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منظمة
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DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 124 DECEMBER 1988 TO EARLY JANUARY 1989

SUMMARY

A further decline in locust populations in all regions has been evident during the summary period. The main focus of attention is now the Near East region, in particular Saudi Arabia, where major populations are present.

In West Africa residual populations persisted along the coast of Senegal and Mauritania and also in the Gambia and these populations continued to decrease by control. In the Sahel residual populations including swarms also persisted in Mali, Niger and Chad and small scale breeding was reported.

In North-West Africa large scale control continued in Morocco, particularly in the extreme south, but on a generally declining scale. The remainder of the Maghreb remained relatively calm with small scale control terminating in Libya in late December.

In Eastern Africa the situation has improved considerably in Sudan and to some degree in Ethiopia. However, recent reports of hopper bands in northern Somalia are a cause for concern.

In the Near East further invasions of Saudi Arabia and Egypt and to a lesser degree Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, the Yemen Arab Republic and Yemen PDR occurred during the summary period. Large scale control measures continued in Saudi Arabia and Egypt throughout the summary period with small to moderate scale control in other countries.

South-West Asia remained calm with only low density populations reported.

W/T5229

WEST AFRICA

Meteorology

Analysis of Meteosat imagery suggests only isolated light rain fell in the region during the summary period. In general prevailing winds have been easterly throughout the Sahel turning south-easterly over Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was located between 4 and 9 degrees North.

Breeding Conditions

Analysis of NOAA imagery for the period 1 to 20 December indicates that overall conditions remain unfavourable for breeding and that the vegetation continued to desiccate during December.

Locusts

MAURITANIA

Tiris Zemmour

In mid December there were reports of copulating locusts but the overall scale of the population was not known.

Trarza

In mid December small immature swarms and fledglings were reported. In late December immature swarms were reported from the Rosso area. Locust activity was concentrated along the coastal area from the Senegal River to approximately 50 kilometres north of Nouakchott in the first half of January. Within this area a number of predominantly immature swarms were observed and migration in a generally northward direction was reported. Small pockets of early instar hoppers were also reported along the Senegal River in mid January.

Brakna, Gorgol and Guidamaka

A number of immature swarms were reported from the Boghe, Mabout and Selibabi areas in the second half of December.

Small to moderate scale ground and aerial control continued throughout the summary period.

SENEGAL

In mid to late December several small mainly immature swarms were reported from the Fatick, Dakar, Thies and Kaolack areas. In addition small scale laying was reported in the Kobilou-Drefonde area of the Senegal River and the Morfil area together with localised hatching and the presence of early instar hoppers. Fledglings were also reported from the St. Louis and Casamance

areas. In mid January there were reports of immature swarms along the coast between St. Louis and Mbour. Small to moderate scale control continued throughout the summary period.

CAPE VERDE

Small to moderate scale hatchings were reported from Santiago, Santa Cruz and Fogo in the first decade of December and hopper bands formed but were controlled by late December. Swarms were present on Santo Antao, Fogo and Santiago during December and laying was observed with new hatchings reported from Santiago on 28 December. By the end of December all islands were reported clear with the exception of hatchings on Santiago although further hatchings were also considered likely on Fogo. Ground and aerial control of both hopper bands and swarms continued throughout December with 12,000 ha treated by 31 December.

GAMBIA

In the first decade of December fledging of hopper bands was virtually complete in the North Bank, MacCarthy Island and Lower River districts. A number of small dense immature swarms subsequently formed in these areas and these were supplemented by invading immature swarms from the north in the second half of December. In the first half of January generally small high density immature swarms persisted in the regions outlined above and significant damage to fruit and rice crops was reported. Substantial ground and aerial control was undertaken with 130,976 ha treated to 9 December. Control operations were reported to be continuing in mid January.

MALI

From 11 to 20 December dense immature swarms were reported from several localities in western Mali, notably Kayes, Kenieba and Mahina areas (General area coordinates 1300N to 1600N, 1000W to 1200W) with movement in a general westerly direction. Residual adult populations at densities of up to 2 individuals per sq. metre were reported from southern Timetrine and southern and north-east Adrar notably in Wadi Zakak (1938N/0243E) in the second decade of December.

BURKINA FASO was reported clear of locusts on 2 January.

NIGER

In the first decade of December mature and immature adult groups were reported from several locations in Tamesna (1737N to 1751N, 0548E to 0612E) and mating was observed. Egg fields, small scale hatching and small areas of early instar hoppers were also reported in the general area. In late December adults of mixed maturity were reported from Termit and on 29 December a swarm of mixed maturity was reported 80 kilometres west of Zinder

migrating in an northerly direction. In the first decade of January immature swarms were observed in the In Tololog (1738N/0551E) area of Tamesna, the Agadez-Goure area and from the Egargar area of Air. Late instar hoppers and scattered adults were also present in Tamesna in early January. Small scale control was carried out during the summary period.

CHAD

Swarms were reported from oases in the B.E.T. region of northern Chad in the first half of January : no further details available.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

Meteorology

Analysis of Meteosat imagery indicates that light rain fell south of 28 degrees North in Morocco in the second decade of December. In the first decade of January the imagery indicates light to moderate rain fell in northern Morocco.

Breeding Conditions

Analysis of NOAA imagery for the period 1 to 20 December indicates the presence of substantial green areas in northern Morocco and to a lesser dergree in northern Algeria. However, these areas are likely to be unfavourable for breeding due to low temperatures.

Locusts

MOROCCO

Extensive large scale swarm control continued throughout the summary period as swarms continued to invade from the south and south-west. Control was concentrated in the south-west regions of Laayoune, Dakhla and Guelmim with smaller scale control in the Tata, Errachidia, Quarzazate, Ait Melloul, Guercif, Oujda and Bouarfa regions. The scale of control gradually decreased towards the end of the forecast period. From 10 October to 19 January 1,913,333 ha were treated.

ALGERIA

The overall situation remained relatively calm although small scale control measures against small immature swarms and adult groups were undertaken during the summary period. A small maturing swarm was reported near Taghit on 20 December and another swarm from Bordj Beji Mokhtar in mid January. Control was carried out in the Bechar, Ghardaia, Illizi and Tamanrasset areas with 145,533 ha treated to 7 January.

TUNISIA

No report of locust activity was received during the summary period.

LIBYA

Control of immature adult groups was reported to have finished on 28 December. Control was carried out in the following areas during November and December :

Sebha	-	8,440 ha
Wadi Elhiat	-	13,335 ha
Khaliij Sirt	-	5,280 ha
Morzug	-	3,616 ha
Al Khofra	-	450 ha
El Batnan	-	2,245 ha

EASTERN AFRICA

Meteorology

Analysis of Meteosat imagery suggests that no significant rain has fallen in Sudan during the summary period. The imagery indicates that light to moderate rain may have fallen in the eastern Ogaden extending east to the Somali coast in late December.

Breeding Conditions

Analysis of NOAA imagery for the period 1 to 20 December indicates only small localised areas suitable for breeding along the southern Red Sea coast of Sudan, northern Ethiopia and the northern coast of Somalia. Conditions in the Ogaden continued to deteriorate.

Locusts

SUDAN

White Nile and Khartoum

Small areas of mainly immature swarms were reported from both regions in late December and some small scale control was undertaken in late December. By mid January there were no further reports of locust activity although it is likely that low density adults may persist.

Northern Region

Generally small areas of mature and immature swarms and hopper bands persisted in the region throughout the summary period particularly in the Shendi-Berber area along the Nile and some copulation was observed. Small scale control was carried out.

Red Sea

A serious situation persisted in the region during December with significant populations of mature and immature swarms and hopper bands present particularly in the Tokar area to the south and the Wadi Oko-Wadi Diib area in the north. Moderate scale control was carried out particularly in the Tokar area during December. By mid January the overall situation had improved significantly with surveys reporting only low density adult and hopper population in the northern areas and small adult groups and low density swarms in the Tokar area.

Small to moderate scale control measures were carried out throughout the summary period with 1,155,693 ha treated between 1 July 1988 and 3 January 1989.

ETHIOPIA

In the first half of December a number of small immature swarms were controlled in the Asmara, Decamere (1505N/3906E), Agridat, Adi Harbo (1503N/3912E), Embatakalla (1525N/3906E) and Dondero (1452N/3909E) areas. There were also reports of both swarms and hoppers from Shabah (1540N/3910E) on the northern Red Sea coast and Aisaita (1135N/4125E) near the Djibouti border in mid to late December. On 24 December a swarmlet was controlled in the Dongollo (1528N/3108E) area.

DJIBOUTI

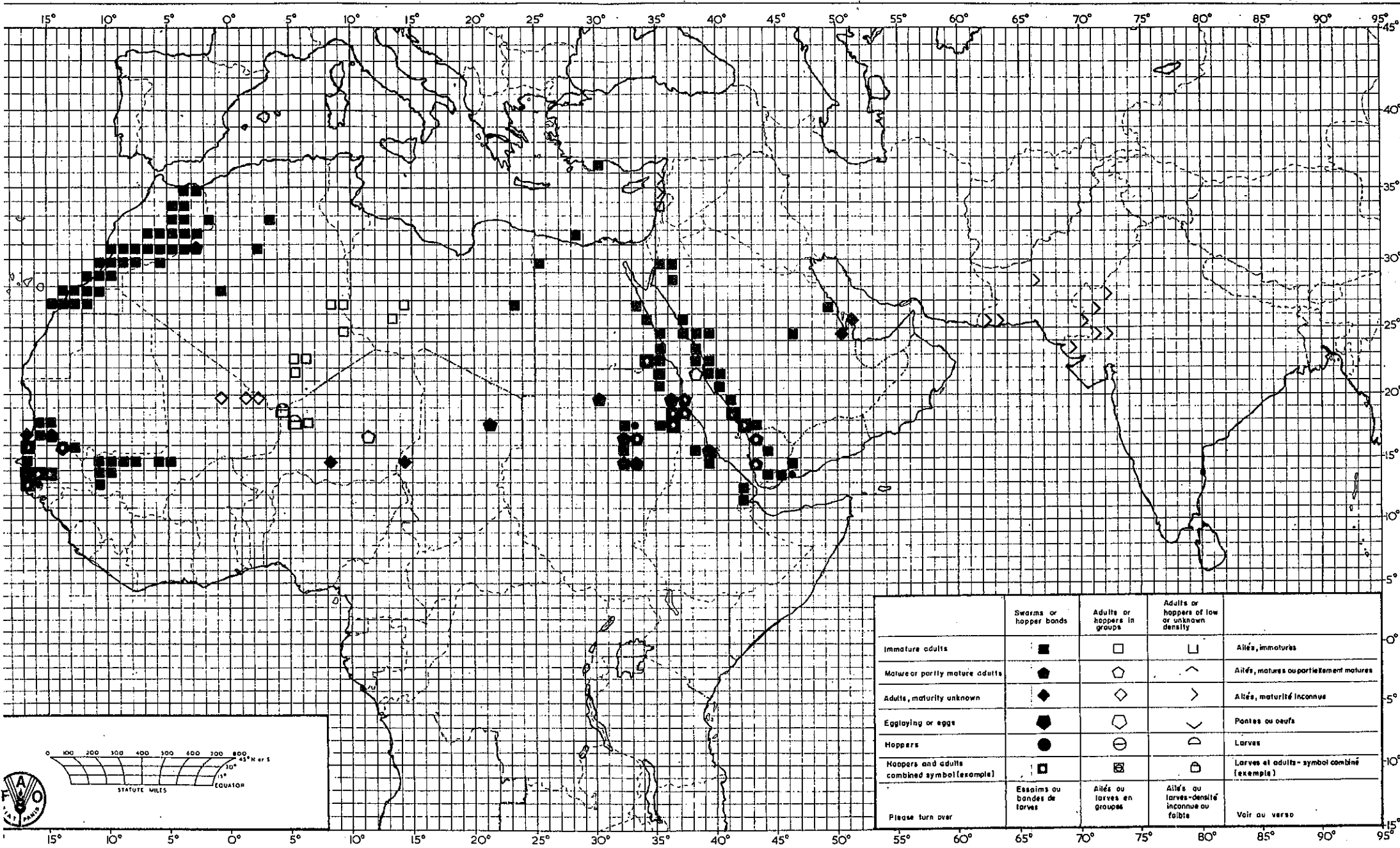
A small (400 ha) low density immature swarm was controlled near Sagallou (1217N/4231E) on 21 December.

SOMALIA

Scattered low density solitary phase hoppers were reported from the northern coast in mid December. However, in mid January hopper bands were reported from the same area but no further details were available.

KENYA, UGANDA AND TANZANIA were reported clear of locusts on 28 December.

Desert Locust Situation Summary No. 124 DECEMBER 1988-EARLY JANUARY 1989/ DEC. 1988 -- DEBUT JAN. 1991



	Swarms or hopper bands	Adults or hoppers in groups	Adults or hoppers of low or unknown density	
Immature adults	■	□	◻	Adults, immatures
Mature or partly mature adults	◆	◊	◊	Adults, matures ou partiellement matures
Adults, maturity unknown	◆	◊	>	Adults, maturité inconnue
Egg laying or eggs	●	⊖	<	Pontes ou oeufs
Hoppers	●	⊖	∩	Larves
Hoppers and adults combined symbol [example]	◻	⊖	⊖	Larves et adults - symbol combiné [exemple]
Please turn over	Essaims ou bandes de larves	Adults ou hoppers en groupes	Adults ou larves - densité inconnue ou faible	Voir au verso

