

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



ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS
PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 27 NOVEMBER - EARLY DECEMBER 1980

SUMMARY

The most important populations continued to occur in West and North-West Africa. Two swarms, large numbers of fledglings and hoppers of all instars were present in north-east Mali and north-west Niger and control operations continued. In Mauritania a swarm and hopper bands were reported north-east of Nouakchott. A large widespread population was present in Algeria and increasing numbers of adults were present in southern Morocco. Hopper bands were found on the Red Sea coast of Sudan and breeding is likely to become more widespread in other Red Sea coastal areas. Small numbers of adults were reported from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen Arab Republic, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and India.

W/P0910

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION, NOVEMBER TO EARLY DECEMBER 1980

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA

There was widespread moderate rainfall in north-central Algeria in November but details of areas and amounts are awaited.

Control operations continued in Tamesna, where a total of 10,000 hectares had been sprayed by the end of November and only small patches of hoppers and adults remained. To the north there were large, widely dispersed populations in western, central and eastern Algeria. No further traces were found of the swarm reported at Ghardaia on 8 November.

MOROCCO

Increasing numbers of adults were reported in southern Morocco but no swarms or groups of adults were seen.

No reports were received from LIBYA or TUNISIA.

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Surveys undertaken in the third decade of November and information received from nomads revealed that there had been a considerable build-up in numbers.

Adults were reported to have arrived in the Aftout area (1905N/1320W) north-east of Nouakchott on 10 September, at the same time as rain fell in the area.

In November a swarm was reported on the 19th between Lebher (1937N/1236W) and Aoujeft (2003N/1303E) flying south-west. Hopper bands were reported on 22 November in the depression of El Gardanya (1825N/1435W) and Khawass and other bands were reported in the Aklé area of Aouker and in areas to the north of 1850N/1350W. A locust survey officer found fifth instar bands and young adults over an area of 250 hectares at 1850N/1350W. Surveys were being intensified and control teams despatched to the infested areas.

MALI

A strong resurgence of the Intertropical Front led to heavy rains in the Adrar des Iforas on 15-16 November.

The large numbers of adults present in Tamesna at the end of October started to move north and north-west by day in early November. 1335 hectares of fledglings at 1-25 per square metre and transicolor fifth instar hoppers were treated with 855 litres of 5% dieldrin and 200 litres of 20% dieldrin. By the third decade only a few adults remained in Malian Tamesna.

In the Adrar des Iforas nomads reported two swarms moving north-west on 6 and 8 November at Ouzzeine (1908N/0147E) and pink adults were seen in the same area by a locust officer.

On 10 November many locusts were seen on the Tin Zaouaten track at Achachar and on 11 November fledglings at densities of 20,000-50,000 per hectare were seen settled on Acacia and Leptadenia at Issikah (1931N/0154E) over an area of 120 hectares. On 28 November a swarm, 500 metres x 100 metres, was observed in Qued Echezer (1940N/0002E) at 1600 hours, moving west-south-west.

In the first two decades of November large numbers of fledglings at densities of 5,000-100,000 per hectare were present over an area of about 3,000 hectares in several wadis in the Bouressa basin. Some were pink and all were very mobile. According to nomads, these adults moved north-north-east between 20 and 22 November.

In Timetrine control operations were mounted from 18 November against gregaricolor hoppers of all instars at densities of 5-100 per square metre, mixed with fledglings at densities of 10,000-100,000 per hectare in the area 1842N-2030N, 0016W-0034E. Many escapes were reported by nomads. Between 27 and 30 November, 2,260 hectares were treated with 1,400 litres of 5% dieldrin. At the end of the month day-flying displacements were observed.

NIGER

Ground control continued against hoppers in groups or bands at a density of 2-100 per square metre and fledglings at densities of 2,000-10,000 per hectare in Tamesna and Air. In Tamesna 14,010 hectares were treated with 550 litres of Fenitrothion ULV, 2,050 litres of 5% dieldrin, 800 litres of 20% dieldrin in the following sectors: Tassan Kolo (1914N/0548E), In Akarbai (1903N/0544E), Tassan Badi (1904N/0554E) and Ekechekker (1909N/0543E). In Air 1,100 hectares were treated with 770 litres of 5% dieldrin at Tamanit (1943N/0746E) and In Tegaren (1940N/0739E).

No locusts were reported from CHAD.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

In early November groups of adults at densities of up to 4,320 per hectare and first to third instar hopper bands and fledglings were found in three blocks of the Tokar delta over a total area of 400 hectares. Control operations were in progress, and conditions were favourable for breeding.

No reports were received from DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOMALIA, TANZANIA or UGANDA.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Moderate rainfall was reported from Umm Lejj, Baha, Al Ula, Hail, Wejh, Jeddah, Mecca, Taif, Rabigh, Qunfidah and Qayah.

On 6 November scattered maturing adults appeared at light at Rabigh and were found to be present at densities of 100-150 per hectare. At the same time maturing adults were found at a density of 150 per hectare near Jeddah airport. On 19 November 90 maturing adults were caught near Yenbo (2425N/3840E) within an area of 36 square kilometres which was suitable for breeding. There were southerly winds at the time and it was suspected that the locusts had arrived from Sudan. Specimens taken to the Jeddah Research Station started to copulate on 23 November. In late November maturing adults were found at a density of 150 per hectare south of Shaqqah ash Shamaliyah and over an area of 5 square kilometres south of Shih. Adults were also found at a density of 50 per hectare over an area of 3 square kilometres at Shaqqah Yamaniyah. Isolated mature adults were also reported from the Jizan Tihama.

In early December a very few adults were reported from Shaqqah Shamaliyah.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Good rains were reported from the northern Tihama on 24-25 November, and conditions were favourable for breeding.

Low density adults were observed at Dayr Jubayriyah (1535N/4305E) in the course of a survey from Hodeidah to Wadi Hayran on 28-29 November.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Only light rain was reported and conditions were generally unfavourable for breeding.

Three adults were seen in the Uzafa area (1239N/4401E) on the western coastal plain.

EGYPT

Heavy rain fell in the eastern and south-eastern desert on 6, 7 and 21 November causing flooding in wadis and some damage to cultivations. Conditions were favourable for breeding.

Small numbers of adults were observed in the Abraq (2324N/3447E) and Wadi Di-ib (2210N/3600E) areas at densities of 5-7 per square kilometre over an area of about 50 square kilometres.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

IRAN

Adults continued to be found north-east of Zabol (see Summary No. 25) in early October. They were controlled by baiting and spraying over an area of 204 hectares between 1 and 11 October.

Iran was reported clear in November.

INDIA

During the third and last survey of border areas low density adults were recorded at 10 localities in Jaisalmer district, the maximum density being 300 per square kilometre at Awai on 20 November.

No reports were received from AFGHANISTAN or PAKISTAN.

FORECAST FOR JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1981

The most important populations are in Algeria, Morocco, Niger, Mali and Mauritania. Breeding is likely to become more extensive in Mauritania and may start in southern Morocco and in western, central and eastern Algeria. Restricted breeding may continue in Mali and Niger. Movements by adults are likely to be on a reduced scale due to low temperatures. Breeding is likely to become more widespread in Red Sea coastal and subcoastal areas and may start in coastal areas around the Gulf of Aden. Breeding may also start in coastal areas of southern Iran and the Mekran of Pakistan.

In West Africa the breeding which commenced following the arrival of adults in mid-September is likely to become more extensive as the adults which have already been produced encounter favourable ecological conditions as they move northward during spells of warmer southerly winds. There may be further breeding in some areas of north-east Mali and north-west Niger which received rain in mid-November. Movements by adults are likely to be restricted to periods of warm southerly winds.

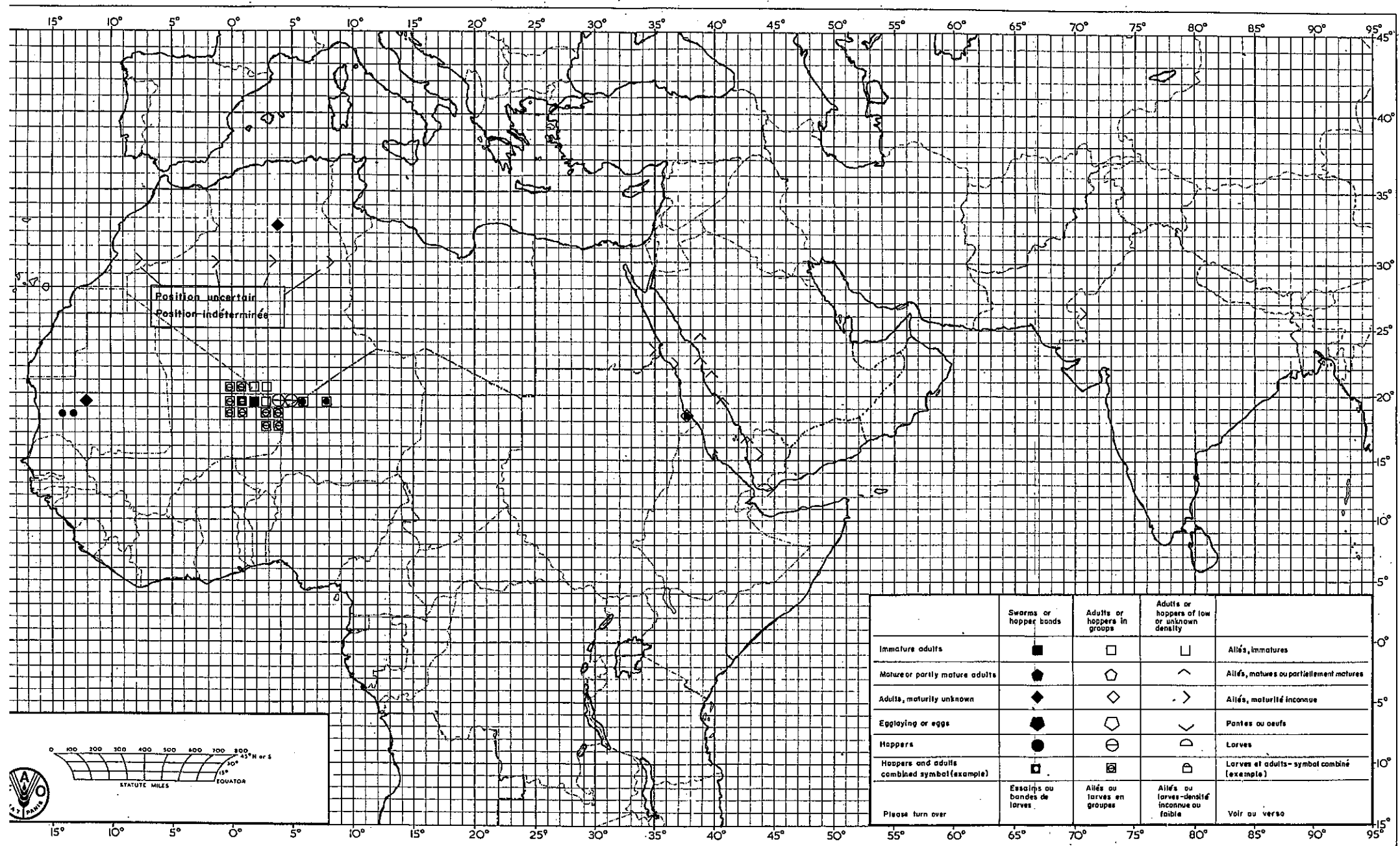
In North-West Africa breeding may commence in southern Morocco and over extensive areas of Algeria towards the end of the forecast period. Movements by adults are likely to occur during periods of warm southerly or south-westerly winds and may result in adults reaching southern Tunisia and western Libya.

In Eastern Africa breeding will continue in the Tokar delta of Sudan and occur in other coastal areas of Sudan and of northern Ethiopia. It is also likely to occur in sub-coastal areas of northern Sudan and in the south-eastern desert area of Egypt. In all these areas it may be on a scale sufficient to produce some small hopper bands and perhaps some small swarms. There may be small scale breeding on the coastal plains of northern Somalia.

In the Near East breeding will occur on the Red Sea coastal plain of Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic and could result in the formation of some hopper groups, particularly in Saudi Arabia. Northward movement of adults along the Tihama is likely and some may reach interior areas towards the end of the forecast period. Low density breeding may occur in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in areas providing favourable ecological conditions. Small numbers of adults may be present in the United Arab Emirates and Oman and small scale breeding may commence.

In South-West Asia small numbers of adults will be present in the Mekran of Pakistan and south-eastern Iran and small scale breeding may commence. Other adults will overwinter in Rajasthan of India.

Rome
29 December 1980



	Swarms or hopper bands	Adults or hoppers in groups	Adults or hoppers of low or unknown density	
Immature adults	■	□	◻	Alliés, immatures
Mature or partly mature adults	●	◐	◑	Alliés, matures ou partiellement matures
Adults, maturity unknown	◆	◊	◈	Alliés, 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	Alliés ou larves en groupes	Alliés ou larves - densité inconnue ou faible	Voir au verso

