROBABLE	POSSIBLE POSSIBLE
current undetected breeding / reproduction en cours non détectées		
major swarm(s) / essaim(s) important(s)		
minor swarm(s) / essaim(s) limité(s)		
non swarm / aîlés non essaimant		

**SITUATION:
MARCH
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)	◼	◼	◼