No. 47 JULY - EARLY AUGUST 1982

SUMMARY

Gregarious breeding ended in south-eastern Iran and Baluchistan of Pakistan. One loose swarm was controlled in Las Bela district of Pakistan in early August. There have been widespread and heavy monsoon rains in the summer breeding areas of Pakistan and India. There were several reports of locusts from ships in the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea probably representing escapes from earlier breeding in Djibouti and north-west Somalia. No reports of locusts have been received from West Africa but good rains have been reported recently and breeding is expected imminently.

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION, JULY - EARLY AUGUST 1982

WESTERN AFRICA

Weather

The Intertropical Convergence Zone generally lay between 10°N and 20°N at the surface. It reached 22°N on 3 July over southern Algeria. Rainfall was below average at most stations in the recession area (for individual station totals see under separate countries).

MAURITANIA

The following rainfall was recorded in July:

	actual.	normal.
Nema	86.1	70.6
Djigueni	62.0	_
Aioun el Atrouss	43.3	92.1
Kaedi	44.6	82.6
Aleg	41.3	59.0
Nouskehott	21.1	13.4
Rosso	48.0	49.0
Tidjikja	6.1	4544
Atar	0.2	
Akjoujt	22.2	
Bir Moghraim	0.2	
F Derik	0.2	

No locusts were reported.

MALI

The following rainfall was recorded during July:

	actual	normal
Tessalit	3.5	
Kidal	14	22
Tombouctou	17	38
Gao	55•4	44

No locusts were reported.

NIGER

The following rainfall was recorded north of 17°N in July:

actual	normal
3•1 8•8 0• 7	
	3.1

Agades received 39.2 mm on 17-18 August.

There were no reports from CHAD.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

Weather

No rain was reported from summer breeding areas in southern Algeria during July.

LIBYA

During May and June control was undertaken against a mixed group of Desert Locusts, African Migratory Locusts and grasshoppers at Kufra. A total of 3 038 hectares were sprayed from air and ground and baited. There was no further information for July.

EASTERN AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

Solitarious adults at very low densities were still present in the Atar area (1125N/4310E) during July and in the first decade of August. The vegetation was reported to be dry.

SCHALIA

Solitarious adults at very low densities were still present on the north-west coastal plains between Silil and Bulhar. The vegetations was reported to be dry.

No locusts were reported from ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, KENYA, TANZANIA or UGANDA.

NEAR EAST

CULF OF ADEN/ARABIAN SEA

The following reports have been received from ships:

22 July 0600 GMT 0919N 5626E two light brown locusts, wind SW 24 knots 2 August 0700 GMT 133CN 4740E group of grey locusts, back legsred, wind WSW force 3

4 August 0600 GMT 1237N 4718 E to 1330 GMT 1238N 4909E 28 flying light brown locusts, some landed

8 August 1400 GMT 1530N 5210E Small isolated group grey locusts appeared on board, wind SW force 3

- 10 August 1100 GMT 1300N 4318E to 1300 GMT 1318N 4306E isolated flying grey locusts. Wind NNW force 3
- 15 August 0700 GMT 1230N 4335E to 1100 GMT 1232N 4446E approximately 12 yellow locusts sighted singly on board. Wind SW 11 knots

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Isolated adults persisted in vegetable gardens in the Fujairah region. Conditions were unfavourable for breeding except in irrigated areas.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

The country was reported to be clear of locusts upon the completion of successful control operations.

No locusts were reported in July from other countries in the Region.

In EGYPT heavy rain fell in the south-eastern desert in late May and early June. A few isolated adults were present in southern parts of the south-eastern desert in June.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

IRAN

In the first half of July control operations were carried out against hoppers and adults over an area of 27 000 hectares in the Chahbahar area and over an area of 2 000 hectares in the Iranshahr area.

PAKISTAN

According to a late report a copulating swarm measuring 2 square kilometres was seen at Chak Murad Zai (2825N/6509E) on 21 June. In the spring breeding area in the first half of July ground and aerial control was applied against groups of first to fifth instar hoppers over 430 square kilometres in Kharan district and against groups of fifth instar hoppers and fledglings over 342 square kilometres in the Suntsar area of Gwadar district. A loose group of adults measuring 0.5 square kilometre was controlled at Borko in Kharan district. A total of 1 800 litres of 20% dieldrin, 2 400 litres of 10% dieldrin and 1 375 kilograms of 12.5% BHC were applied.

In addition there were scattered adults in the Cholistan, Rahimyar Khan, Nara and Tharparkar deserts and in Las Bela district.

In the second half of July Pakistan was reported to be clear of gregarious locusts but solitarious adults were reported from Las Bela, Kharan, Cholistan, Nara and Tharparkar deserts at densities of $75-4\,000$ per square kilometre.

Widespread rain was reported from the Tharparkar and Cholistan deserts on 13 and 14 July and further widespread heavy rain was reported from Las Bela, Tharparkar and Cholistan deserts in the second half of July.

In the first half of August a loose swarm measuring 1-2 square kilometres was controlled in the Pawan river bed at Ubai (2540N/6637E). Scattered adults at densities of 125 - 3 600 per square kilometre were also reported from Las Bela, Tharparkar and Cholistan deserts. Widespread heavy rain was reported from the summer breeding area but no details are yet available.

INDIA

Scattered rainfall was reported from West Rajasthan in the first half of July but became more widespread and heavy in the second half. The following totals were recorded: Barmer 112.4 mm, Jaisalmer 97.7 mm, Jodhpur 154.9 mm, Ganganagar 72 mm, Sikar 115.8 mm, Bikaner 36.7 mm, Bhuj 79.9 mm and Deesa 359.3 mm.

No gregarious locust activity was recorded but scattered adults were reported from 50 localities in Rajasthan and Gujarat in the first half of July at maximum densities ranging from 30 to 2 250 per kilometre, and from 54 localities in Rajasthan and Gujarat in the second half of July at maximum densities ranging from 15 to 2625 per square kilometre.

No locusts were reported from AFGHANISTAN in June or July.

FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1982

There have been good summer rains in the Indo-Pakistan summer breeding area and some gregarious breeding may occur there. Adults may be produced in considerable numbers and reach Iran and eastern Arabia towards the end of the forecast period. Scattered breeding may occur in southern Arabia, eastern Ethiopia and the interior of Sudan and will almost certainly occur in north-west Niger, north-east Mali and central-southern Mauritania. Adults, possibly in considerable numbers, will start to accumulate on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coastal plains and some are likely to reach central and western Algeria and southern Morocco towards the end of the forecast period.

In <u>South-West Asia</u> breeding will take place in Rajasthan and in the Cholistan, Nara, Khipro and Tharparkar deserts and Las Bela district of Pakistan. This may be on a scale sufficient to produce some hopper bands and considerable numbers of adults. If monsoon rains continue into September a second generation of breeding is likely to occur which may be on a larger scale than the first. If not first generation adults are likely to move west and may reach south-eastern Iran, Oman and the United Arab Emirates in considerable numbers towards the end of the forecast period.

In the <u>Near East</u> scattered breeding may occur in interior areas of the two Yemens and possibly in coastal areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. Adults, possibly in considerable numbers, may reach Oman and United Arab Emirates from the east and Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts towards the end of the forecast period.

In Eastern Africa small number of adults are likely to persist in Djibouti and the coastal plains of north-west Somalia but most are likely to move east along and to the south of the main escarpment. Scattered adults may reach Dankalia, Djibouti and north-west Somalia from Arabia. Breeding at low density will occur in the interior of the Sudan. During October adults will start to accumulate along the Red Sea coasts of Sudan and Ethiopia.

In <u>West Africa</u> good rains were recorded at Agades in mid-August and may have been widespread in north-west Niger and north-east Mali. Breeding may be widespread in those areas and may lead to the formation of hopper and adult groups. If there are further good rains a second generation may occur which would result in the formation of hopper bands towards the end of the forecast period. There have been no reports of populations which may have moved south from Western Sahara and northern Mauritania and conditions do not appear to be particularly favourable for breeding in central and southern Mauritania.

In <u>North-West Africa</u> breeding may occur in southern Algeria and be on a scale sufficient to lead to the formation of groups and adults. Adults, mainly at low densities, are likely to reach central and western Algeria and may reach southern Morocco towards the end of the forecast period.

Rome 20 August 1982

