



SECOND-GENERATION BREEDING STARTED

OVERVIEW. The four Desert Locust outbreaks that began in November continue to persist in Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, and Sudan. The second generation of the winter breeding started this past week on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden coasts in southeast Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, northwest Somalia, and probably Yemen. Control operations continue during the first generation where there are mainly immature and mature adults, groups, and small swarms as well as some late instar hoppers, groups, and bands. The second generation will continue during February and March when more rain is likely in the southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts and the interior of the Horn of Africa.

WHY IT MATTERS. The winter season started at the end of October this year along the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coast with one generation of breeding. A second generation started in early January even though only light rain has occurred in only a few places along the coast. Nevertheless, annual vegetation is still green. A bit more rainfall is expected this month along some parts of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts. In addition, a few groups and small immature swarms have migrated from the northwest coast of Somalia to the northern Somali region of Ethiopia where adults could eventually become mature and lay. Consequently, surveys must be done in all of the winter breeding areas using eL3/eL3mPRO and control operations need to continue.

SITUATION. Survey and control operations continued during the first winter generation while the second-generation hatching started last week. There has been no survey, data, or control in Yemen for the second month in a row.

- **Control.** Operations since 1 January 2024.

	January	Ground	Aerial	Total
Egypt	1–20	4 719	0	4 719
Eritrea	1–21	12 900	0	12 900
Ethiopia	14	60	0	60
Saudi Arabia	1–21	10 538	0	10 538
Somalia	2–20	1 562	0	1 562
Sudan	1–21	9 059	17 450	26 509

- **Second winter generation.** Hatching has not started yet in Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

	Lay	Hatch/Hopper	Fledgling	Immature adults	Mature/Lay
Eritrea	25 Dec	8 Jan	14 Feb	17 Feb	14 Mar
Sudan	27 Dec	10 Jan	16 Feb	19 Feb	16 Mar
Saudi Arabia	2 Jan	16 Jan	22 Feb	25 Feb	22 Mar
Somalia	7 Jan	21 Jan	26 Feb	29 Feb	30 Mar
Egypt	14 Jan	28 Jan	4 Mar	7 Mar	3 Apr

FORECAST. Maintain current efforts for survey and control especially if more rainfall and laying occurs.

- **Central Region.** The second generation will continue with laying, hatching, hopper, groups, and bands. Some locusts could continue to migrate to the plateau of northwest Somalia and northeastern Ethiopia. The predictions suggest that more rains are likely to occur along the southern coast of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden plus the interior of the Horn of Africa in February. There is also a high probability of significantly above-normal temperatures for much of the region.
- **Western and Eastern Region.** No significant developments.

The FAO Desert Locust Bulletin is issued every month by the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) at FAO HQ in Rome, Italy. DLIS continuously monitors the global Desert Locust situation, weather and ecology to provide early warning based on survey and control results from affected countries, combined with remote sensing, historical data and models. The bulletin is supplemented by Alerts and Updates during periods of increased Desert Locust activity.

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