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



ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 - ROME

Cables: FOODAGRI ROME

Telex: 610181 FAO I

Telephone: 5797

AGP Division

Locusts, other migratory pests and emergency operations group

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 24 August 1980

SUMMARY

Small numbers of adults were reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Iran and India and a few hoppers were found in India. According to a late report for July groups of hoppers and fledglings were controlled in Mali.

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION - AUGUST 1980

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

LIBYA

No locusts were observed or reported.

No other report has been received for August.

During June four adults were observed in the palmeraie of El Bagaa (3056N/0352W) in MOROCCO.

WEST AFRICA

No locust report has been received for August. Moderate, about average rainfall was recorded at several stations in central and southern Mauritania during the first and third decades of August, Nema recording 93 mm in the third decade, compared with the long-term mean of 37 mm. In the Adrar des Iforas in north-east Mali, Kidal recorded a total of 96 mm for the month in comparison with the long-term mean of 51 mm. In Niger, Agades recorded 49 mm during the month compared with the long-term mean of 78 mm; 47 mm fell in the second decade.

In July during intensive surveys of the Adrar des Iforas in MALI hoppers and adults were found at densities of 1 - 5 per square metre in the Tin Essako (183QN/O23OE) area, including fledglings at densities of 5 000 - 30 000 per hectare and some older adults. The hoppers were green, and green with black markings. Five hundred and ten hectares were treated with 5% dieldrin.

No locusts were reported from MAURITANIA, NIGER or CHAD.

EASTERN AFRICA

No reports have been received for August.

During July mature adults were reported from two localities in Ed Dueim district of SUDAN at densities of 120 - 180 per hectare. Two adults were observed at Sinkha Biroka (1018N/4536E) during a ground survey of the northern Somalia coastal and sub-coastal areas from 21 - 29 July.

NEAR EAST

Weather

Moderate rainfall was reported from the Hejaz and Asir mountains of Saudi Arabia and light rain was reported on the Jizan Tihama. Moderate to heavy rains leading to wadis flooding were reported from the Hadhramaut,

Nisab, Markhah and Dathina areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the southern highlands of the Yemen Arab Republic.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Small numbers of adults were reported from the Bal Joreishi (2030N/4130E) area of the Hijaz, at densities of 2 per square kilometre.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Two adults were reported from wadi Nisab (133CN/4645E) on 15 August.

EGYPT and KUWAIT were reported clear.

No reports for August have been received from IRAQ, SULTANATE OF OMAN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES or YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Weather

In India isolated showers were reported from west Rajasthan during the first half of August but rainfall was more widespread in east Rajasthan and Gujarat. Kutch was dry. No rainfall was reported from southern areas of Iran.

INDIA

A total of 12 third to fifth instar hoppers were observed at two localities in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan during a special border survey. Adults, mainly immature, were reported from 11 localities in Jaisalmer, 10 in Bikaner, 5 in Barmer and 1 in Churu districts. The maximum density was 450 per square kilometre at Agnao (2806N/7247E) on 29 August.

IRAN

One adult was reported from the Dalgan (2735N/5921E) area of Sistan and Baluchistan on 12 August.

AFGHANISTAN was reported clear and no reports have been received from PAKISTAN.

FORECAST FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

Breeding will come to an end throughout the summer breeding area during the forecast period. It has probably been at low or very low density in most areas. The most important populations reported recently were in the Adrar des Iforas of north-eastern Mali. Many of the adults produced as a result of the summer breeding will move into winter-spring breeding areas in southern and central Algeria, Mauritania, western Libya, coastal areas surrounding the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, the Mekran of Iran and Pakistan and perhaps eastern Arabia, but their numbers are likely to be small.

In West Africa breeding will continue in the Adrar des Iforas and further groups and possibly some small hopper bands may form. Breeding is also likely to occur in southern, central and eastern Mauritania, in the Tilemsi valley and Tamesna of Mali, in Tamesna and Afr in Niger and some groups may form in localities where run-off has resulted in good development of vegetation. Some of the adults produced are likely to move north to southern, central and eastern Algeria, western Libya and in Mauritania, but their numbers are likely to be small. Others will remain close to or within their breeding habitats.

In North-West Africa small numbers of adults are likely to reach southern, central and eastern Algeria and western Libya.

In Eastern Africa adults produced in the interior of Sudan and western areas of Eritrea province in Ethiopia will move to the Red Sea coast of Sudan and Ethiopia and may be in sufficient numbers to form groups particularly in areas which have received summer floods, such as the Tokar delta. Breeding is likely to start but initially it will be mainly at low densities. It is possible that some adults may move further south-east and reach the Danakil depression or even the north-west coastal plains of Somalia but their numbers will be low. Low density breeding is likely to start along the northern Somali coast.

In the Near East numbers of adults will rise along the Tihamas of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic and low density breeding is likely to start in areas which have received summer floods or early winter rains. Breeding is also likely to occur in areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen which received summer floods. In eastern Arabia it is possible that some adults may reach the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates from the east but their numbers will be low.

In South-West Asia breeding will end in the summer breeding area of Rajasth in India and adjacent areas of Pakistan. Only small numbers of adults are likely to be produced. Some will overwinter in these areas but most are likely to move south-west to the Mekran of Pakistan and some may reach south-eastern Iran.

Rome 25 September 1980

N.B. The map for September will be sent with the Summary for October.

