FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 157

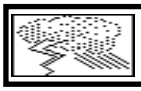
GENERAL SITUATION DURING SEPTEMBER 1991
FORECAST UNTIL MID-NOVEMBER 1991

An outbreak of Desert Locusts has occurred in southern Algeria. Following above average rains in late May and June, breeding commenced and survey teams found insignificant densities of first to fourth instar hoppers and copulating adults in several wadis north-west of Tamanrasset in late July. By mid-August, high densities of adults were seen in numerous wadis in the same area as well as in a second area 300 km to south-west near the Mali border. In early September, dense groups of hoppers and adults were found in a few wadis north-west of Tamanrasset. It appears that these infestations are localized; however, it is possible that significant breeding has occurred in adjacent areas, particularly in the northern Adrar des Iforas of Mali where good rains have fallen during the summer and vegetation is reported to be green. Control operations are in progress and have treated nearly 1,000 ha. Any escapes are likely to move north-west and reach western Algeria and Morocco in late October and early November.

Low densities of adults are present in central and south-eastern Mauritania and breeding has occurred in Trarza and adjacent areas of Adrar and Brakna. Good vegetation exists in the Adrar des Iforas of Mali, Tamesna of Mali and Niger, and western and central Air of Niger. Breeding has been reported from the Adrar des Iforas and Air and it is probable that breeding has occurred in Tamesna. Conditions are expected to remain good until November in the Adrar des Iforas.

Although, no locusts were reported from Sudan, it is likely that scattered adults are present in some areas of western and central Sudan and have bred in areas of recent rain. However, conditions will become increasingly unfavourable during the forecast period and adults will move east towards winter breeding areas on the Red Sea coast by mid-November. Scattered adults may also be present on the Tihama of Yemen extending to Saudi Arabia and breeding in areas where rains may have occurred recently.

Isolated adults are present at a few locations in Rajasthan of India and adjacent areas of Pakistan in the Tharparkar Desert. Small scale breeding has occurred in Rajasthan; however, breeding conditions are expected to become unfavourable during the forecast period and adults will start to move west towards Mekran and Baluchistan of Pakistan.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

This information is compiled from field reports, METEOSAT and ARTEMIS satellite imagery, and daily Météo-France synoptic charts and rainfall data.

During September, the ITCZ was centred around 20°N over West Africa and 15°N over East Africa; however, it moved as far north as Tamanrasset in southern Algeria on the 19, 25, and 26th. Although very little rain was reported during the month throughout the Desert Locust recession area, ecological conditions are favourable for breeding in parts of the Sahel of West Africa and Sudan and in Rajasthan of India.

Scattered clouds were present at times during the month over central and western Mauritania, southern Tamesna of Mali and Niger, northern Adrar des Iforas of Mali, southern Algeria, and western and central Sudan. In Mauritania, rainfall was heavier and more widespread during the first decade, becoming weaker and more isolated during the second decade. Widespread light rainfall was reported from Mauritania in Adrar, Inchiri, Tagant, and Trarza on the 3rd, 10th, and 14-15th and isolated rains fell on the 1st, 6th, and 11th. Annual vegetation is reported to be green in southern and south-eastern areas, although it is becoming dry in some areas. Although there were no reports of significant rainfall from Mali, southern Algeria, and Niger, green vegetation was reported in central Mali near Gourma and Tombouctou, in wadis of northern Adrar des Iforas of Mali and western and central Air of Niger, and in Tamesna of Mali of Niger extending north into southern Algeria. Breeding conditions were also reported to be favourable in wadis west and north-west of Tamanrasset, Algeria. In Sudan, light rainfall was reported on the 1st, 2nd-3rd, 13-14th, 24-25th, and 27-28th and breeding conditions are expected to be favourable in parts of Northern Darfur near Kutum, Northern Kordofan near El Obeid, and Northern province near Shendi.

In the southern Red Sea coastal areas, clouds were present during the first two decades over the entire Tihama of Yemen, extending north into southern Saudi Arabia and over parts of northern coastal and interior areas of Somalia. Light rains may have occurred in a few of these places and conditions are likely to be favourable for breeding in some wadis along the Tihama of Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

In the summer monsoon breeding area of Rajasthan, conditions were reported to be favourable in parts of Jaisalmer, Bikaner, and Jodhpur districts of India where light rain fell during the first half of the month. However, conditions were reported to be dry and unfavourable for breeding in adjacent areas of Pakistan in the Tharparkar Desert.

AREA TREATED IN SEPTEMBER 1991

Algeria	970 ha

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA
A late report indicated that isolated adults were present in Tagant north of Aioun El Atrouss and isolated hoppers and adults were seen south-east of Tidjikja on 30-31 August.

During the first two decades of September, isolated adults and hoppers were seen at numerous locations in Tagant north and west of Tidjikja and in Brakna near Magta Lahjar. Elsewhere, isolated adults were present at a few locations in Trarza near Boutilimit and in Hodh Ech Chargui between Nema, Oualata, and east to the Mali border.

MALI
A late report indicated that mature adults, at densities of 25-50 per hA, were copulating on 30 ha during August at Ilebedian (1830N/0107E) north-west of Kidal; and, first and second instar hoppers and immature adults were present north of Aguelhok in Oued Tarlit (1933N/0042E).

No Desert Locust surveys were reported to have been undertaken during September.

NIGER
A late report stated that isolated adults were seen at four locations in western and central Air between Agadez and Arlit on 9-16 August. A third instar hopper was also seen in Tamesna; however, no further information is available.

No locust activity was reported during September.

CHAD
No locusts were reported up to 10 September.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO
A late report stated that no locust surveys were undertaken in July.

ALGERIA
A late report stated that low density adults were seen copulating and hoppers were present on a total of 720 ha in four wadis north-west of Tamanrasset on 31 July. During the first half of August, high densities of adults, up to 10,000 per ha, were seen laying in a number of wadis in the same area, covering a total of 1,600 ha. Lower densities of hoppers and scattered adults were reported at three locations covering 1,800 ha near the Mali border north-west of Timeiaouine (2028N/0148E) on the 5-8th.

In early September, high densities of hoppers and laying adults, at 300-5,000 hoppers per sq. m. and 5,000-30,000 adults per ha, were reported from four locations north-west of Tamanrasset. Control operations had treated 970 ha up to 9 September. On the 25th, isolated adults were seen along the road from Tamanrasset to In-Amguel (2342N/0509E).

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to September 30.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN
No locusts were found during surveys undertaken in Northern Kordofan province, in Northern Darfur near Kutum, in Southern Darfur near Nyala, in White Nile near Ed Dueim, in Northern near Shendi, and in Eastern province near Kassala up to 31 August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to September 30.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA
No locusts were reported during August.

YEMEN
A late report stated that isolated adults were present on the coastal plains west of Aden in late July.

OMAN
No locusts were seen during surveys near Sohar on the northern Batinah coast and near Wadi Al Ain in Al Dhahira from 11-20 September.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to September 30.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN
No locust activity was reported during the second half of August.

During the first half of September, isolated adults at a maximum density of 225 per sq. km. were seen at Ghazi (2545N/7015E) during a survey from Chhore (2533N/6945E) to Ghazi in the Tharparkar Desert on the 7th.

INDIA
No locust activity was reported during the second half of August.

During the first half of September, isolated adults were reported from 8 locations of Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts with a maximum density of 300 per sq. km. at Madhogarh (2750N/7249E) on the 6th. First to third instar hoppers were also reported at Madhogarh and Khari (2759N/7258E) in Bikaner district.

AFGHANISTAN
No locust activity was reported during August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to September 30.

FORECAST UNTIL MID NOVEMBER 1991

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA
Small scale breeding will continue in areas of green vegetation, primarily in Tagant and adjacent areas of Trarza and Adrar. Small numbers of adults are likely to occur and breed in Inchiri and further north in Adrar. Elsewhere, isolated adults will persist in the two Hodhs where breeding is unlikely unless further rainfall occurs.

MALI
Small scale breeding will continue in areas of green vegetation, primarily wadis of the Adrar des Iforas north of Kidal extending to the Algerian border. Scattered adults are likely to be present and breeding in areas of green vegetation in Tamesna.

NIGER
Small scale breeding is likely to be in progress in areas of green vegetation in western and central Air and in Tamesna.

CHAD
Scattered adults may be present and breeding in areas of green vegetation, primarily in Biltine, northern Batha and northern Ouaddai regions.

BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, GAMBIA, GUINEA BISSAU, GUINEA CONAKRY and SENEGAL
No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA
Numbers are expected to decrease in the wadis to the west of Tamanrasset as a result of control operations and increasingly unfavourable breeding conditions. Small numbers of adults and perhaps a few adult groups are likely to move north-west to western Algeria in late October and the first half of November.

MOROCCO
Small numbers of adults and perhaps a few adult groups are likely to reach the Oued Draa area in late October and the first half of November.

LIBYA and TUNISIA
No significant developments are likely.

EAST AFRICA

SUDAN
Scattered adults may be present and breeding in areas of green vegetation, primarily in Northern Darfur near Kutum, in Northern Kordofan near El Obeid and En Nahud, in Northern province near Shendi and near Kassala in the Eastern province. However, by the end of the forecast period numbers will decrease as conditions become dry and adults move east towards winter/spring breeding areas. A few scattered adults may occur on the Red Sea coast during the first half of November.

ETHIOPIA
Scattered adults may be present in some parts of Eritrea and appear on the northern Red Sea coast late in the forecast period.

SOMALIA
Scattered adults may be present on the northern coastal plains.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA
No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
Scattered adults may be present in some wadis of the southern Tihama and breed in areas of green vegetation.

YEMEN
Scattered adults may be present in some wadis of the Tihama, on the coastal plains west of Aden, and in Abyan and breed in areas where recent rainfall has occurred.

BAHRAIN, EGYPT, IRAQ, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, OMAN, QATAR, SYRIA, TURKEY and UAE
No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN
A few isolated adults may be present in Tharparkar, Khairpur and Bahawalpur Deserts; however, numbers will decrease as the monsoon ends and conditions become unfavourable. A few scattered adults may occur on the Mekran as a result of movement out of the summer monsoon breeding area.

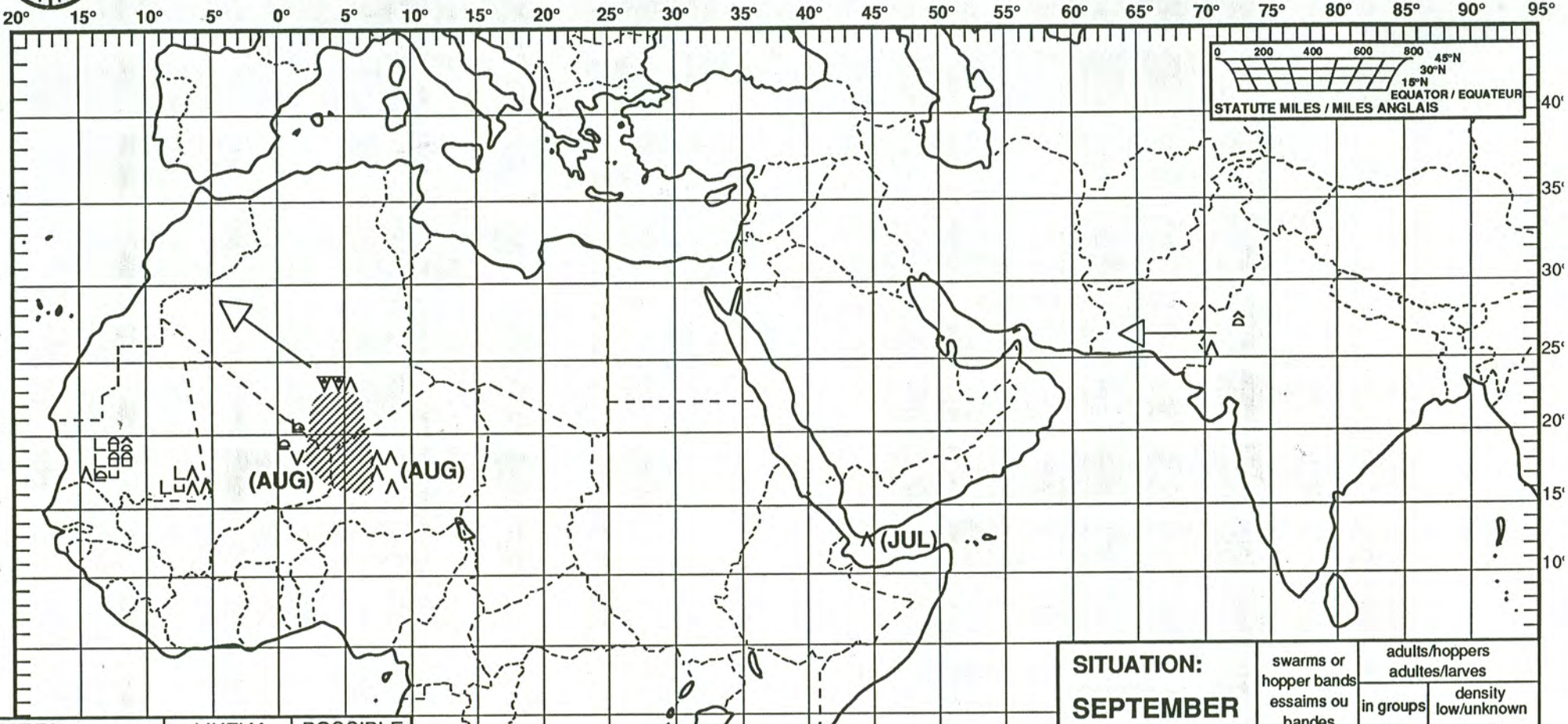
INDIA
Numbers will decrease during the forecast period in Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, and Barmer districts of Rajasthan as vegetation dries out and breeding conditions become unfavourable. By the end of the forecast period, only a few isolated adults are likely to remain.

AFGHANISTAN and IRAN
No significant developments are likely.

1 October 1991

Desert Locust: summary
Criquet pèlerin: situation résumée

No. 157



FORECAST TO: / PREVISION AU: 15.11.91	LIKELY PROBABLE	POSSIBLE POSSIBLE
current undetected breeding reproduction en cours et non détectée		
major swarm(s) essaim(s) important(s)		
minor swarm(s) essaim(s) limité(s)		
non swarming adults adultes non essaimant		

SITUATION: SEPTEMBER 1991	swarms or hopper bands essaims ou bandes larvaires	adults/hoppers adultes/larves in groups en groupes	density low/unknown densité faible/inconnue
immature adults adultes immatures	■	□	⊔
mature or partly mature adults adultes matures ou partiellement matures	◣	◺	L
adults, maturity unknown adultes, maturité inconnue	▲	△	∧
egg laying or eggs pontes ou œufs	▼	▽	∨
hoppers larves	●	○	⌓
hoppers & adults (combined symbol example) larves et adultes (exemple symboles combinés)	◘	◙	⍾