

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 150

GENERAL SITUATION DURING FEBRUARY 1991 FORECAST UNTIL MID APRIL 1991

The recession continues with very few reports of Desert Locusts received during February. Isolated adults present in the Tokar delta of Sudan and similar populations are likely to be present along the Tihama of Saudi Arabia and Yemen and the coast of Ethiopia. By the end of the forecast period, numbers are likely to decrease in these areas as adults begin to move towards summer breeding areas of central and western Sudan and the interior of the Arabian peninsula. Elsewhere, scattered adults were present in Tamesna and Air of Niger and a few adults were reported in Rajasthan of India. Small numbers of adults are likely to be present on the northern coastal plains of Somalia and in Makran and some interior areas of Baluchistan of Iran and Pakistan, where breeding may be in progress as a result of recent rains.

METEOSAT imagery indicated significant clouds during the month over the southern Red sea coasts of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Ethiopia, and Djibouti, and along the Gulf of Aden coasts of Yemen and Somalia. Substantial widespread clouds were also seen over northern Oman throughout the month. As a result, light to moderate rainfall is likely to have occurred in some areas and conditions for breeding are expected to be improving.

Elsewhere, scattered adults may be present in parts of central Algeria, the extreme south-west of Morocco, and in north-western Mauritania where breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation. Surveys are recommended in these areas during the forecast period. Isolated adults may be present in the Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali, and Tibesti of Chad.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

During February, eastward-moving depressions occurred over the Mediterranean which may have caused light to moderate rainfall in northern Algeria and central and northern Tunisia on the 2-4th, north-western Libya on the 4th, northern Morocco on the 12-13th, northern Algeria and Tunisia on the 13-14th, 17-20th, and 27th. As some of these depressions continued east, substantial cloud masses occurred over UAE and the northern Batinah of Oman on the 2-4th, from Batinah to Sharqiya on the 6-7th, 12-14th, and 18th, northern Batinah and south-eastern coast of Iran on the 21-22nd, and Baluchistan of Iran and Pakistan on the 3-9th, 12th, and 17-18th. There were reports of heavy floods in south-eastern Iran during the first week of February. Light to heavy widespread rains were reported during the first half of February in Baluchistan and lower Sind of Pakistan. Light rain may have also fallen in parts of northern Oman during the above mentioned periods. As a result, conditions are favourable for breeding in areas of Baluchistan and are likely to be improving in the Batinah and Sharqiya of Oman.

Bands of upper level clouds over the Sahara were visible on METEOSAT satellite imagery extending from Mauritania to Libya and Egypt on the 1-4th, 12-16th, and 19-20th; however, no significant widespread rain is likely to have resulted although localized light rainfall may have occurred in a few areas of Oued Draa in Morocco, the central Sahara of Algeria, and in isolated areas of Inchiri and Dakhlet-Nouadhibou of Mauritania as indicated by ARTEMIS. Assekrem in southern Algeria reported 10 mm on the 15th.

Localized thunderstorms were seen on METEOSAT imagery over the southern Red Sea coast of Sudan and northern Eritrea on the 1st and isolated clouds were seen on the 8-14th spreading to Djibouti and the north-western coast of Somalia on the 10th and extending from the southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia to the Aden-Mukalla coast of Yemen on the 9-14th, 19-20th and 28th. Clouds were also seen over the north-western Somali coast on 16-20th. As a result, light to moderate rains may have occurred in some of these areas. Djibouti received heavy rain on the 8-13th. In Sudan, no significant rainfall was reported from the Red Sea coast during the first half of February and average seasonal rainfall is well below normal. Consequently, conditions are generally unfavourable for breeding on the entire coast except in cropping areas of the Tokar Delta and in a few wadis on the central coast near Suakin. Similar conditions are expected on the Tihama of Saudi Arabia and Yemen, the Aden-Mukalla coast of Yemen, and the north-western coast of Somalia. METEOSAT imagery indicated local thunderstorms near Dire Dawa and the railway area of Ethiopia on the 9-10th and 21-26th and on the central Eritrean coast on the 27-28th.

Bands of clouds were seen by METEOSAT imagery over the northern Red Sea extending over the coasts of Egypt and northern Sudan and the northern Tihama of Saudi Arabia on the 1-2nd and 5th. A small cloud mass was visible over the South-Eastern Desert of Egypt and northern Sudanese coast on the 6th and again on the 21-25th which may have produce light rainfall. METEOSAT and ARTEMIS imagery suggested light rainfall may have occurred from Wadi Najran of Saudi Arabia to Wadi Jawf of Yemen on one day each during the first two decades of February and in localized areas of the Asir Mountains and Yemen Highlands on the 24-27th.

Further details were received of rainfall in Egypt previously reported in Bulletin No. 149. Unusually widespread light to moderate rains occurred from 31 December 1990 to 2 January 1991 along the central and southern Red Sea coasts from Ras Gharib to Wadi Diib and Shalatein and further inland from Aswan to Qena.



During February, there were no reports of control operations.



WEST AFRICA

NIGER

An immature adult was found in Tamesna on 20 January at 1808N/0634E and two immature adults were seen in Air between Arlit and Iferouane at 1850N/0800E on 16-18 February.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 28 February.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

No locusts were seen during January.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 28 February.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Scattered adults continued to persist during February at a few locations in Tokar Delta where isolated late instar hoppers were seen early in the month.

DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOMALIA, TANZANIA, and UGANDA

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

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 28 February.

NEAR EAST

No locust information had been received from countries in the region up to 28 February.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

No locusts were reported during the second half of January or in February.

INDIA

A late report was received indicating isolated adults, at a density of 10 per sq. km., at Pugal (2831N/7248E) on 10 January. No locusts were seen during the second half of January.

Scattered adults, at a density of 25 per sq. km., were reported from Sewra (2732N/7217E) in Bikaner district of Rajasthan on 11 February.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 28 February.

**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. Surveys are recommended in these areas by the end of the forecast period.

MALI

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

NIGER

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

CHAD

Scattered 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 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 Tademait Plateau, Tidikelt Plain, Tinrhert Plateau, Adrar N'Ahnet, and Mouydir. Early fledglings may appear at the end of the forecast period. Surveys are recommended in these areas.

TUNISIA

Scattered adults may be present and small scale breeding may occur near Gafsa and Kebili.

LIBYA

No significant developments are likely.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Scattered adults are likely to persist in areas of green vegetation, primarily Tokar Delta; however, numbers will decrease by the end of the forecast period as adults begin to move toward summer breeding areas of central and western Sudan.

ETHIOPIA

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

SOMALIA

Small numbers of adults are likely to be present on the northern coastal plains and breed if rainfall occurs; otherwise, they are likely to disperse and move further west.

DJIBOUTI

Scattered adults may be present on the coastal plains.

KENYA, TANZANIA, and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

EGYPT

Scattered adults may be present in the South-Eastern Desert and breed in areas of green vegetation.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Scattered adults are likely to be present in some wadis along the Tihama from Lith to the Yemen border where small scale breeding may be in progress. Numbers will decrease during the forecast period as adults begin to move into the interior.

YEMEN

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

OMAN

Scattered adults may be present on the Batinah coast and Sharqiya and breed in areas of green vegetation.

UAE

Scattered adults may be present on the Fujairah coast and breed in areas of green vegetation.

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 on the Makran where breeding may be in progress and in interior areas of Baluchistan. By the end of the forecast period as temperatures rise and vegetation becomes dry in coastal areas, adult numbers are likely to increase in the interior of Baluchistan and start to breed. Surveys are recommended in these areas.

INDIA

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

IRAN

Scattered adults are likely to be present on the south-eastern coast where breeding may be in progress and in interior areas of Sistan and Baluchistan. By the end of the forecast period as temperatures rise and vegetation becomes dry in coastal areas, adult numbers are likely to increase in the interior of Sistan and Baluchistan and start to breed. Surveys are recommended in these areas.

AFGHANISTAN

No significant developments are likely.



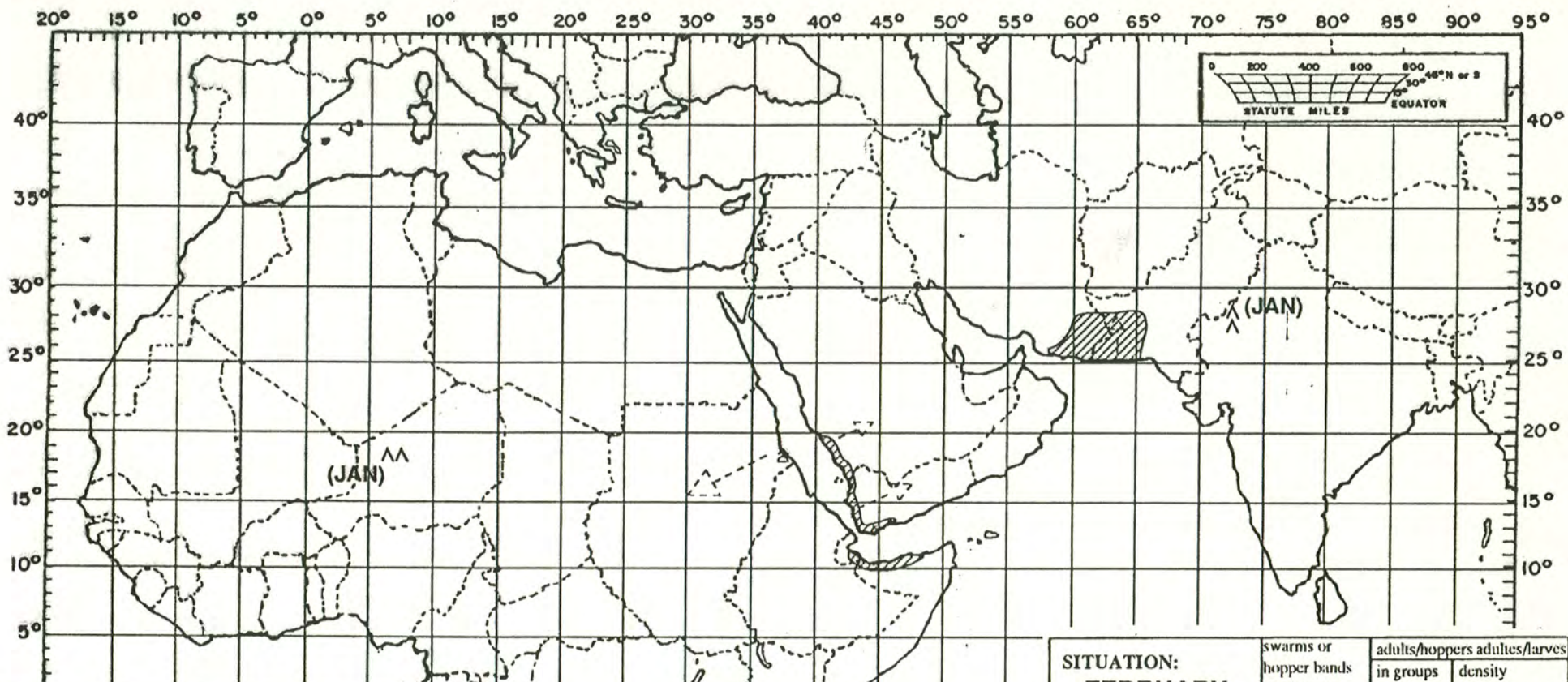
We regret to announce the death on 18 February in northern Niger of Mr. Pierre Blanchet, a French logistician who has been involved in locust survey and control operations for many years. We wish to express our condolences to his family and his government.

28 February 1991



Desert Locust: summary Criquet Pèlerin: situation résumée

No. 150



FORECAST TO: PREVISION AU: 15.4.91	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:
FEBRUARY
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)	◼	◻	◻