



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

ORGANISATION
DES NATIONS
UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION
ET L'AGRICULTURE

ORGANIZACION
DE LAS NACIONES
UNIDAS PARA
LA AGRICULTURA
Y LA ALIMENTACION

منظمة
الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم
المتحدة

Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy

Cables: FOODAGRI ROME

Telex: 610181 FAO I

Telephone: 57971

AGP Division

Locusts, other migratory pests and emergency operations group

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 81 MAY - EARLY JUNE 1985

SUMMARY

The overall Desert Locust situation remains calm. Small numbers of adults were reported from Somalia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and India and small scale breeding was reported in northern Somalia. Larger numbers of adults than have been reported recently will move into summer breeding areas and will commence to breed in July and August.

N/R4815

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION, MAY -EARLY JUNE 1985

WEST AFRICA

Meteorology

The northward progression of the Intertropical Convergence Zone was held up by several sub-tropical and temperate latitude anticyclonic ridges. Its most northerly position was about 17°N so that the heaviest rains fell to the south of 17°N. However, between 13 and 17 May there was significant rainfall along the axis Anefis-Kidal, which extended to north-western Adrar des Iforas. Mali and Mauritania experienced sandstorms. According to the GTS Gao received 32 mm on 6 June, while Tidjikja recorded 15 mm on 7 June. There violent thunderstorms over Togo and Benin on 11 June, giving up to 55 mm of rain, while on 12 June Bamako recorded 29 mm, Cotonou 67 mm and Abidjan 189 mm. Daily maximum temperatures were around 30°C in coastal areas, and around 40°C in the interior.

Breeding conditions

In late April, according to OCLALAV, there were good rains in south-east Mauritania between 1630-1800 N and 0700-1000 W, vegetation was beginning to develop and breeding conditions were good, but during May hot dry winds caused the vegetation to dessicate.

In Mali, two wadis were in flood in the Adrar Tirharrar (1935N/0117E).

Locusts

MAURITANIA

Three females and one male pinkish adults were seen 1 kilometre west of Aioun-el-Atrouss in April.

No reports were reported in May.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

Meteorology

Over the northern Maghreb ridges from the Azores anticyclone alternated with disturbances which resulted in variable rainfall, but which rarely exceeded 30 mm in 24 hours. Some cold fronts extended to the desert areas south of 25°N. Meteosat imagery showed that the disturbances were weak and the GTS confirmed that in the region of Tamanrasset, daily rainfall totals were generally lower than 1 mm.

Some strong sandstorms were reported from Libya, in particular on 9, 16 and 22 May, while on 15 and 28 May the GTS reported sandstorms in Algeria.

Maximum temperatures were generally between 20 and 30°C in coastal areas, while in the interior there were frequently in the region of 40°C.

Breeding conditions

No NOAA/AVHRR imagery is available for the period, but it is likely that conditions were favourable for breeding, particularly in wadis draining upland areas south of the Atlas.

EASTERN AFRICA

Meteorology

The ITCZ was very active throughout the region, extending as far north as the vicinity of Khartoum. The effect of the Indian Ocean was dominant over Somalia, where the rains coming from the Ocean could be followed very precisely on Meteosat imagery. The thermoconvective rains extended to the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coastal areas where Massawa received heavy rain in the first two decades of May and Djibouti good rain in the second decade. Asmara received 153 mm compared with a long-term mean of 21 mm. According to a late report from DLCO-EA Massawa received 22.3 mm in April, compared with a long-term mean of 14 mm, and Aswara, Assab, Combolsha, Dire Dawa, Jiggiga, and Gode all received above average rainfall in April.

Maximum daily temperatures ranged from around 40°C at Khartoum, around 35°C in Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coastal areas to about 25°C in the highlands of Ethiopia.

Breeding conditions

According to ground Survey reports from DLCO-EA conditions were suitable for breeding on the coastal plains of north-west Somalia.

Locusts

SOMALIA

During a ground survey of the coastal plains of north-west Somalia, 10 immature solitarious adults were found at four localities between 11 and 20 May while in the last decade of the month further immature solitarious adults were found at several localities between Silil (110N/4327E) and Bulhar, the maximum density being 19 in an area of 200 m x 100 m in wadi Bulhar. Third to sixth instar solitaricolor hoppers were found at densities of 2-3 per clump of Heliotropium and Dipterygium between Wabioh (1018N/4417E) and Kabileh (1016N/4409E).

SUDAN

According to a late report from Sudan the scattered locusts reported as having been seen in February were actually seen in January, at Khor Balatat.

There were no other reports of locusts from the Region.

NEAR EAST

Meteorology

The Red Sea Convergence Zone continued to be centred on about 20°N, while a quasi-stationary depression of thermal origin resulted in strong instability over the Arabian peninsula. The displacement of storm cells were traced on Meteosat imagery and confirmed the rains reported through the GTS, amongst which were: 19 mm at Bisha on 7 May, 28 mm at Abha on 10 May, 23 mm at Baha on 11 May, 25 mm at Abha on 21 May and 26 mm at Baha on 27 May. The rains, however, were much more widespread; heavy and repeated rainfall being reported from Tebuk, Taima, Qasim, Riyadh, Qawiyah, Aflaj, Medina, the Hijaz and Asir Mountains, and Jizan.

Maximum temperatures were generally around 43°C in the interior and 40°C in coastal areas.

Breeding conditions

Ecological conditions were favourable for breeding in many parts of the interior of Saudi Arabia, but the Tihama was generally dry.

Locusts

SAUDI ARABIA

One solitarious adult came to light at Mecca on 16 May.

There were no other reports from the Region.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Meteorology

The most significant event was the tropical cyclone which struck Bangladesh between 24 and 28 May. This rapidly weakened as it moved westwards to Madhya Pradesh. There were only light and localized rains in the winter-spring breeding areas of Pakistan during May, while in the summer breeding area Bikaner received 21.5 mm during the first fortnight of the month.

Maximum temperatures were 41-45°C in the summer breeding area and 27-36°C in the winter-spring breeding areas.

Breeding conditions

Despite the rain in April, vegetation was reported to be generally dry in both winter-spring and summer breeding areas.

Locusts

PAKISTAN

Scattered adults were reported from 10 localities in the Uthal, Khuzdar, Kharan, Panjgur and Nushki areas during the first half of May, the maximum density being 2-3 per hectare at Mal (2918N/6547E) on 1 May. No locust activity was reported during the second half of May.

INDIA

Scattered adults and a density of 75 per square kilometre were reported from Bassi (2657N/7132E) on 26 May.

No reports were reported from AFGHANISTAN and IRAN.

FORECAST FOR JULY-AUGUST 1985

The overall Desert Locust situation remains calm. Winter-spring breeding has only been reported from Saudi Arabia and Somalia but breeding conditions have been favourable over much of western, central and Arabia, although not on most of the Tihama, in coastal areas of Ethiopia, Somalia and in south-east Mauritania. Larger numbers of locusts than have been reported recently will move into the summer breeding areas and start to breed in the forecast period.

In South-West Asia small numbers of adults will move into the Tharparkar, Khipro, Nara, and Cholistan deserts in Pakistan and Rajasthan in India. Initially, small scale low density breeding will occur but, depending on the distribution and amount of the monsoon rains, gregarisation could start in restricted areas towards the end of the forecast period.

In the Near East widely scattered but small scale low density breeding could occur in western and central Saudi Arabia and in coastal and interior areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

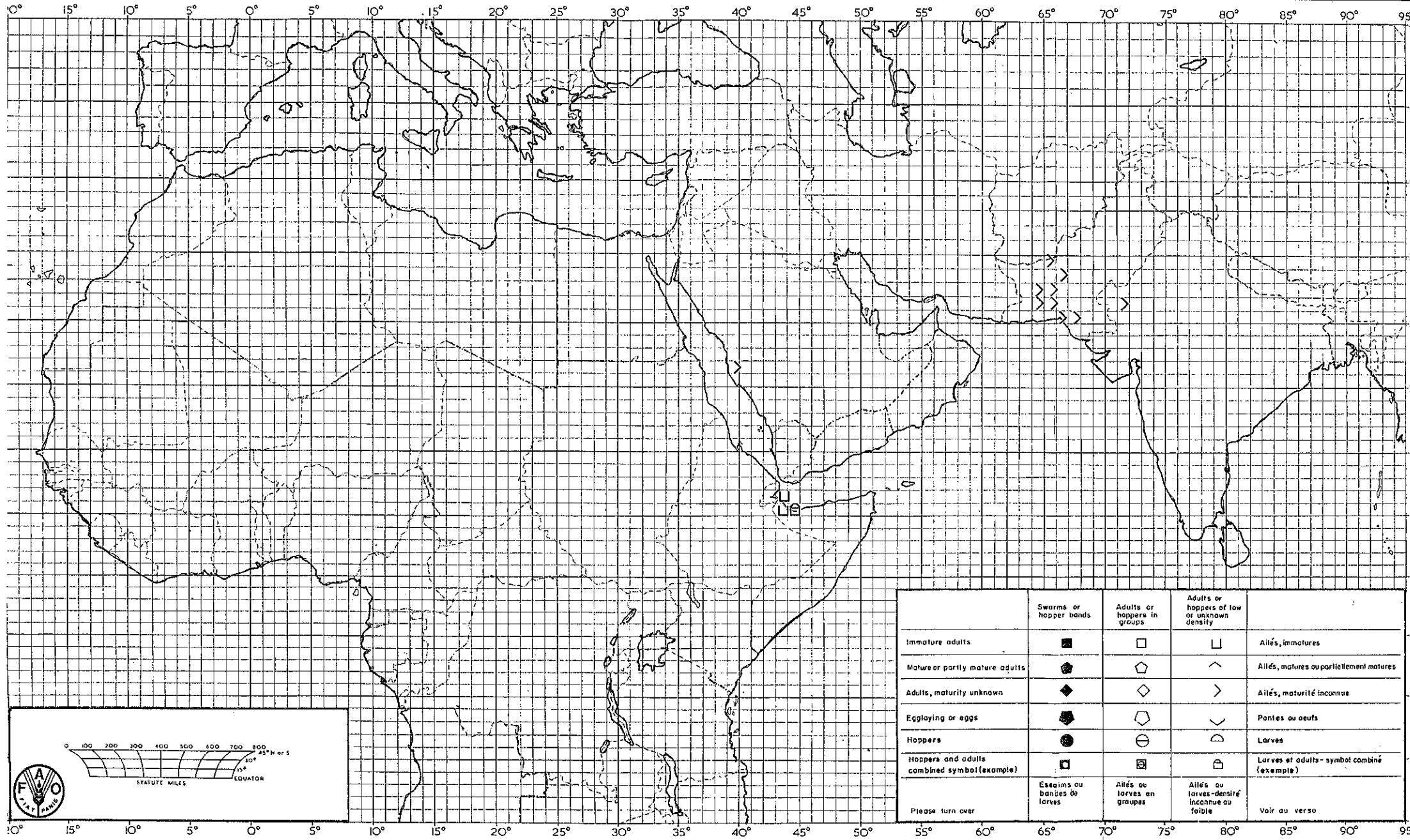
In Eastern Africa breeding is likely to end on the coastal plains of North-West Somalia and the adults produced move eastwards towards the Mijertein. Adults produced on the Red Sea coast of Ethiopia will have moved into the interior and small scale breeding will probably occur in Kassala Province of Sudan and western Eritrea.

In North-West Africa the situation will remain calm.

In West Africa adults will be concentrated in areas of green vegetation associated with north-south oscillations of the ITCZ and initially small scale breeding is likely to occur, starting in areas of marked relief in the Adrar des Iforas in Mali but later extending to Mauritania, and Tamesna and Air in Niger.

Rome
17 June 1985

Desert Locust Situation Summary No. 81 MAY-EARLY JUNE / MAI-DEBUT DE JUIN 1985



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