

## **FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No 131**

### **GENERAL SITUATION TO 31 JULY 1989 FORECAST TO MID SEPTEMBER 1989**

**In July, very few Desert Locusts were reported in the Sahel and the Near East. No major Desert Locust infestations are likely to be present now or in the forecast period. Some small scale breeding is in progress in Mali, Niger, and Sudan. Locust numbers are likely to increase during the period in the Sahel as a result of summer breeding. However, breeding is not likely to be on a large scale, but is expected to be widely dispersed.**

ARTEMIS and METEOSAT satellite imagery suggest that good rains fell in the Sahelian zones of West Africa, the Ethiopian Highlands, and, to a lesser extent, in the Adrar des Iforhas, the Air, central Sudan and the southern Red Sea coast of Ethiopia during July. As a result, environmental conditions are likely to be favorable for breeding. Scattered adults were reported in Senegal, Mali, Chad, and Sudan. Additional populations may be present in southern and central Mauritania, western Niger, Darfur of Sudan, and northern Ethiopia and these are likely to lay.

There have been no further reports of adults in Yemen AR and Yemen PDR previously seen in June. Similarly, no further hopper and adult infestations have been reported from Djibouti, Ethiopia, or Somalia.

Scattered adults were reported in summer breeding areas of Pakistan and India. Numbers have increased in India with sightings of isolated individuals at numerous locations in Rajasthan. Breeding has almost certainly started and will continue during the forecast period.



## WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

During July, the ITCZ in West Africa moved as far north as 22°N due to a low pressure system centered over the Mauritania-Mali-Algeria border. As a result, heavy rain fell during the month in the southern Sahel, especially in central and southern Mauritania and southern Mali. For example, Kiffa and Aioun received 102 mm and 131 mm, respectively, during the first two weeks of July. In northern Mauritania, Bir Moghrein received 14 mm (the monthly average for July is 1 mm). In south-west Mali, Kita received 142 mm and in Niger, Niamey received 62 mm during the first half of July. In Chad, rains have been generally concentrated south of a line defined by Nokou-Biltine. METEOSAT and ARTEMIS satellite imagery also indicate that good rains have fallen in the Adrar des Iforhas and Air. Heavy rainfall was reported in the Adrar causing flooding of Wadi Eleoudi in mid July. Based on the rainfall reports and satellite imagery, vegetation conditions are expected to be favorable in Mauritania as far north as Atar, in southern and south-western Mali, the Adrar des Iforhas, Tamesna, south-western Niger, the Air, and in Chad as far north as Mao and Abeche.

In Eastern Africa, the ITCZ has remained around 18°N due to the blocking effect of a high pressure system over central Europe and Libya. In Sudan and Ethiopia, good rains have fallen south of a line defined by Geneina-Khartoum-Kassala-Asmara, and, during the second decade of July, on the southern Red Sea coast of Ethiopia. El Obeid reported 20 mm on 12 July and heavy rain has been reported in the Ethiopian Highlands. Ecological conditions are presumed to be favorable in central Sudan and the Ethiopian Highlands.

METEOSAT and ARTEMIS cold cloud analyses suggest thunderstorm activity and rainfall in the south-west of the Arabian Peninsula primarily in Yemen AR and, more recently, in Yemen PDR.

Reports from South West Asia indicate that the monsoon has commenced in southern and central India and southern Pakistan. It is expected that the monsoon has also started in Rajasthan with the onset of moist air flow from the south-west.

## AREA TREATED IN JULY 1989

No information regarding control operations during July had been received from countries up to 31 July.



## WEST AFRICA

### MAURITANIA

There was an unconfirmed report of hoppers at Bamaira, 40 km north-west of Ouadane, on 6 July.

**No adult Desert Locusts have been reported up to 20 July.**

### SENEGAL

Isolated adults were reported at Saint Louis (1602N/1630W) in early July. Locusts previously reported at Kaolack were confirmed as grasshoppers.

The situation was reported to be calm up to 16 July.

### MALI

Isolated adults were reported in the Adrar, Tamesna, and near Gourma during the last half of June at a maximum density of 450 per ha.

In early July, adults mixed with *Locusta* were reported on 1000 ha along the Niger River south-east of Gao (1610N/0004E) at densities of 50-400 per ha. Some hoppers were also seen in the area.

In the second half of July, isolated and scattered locusts were reported in various wadis of the Adrar at Tarhagat (1959N/0148E), Idjerer (1952N/0134E), and Tadelok (1946N/0203E). Locusts were also seen in the Tamesna at In Adiarakan (1831N/0208E). Isolated adults were reported in the Lake Region at Lake Tanda (1545N/0402W), Takadji, and Aougoundou (1542N/0318W) at a maximum density of 1 per sq m.

### NIGER

During the last half of June, scattered breeding was reported at Koumeri and Kourou Roubi (1515N/0357E) in the Dosso region. Isolated maturing and mature adults, at densities up to 500 per ha, were seen in Tamesna in late June. Isolated adults were also reported in the eastern Air at densities of 10 to 30 per ha.

The situation was reported to be calm up to 24 July.

### CHAD

No Desert Locusts were reported in Chad during the last half of June.

In early July, surveys in the Kanem region of Western Chad and near Adre in Eastern Chad reported the Desert Locust situation as calm with only a few scattered adults seen in patches of green vegetation near Ngouri (1338N/1522E) and Nokou (1435N/1447E).

In mid July, surveys in Eastern Chad reported no locusts between Abeche and Adre, Abeche and Biltine, Biltine and Fada, and in Wadi Bitea (1311N/2010E) south of Abeche.

### GAMBIA

Gambia was reported to be clear of locusts up to 16 July.

## NORTH-WEST AFRICA

**No information regarding locusts had been received from countries in the region up to 31 July.**

## EASTERN AFRICA

### SUDAN

In late June, there was an unconfirmed report of 300 ha of eggfields 35 km north-east of Saraf Umra (1325N/2315E) in N. Darfur.

In early July, surveys were undertaken in Northern Kordofan and White Nile provinces. Green vegetation was reported in wadis. Isolated populations of adults at a density of 3600 per ha were reported on 200 ha at Soderi (1425N/2905E) and Hamrat El Wiz (1458N/3008E).

In mid July, surveys in the Central Region reported that Esh Shugeig (1426N/3154E), Ar Ashkol (1409N/3204E), the Sennar area, and the Gezira scheme were clear of Desert Locusts. The situation in Darfur and Kordofan is uncertain as surveys in these regions were not possible.

### ETHIOPIA

The Red Sea coastal plains were reported dry and the Desert Locust situation was reported calm up to 20 July.

### DJIBOUTI

The Red Sea coastal plains were dry and the Desert Locust situation was reported calm up to 20 July.

### SOMALIA

Somalia was reported clear up to 20 July.

## NEAR EAST

### KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

The situation was reported calm in June.

**No information regarding locusts had been received from other countries in the region up to 31 July.**

## SOUTH-WEST ASIA

### PAKISTAN

Insignificant numbers of scattered adults were reported in some localities of the summer monsoon breeding area of Bahawalpur with a maximum density of 1500 per sq km at Bijnot (2804N/7141E) on 24 June.

During the first half of July, low density adult populations were reported in the Nara and Cholistan Deserts with a maximum density of 750 per sq km at Baghawala (2814N/7000E) on 11 July.

### INDIA

During the last half of June, isolated populations of adults were reported at 54 locations in Rajasthan and Gujarat with a maximum density of 3000 per sq km at Kunwarbet (2350N/6950E) in Gujarat on 25 June.

### **NEW ASSISTANCE REQUESTED**

As reported in ECLO 15/89, Mauritania has requested 250,000 ECU for technical assistance and construction of two offices equipped with radio, Unimog for spraying, and a pick-up vehicle for surveying. The EEC has agreed to provide this in principle.

### **NEW ASSISTANCE PROVIDED**

No information regarding new assistance provided during July had been received up to 31 July.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **RESOURCE DATA BASE**

FAO/ECLO is maintaining a continuous data base of resources available in each country for locust control. In order to keep this information up to date, every country affected by the Desert Locust is kindly requested to submit on a regular basis to FAO/ECLO updated inventories on type and quantity of: pesticides, vehicles, radios, sprayers, aircraft, and personnel.

#### **FAO/ECLO SUMMARY AND UPDATE**

In order to further clarify the recent changes in the FAO/ECLO bulletins, the following should be noted. The DESERT LOCUST SUMMARY replaces the DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST. It will be issued at the end of every month. The DESERT LOCUST UPDATE replaces the ECLO LOCUST AND GRASSHOPPER BULLETIN. It will be issued in the middle of every month. The previous numbering system will be kept for the Summary (i.e. No. 131) and for the update (i.e. No. 15/89).

*31 July 1989*



## FORECAST UNTIL MID SEPTEMBER 1989

### WEST AFRICA

#### **MAURITANIA**

Small scale breeding is likely to be in progress in some green areas of central and southern Mauritania. Resulting populations will be small and dispersed and, therefore, difficult to detect. Fledging should commence by late August.

#### **SENEGAL**

Small scale laying may have occurred along the Senegal River Valley giving rise to small numbers of hoppers. However, any hopper infestations will be dispersed and not likely to be significant.

#### **MALI**

Small scale laying may have occurred during the second half of July in the Sahelian zone and in some wadis of the Adrar des Iforhas. Resulting hoppers will be scattered and difficult to find. Fledging is likely to commence by late August, but it will be on a small scale and no major adult infestations are expected.

#### **NIGER**

Some laying may have occurred throughout the Sahelian belt during the second half of July with the majority probably occurring in the west of the country. Resulting hoppers will be scattered and difficult to find. Fledging is likely to begin by late August, although only on a small scale.

#### **CHAD**

Adults may have bred during the second half of July but only scattered hoppers are likely to result. Some breeding may have occurred in isolated areas in Eastern Chad. Any resulting hoppers are likely to be scattered and difficult to detect. Fledging is likely by late August or early September.

#### **GAMBIA, GUINEA BISSAU, GUINEA CONAKRY, BURKINO FASO and CAMEROON**

No invasions or breeding are expected.

### NORTH WEST AFRICA

#### **MOROCCO, ALGERIA, TUNISIA, and LIBYA**

No invasions or breeding are expected.

### EAST AFRICA

#### **SUDAN**

Small scale laying is likely to continue in Kordofan and North Darfur. Resulting hoppers are not expected to be numerous and should begin fledging in early September. No invasions are expected from neighbouring countries during the forecast period.

#### **ETHIOPIA**

Some scattered adults may be present in Eritrea and on the Red Sea coast. Small scale breeding is likely until the end of the forecast period in areas where rainfall has occurred.

#### **DJIBOUTI**

Some scattered adults may be present but laying is not expected.



## FORECAST UNTIL MID SEPTEMBER 1989

### **SOMALIA**

Scattered adults may be present in the extreme western part of the northern coast. Laying may occur during August in some localities but only on a small scale.

### **KENYA, UGANDA, and TANZANIA**

No invasions are expected.

### NEAR EAST

#### **KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

A few adults may be present in the Asir mountains but the rest of the country is likely to be clear of locusts.

#### **YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC**

In the Tihama, small scale laying may have occurred in wadis and along the foothills of the escarpment; however, resulting hopper infestations are likely to be difficult to detect.

#### **YEMEN PDR**

Small scale laying may have occurred in some of the wadis in the interior and on the western coastal plains. The resulting hopper infestations are likely to be light and difficult to detect.

#### **BAHRAIN, EGYPT, IRAQ, ISRAEL, KUWAIT, JORDAN, OMAN, QATAR, SYRIA, TURKEY, and UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

No invasions are expected.

### SOUTH WEST ASIA

#### **PAKISTAN**

Breeding is likely to be in progress in Bahawalpur; however, this is expected to be on a small scale.

#### **INDIA**

Summer breeding is likely to be in progress in Rajasthan and northern Gujarat as the monsoons have commenced. However, breeding is expected to be on a small scale only.

#### **IRAN and AFGANISTAN**

No invasions are expected.



# Desert Locust Summary No. 131

## Criquet Pèlerin : Résumé No. 131

