

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 140

GENERAL SITUATION DURING APRIL 1990 FORECAST UNTIL MID JUNE 1990

A seasonal upsurge of Desert Locusts has occurred in Oman. Gregarizing hoppers of all instars were widespread on the Batinah coast in late April. Fledging is likely to be in progress and will probably continue. Several small swarms are likely to form from May onwards. Most of the young adults will migrate northwards and north-eastwards. These locusts, and also adults derived from non swarm breeding in the Mekran of Pakistan, are likely to invade the Indo-Pakistan summer breeding area but probably not before late May. On the southern side of the Jebel Akhdar, numerous patches of hoppers have been found and also scattered adults at high density. Heavy rain fell in this area on 13 March and 11 April with flooding in the wadis. Some small swarms may form in the near future. These swarms, as well as those adults already present, will most probably persist and lay. This would give rise to a substantial swarming population in the next forecast period.

No important developments have been reported from other regions elsewhere in the recession area. The forecast period is one when movement to the summer breeding areas commences. However, very few adults indeed have been reported and very few are likely to be present. Adult numbers are likely to increase in southern Mauritania and in the Adrar des Iforas, Tamesna and Air areas of Mali and Niger but the densities will be very low.



Heavy rainfall was reported in Morocco for the first and third decades of March, especially south of the High Atlas mountains and along the coast from Agadir to Laayoun. Nevertheless, natural vegetation is drying in the Souss Valley and is already dry further to the south and east. A satellite greenness index map suggests that green vegetation was present in Oued Draa during the third decade of March and the first decade of April.

Satellite "cold cloud" maps for the third decade of March suggest that rain may have fallen over north Mauritania, the north east of Algeria and western part of Sahara. During the first and second decades of April the transmissions of METEOSAT imagery were disrupted, however those images which were received show a substantial cloud mass over south eastern Algeria and western Libya on 16 and 17 April. METEOSAT images for 27 to 30 April also show a cloud mass extending from south-west Algeria to the Libyan coast.

No significant rainfall was reported from West Africa during April. Vegetation in the Timetrine area of Mali was reported to be dry and there were only a few small green areas remaining in southern Tamesna.

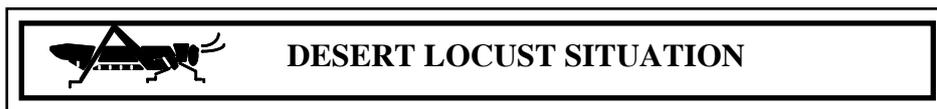
In eastern Africa, rainfall occurred at the beginning of March in Djibouti and in the lowland areas of eastern Ethiopia; METEOSAT imagery suggests that rain probably also occurred in the same area on 24 April. Vegetation is reported to be green. METEOSAT imagery also revealed clouds which may have produced rain on the north eastern coastal plain of Somalia on 11 April; the cloud extended across the Gulf of Aden and may have produced rain on the coastal plains of the south west of the Arabian Peninsula. METEOSAT imagery for 24 to 29 April show large cumulus cloud cells over the Hijaz mountains and Djibouti and a dense band of cumulus clouds over the Arabian Peninsula. The short range forecast was of rain from these cloud formations from 26 to 29 April in a strip from the Red Sea coast of Ethiopia north east across the Arabian peninsula to the Persian Gulf. An

unconfirmed report has been received of torrential rain and flooding in Saudi Arabia at the end of April, no further details are available. The band of cloud had moved further east by 30 April and light rains were forecast for Oman south of Jebel Akhdar for 1 May. The vegetation on the southern Tihama dried out during April. Large areas of green vegetation were reported in northern Oman during mid March and conditions were said to be suitable for breeding. Some wadis in Gharbiya were seen to be flowing and standing water was reported in some areas of Sharqiya between Mintirib and Sur as a result of widespread heavy rains in mid February. Light rain was reported on the 2nd and 4th April. METEOSAT imagery indicated substantial clouds on the 8th over northern Oman. On 13 March and 11 April, heavy rainfall occurred in Sharqiyah, in Oman Dakhil, and in north and south Batinah, but the vegetation was reported on 25 April to be drying in Batinah.

Light to moderate rainfall was reported in Kharan, Nushki, Turbat, and Quetta areas of Baluchistan, in west Rajasthan of India during the second half of March and there were light rains in Baluchistan during the first week of April.



In Oman, 1,750 ha were sprayed during the second half of March, including 1,000 ha from the ground in six wadis in the Sharqiyah area and 750 ha by aircraft in Al Abyad area (2340N/5745E).



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

A few scattered solitary adults were reported in Inchiri and southern Adrar in March.

MALI

Immature adults at densities of 5 to 40 per ha. were found in the north of Tombouctou, on 2 April over 100 ha in An Ete (1652N/0246E), on 6 April over 30 ha in Iminiyan (1657N/0227E) and over 50 ha in Acha-Midran (1653N/0226E); a few scattered solitary adults were also reported from Adrar des Iforas.

GUINEA CONAKRY

No locusts were found during ground surveys from 20 February to 27 March and the country was reported to be free of Desert Locusts.

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

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

The locust situation was reported to be calm up to 17 April.

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

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

No locusts were reported up to 22 April.

DJIBOUTI

No locusts were found during ground surveys carried out during the first half of March.

ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA, and UGANDA

The locust situation was reported calm up to 15 March.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

The situation was reported to be calm up to 15 April.

YEMEN AR

The situation was reported to be calm up to 15 April.

OMAN

In March, populations of mature adults and third to fourth instar hoppers were reported in Sharqiya 10 km south of Mintirib (2226N/5848E) and on the 16th near Sumayil

(2319N/5801E). Adult densities were reported to be up to 50 per sq. m. and there were some signs of gregarisation. On 22 April scattered adults and groups of gregarious hoppers were found in most of the places sampled from Beni Abu Bihad (2242N/5919E) to Ras al Hadd (2232N/5948E) and from 90 km north of Ibra (2243N/5832E) and fledging is certain to be in progress. Scattered adults and hoppers are also probably present in the northern Wahiba sands (2156N/5855E).

Low density adults were seen between As Seeb (2341N/5811E) and Rustaq (2323N/5726E) on 16 April. High density groups of hoppers, mainly first and second instars, were being treated in the same area.

In early April, high density breeding was reported over a total area of 50 sq. km. on the Batinah coast at Al Abyadh (2328N/5740E), Rumais (2341N/5759E), Barka (2343N/5753E), Masnaah (2346N/5738E) and Sohar (2422N/5645E). Aerial spraying of 7.5 sq. km. was carried out in Al Abyadh; the infestations were of mixed solitary and gregarious locusts at densities up to ten adults per sq. m. and some were copulating and laying. Some small bands were reported to be present on drying vegetation in the south Batinah on the 19 of April.

Scattered nymphs and adults were found on dried or drying vegetation during ground surveys carried out along the south of Jebel Akhdar on the 25 April, from Ibra to Buraimi (2415N/5545E).

Over 1,750 ha have been treated since mid March by ground and aerial control operations. Locusts reported to have been treated in the area north of Salalah in south west Oman were later confirmed as Tree Locusts.

EGYPT

No locusts were reported up to 3 April

KUWAIT

Surveys were carried out in Al Wafra (2833N/4803E) and Al Abdaly (2902N/4743E) during February but no locusts were found.

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

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

No locusts were reported during the second half of March. On 14 April, a solitary population of 13,500 adults per sq. km. was present at Shooli (2536N/6206E) in the Mekran.

INDIA

Scattered adults, at a density of 60 per sq. km., were reported at Pugal (2831N/7248E) in Rajasthan on 26 March. The country was reported to be free from any locust activity during the period 1-15 April.

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

NEW ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

No requests for assistance against Desert Locusts had been received up to 30 April.

NEW ASSISTANCE PLEDGED

No information regarding assistance against Desert Locusts had been received up to 30 April.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We wish to announce with deep regret the death on 23 April of Mr Soumana Sountera, the Director of the Plant Protection Service of Mali and express our condolences to his family and his government.



FORECAST UNTIL MID JUNE 1990

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Small numbers of adults are likely to be present in Inchiri, Adrar, Tagant, and Trarza regions where they may lay if rainfall occurs.

MALI

Scattered adults are present in the Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna where small scale breeding is likely if rainfall occurs.

NIGER

Scattered adults are likely to be present in Tamesna and perhaps Air where small scale breeding is likely if rainfall occurs.

CHAD

Scattered adults may be present in areas of green vegetation in central and northern regions and may breed if rainfall occurs.

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

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

A few scattered locusts may be present in the extreme south-west and in Oued Draa, however, numbers are likely to decrease during the forecast period.

ALGERIA

A few scattered locusts may be present in the central and southern Sahara, however, numbers are likely to decrease during the forecast period unless significant rain falls.

LIBYA

A few scattered locusts may be present in the central and southern Sahara; however, numbers are likely to decrease during the forecast period unless significant rain falls.

TUNISIA

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

EASTERN AFRICA**SUDAN**

A few scattered adults may be present in Darfur and Kordofan provinces and small scale breeding may occur if significant rainfall occurs.

SOMALIA

Small numbers of adults may be present in western areas of the northern coastal plain where small scale breeding may have occurred.

ETHIOPIA, DJIBOUTI, KENYA, UGANDA, and TANZANIA

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

NEAR EAST**YEMEN PDR**

Small numbers of adults may reach the Hadhramaut and the coastal plains from eastern Arabia.

OMAN

Numbers are likely to increase as breeding continues during the forecast period in areas that received heavy rainfall during the spring. Adults are likely to move north-east toward the summer monsoon breeding areas of Pakistan and India, although small numbers may move south-west towards the coast of PDR Yemen.

UAE

Breeding may be in progress in areas that received heavy rainfall during the spring. However, adult numbers are likely to decrease as they move toward the summer monsoon breeding areas of Pakistan and India.

EGYPT

A few scattered adults may be present in the south-eastern desert, however, breeding is unlikely during the forecast period.

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

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA**PAKISTAN**

Considerable numbers of adults are likely to be present in Baluchistan and breeding is almost certainly in progress. Numbers are likely to increase in Sind and Tharparkar as adults move toward summer monsoon breeding areas. These are likely to be augmented by adults coming from eastern Arabia.

INDIA

Small numbers of locusts are likely to be present in Rajasthan where small scale breeding may be in progress. Numbers are likely to increase as adults move toward summer monsoon breeding areas from Baluchistan and eastern Arabia.

IRAN

Considerable numbers of adults may be present in the south-east near Chah Bahar where small scale breeding may have occurred.

AFGHANISTAN

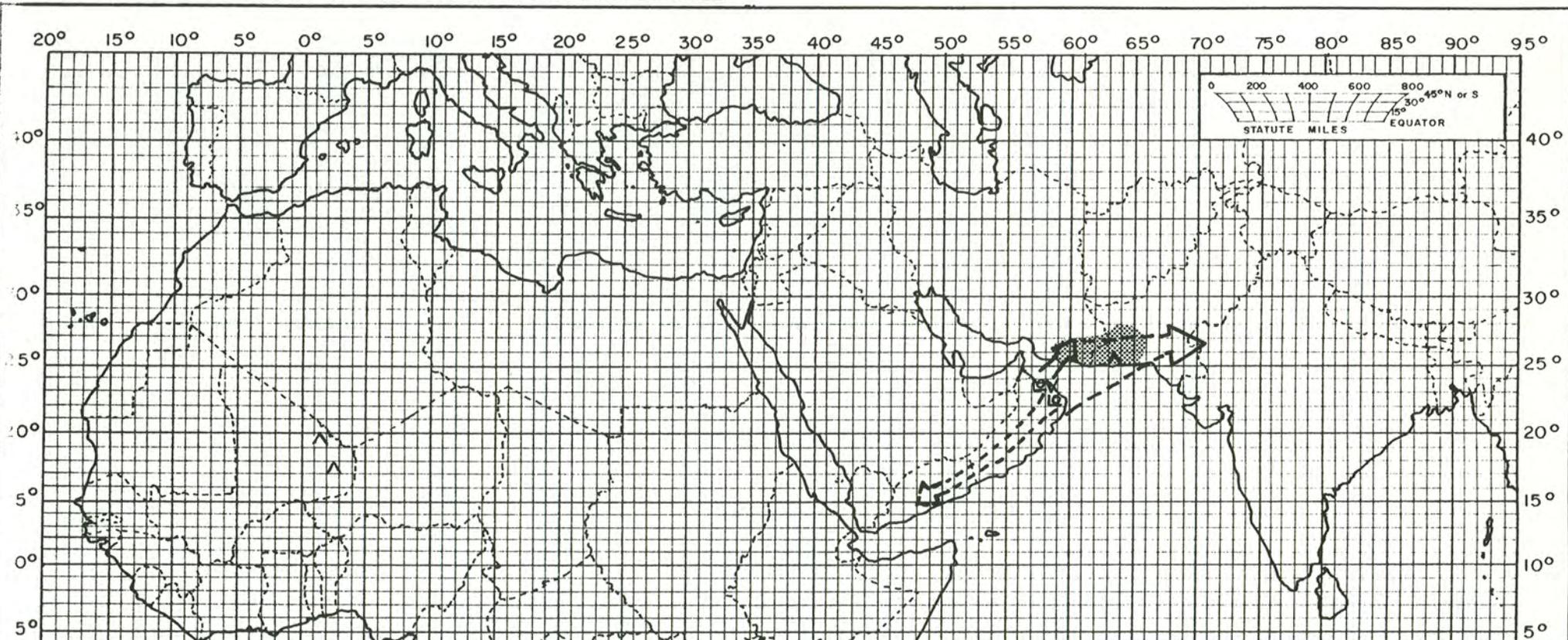
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3 May 1990



DESERT LOCUST SUMMARY NO. 140

CRIQUET PELERIN : RESUME



FORECAST / PREVISION TO / JUSQU'AU 15 JUNE / JUIN		APRIL / AVRIL 1990		
LIKELY / PROBABLE	POSSIBLE / POSSIBLE	Swarms or hopper bands Essaims ou bandes de larves	Adults or hoppers in groups Ailés ou larves en groupes	Adults or hoppers of low or unknown density Ailés ou larves - densité inconnue ou faible
CURRENT UNDETECTED BREEDING ZONES / REPRODUCTION : ZONES ACTUELLEMENT NON DETECTEES		Immature adults Ailés, immature		
MAJOR SWARM / ESSAIM(S) IMPORTANT(S)		Mature or partly mature adults Ailés, mature ou partiellement matures		
MINOR SWARM / ESSAIM(S) LIMITE(S)		Adults, maturity unknown Ailés, maturité inconnue		
NON - SWARM / DISPERSÉ		Egg laying or eggs Pontes ou oeufs		
		Hoppers Larves		
		Hoppers & adults combined symbol (example) Larves et adults - symbole combiné (exemple)		