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DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 100 DECEMBER 1986 - EARLY JANUARY 1987

SUMMARY

Widespread and unprecedentedly late breeding in the interior of Sudan resulted in the formation of numerous swarms. Many reached the Red Sea coast where winter breeding started in Sudan and northern Ethiopia. Numerous swarms were reported from the southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia where gregarious breeding commenced. Elsewhere there were small scale control operations in Yemen PDR and small number of adults were reported from Mauritania, Niger, the Gulf of Oman and India.

W/S2855

WEST AFRICA

Meteorology

As reported in Summary No. 99 an Atlantic disturbance on 5 December resulted in a northward pull of the Intertropical Convergence Zone and gave cloud extending from Mauritania to temperate latitudes. During the first decade of December, Meteosat imagery indicates that rain probably occurred throughout Mauritania and in western Mali. In the last decade there was probably further rain in central, southern and western Mauritania.

Breeding conditions

NOAA/AVHRR imagery suggests that soil and vegetation conditions were likely to have been favourable for breeding in southern Mauritania, in parts of the Adrar des Iforas and southern Tamesna.

Locusts

MAURITANIA

Aerial and ground control operations were concluded against hoppers and adults in the Khat el Moinane area (1820-1904N/1215-1220W) by 10 December. A total of 38,550 hectares were treated, 18,100 hectares by air and 20,450 by ground. 8,900 litres of Fenitrothion 50%, 5,200 litres of Malathion and 2,000 litres of Dieldrin 5% were applied.

MALI

In late November late instar solitaricolor hoppers and immature adults were present in some wadis in south-west Tamesna and southern Adrar des Iforas (1700-1800N/0150-0400E).

NIGER

Only small numbers of immature adults were present in restricted areas of green vegetation.

No locusts were reported from CHAD.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

Meteorology

The Maghreb was under the influence of successive eastward moving mid-latitude depressions. The associated fronts gave widespread rain south of the mountains, particularly in the first decade.

Breeding conditions

NOAA/AVHRR imagery indicates that soil and vegetation conditions were likely to have been favourable for breeding over much of the Grand Erg Occidental and the Tademait plateau, northern Tassili-n-Ajjer in Algeria, over large areas in the Fezzan in Libya^{and} in the Hamada Du Guir in south-east Morocco.

Locusts

No locusts were reported from the Region.

EASTERN AFRICA

Meteorology

The Red Sea coastal plains of Ethiopia around Massawa received heavy rain on 2-5 December. There were further heavy rain on the southern sector of the Red Sea coastal plains of Sudan during the third week of December. No rain reported along the coastal plains of northern Somalia or Djibouti.

Breeding conditions

Conditions are very favourable for breeding along the Red Sea coastal plains of Ethiopia and the southern sector of Sudan.

Locusts

SUDAN

Widespread and unprecedentedly late second generation summer breeding continued in the interior and despite aerial and ground control operations numerous swarms formed. These moved north-east to Red Sea coastal areas where winter breeding commenced.

WHITE NILE PROVINCE

Nine swarms were reported from around Ed Dueim between 5 and 13 December, mostly flying east. All were sprayed by ground teams or aircraft. Ground spraying continued in the Abu Hindi area (1342N/3235E) up to the end of the month. Two swarms were seen in the Kosti area in early December.

BLUE NILE PROVINCE

Several swarms were reported flying north-east across the Blue Nile in the vicinity of Sennar between 13 and 17 December. Ground control operations were in progress.

GEZIRA PROVINCE

On 5 December a 6 square kilometre mature swarm settled at Wad Habouba and a part later crossed the Blue Nile and reached the El Geneid scheme (1448N/3319E). Ground control was conducted. No damage to cotton was observed. Another swarm measuring 4 square kilometres was controlled at El Geneid on 12 December and a further swarm was reported flying north-east at Abu Guta (1445N/3244E).

NORTHERN PROVINCE

In Ed Debba and Merowe districts aircraft treated 2,688 hectares and ground teams 4,780 hectares using 1,600 litres of Fenitrothion and 607 litres of Diazinon. First instar hoppers were reported from Abu Sinon and were immediately controlled.

NILE PROVINCE

Ground teams applied 17,000 kg of BHC bait and 90 litres of Diazinon against adult infestations over 17,000 hectares in the Abu Ushar (1745N/3308E), El Garaa (1740N/3250E) and Abu Salam and 10,000 kg of poisoned bait against 4,200 hectares of adults at Abu Kurmut (1739N/3348E).

East of the Nile, ground control operations were mounted against late instar hoppers and adults over 3,200 hectares at Eiladebba (1707N/3454E) and over 5,600 hectares at Adorama (1707N/3452E) using 336 litres of Diazinon EC and 6,800 kg of poisoned bait and 25 kg of Agroicide 7. Aerial spraying was conducted against swarms at Kalalab (1648N/3503E) and Umm Rus (1643N/3504E) totalling 4,800 hectares.

KASSALA PROVINCE

In early December surveys were made to the north of the Gash delta. One swarm covering 1,260 hectares was controlled at Airabag (1640N/3604E), and another of 1,500 hectares was controlled at Wadi Omlī (1703N/3132E). On 2-3 December swarms were reported flying north-east at Wadi Odi (1703N/3638E) and Hamashkureib (1710N/3645E). Groups of adults were reported from Jebel Asoteriba (1704N/3625E).

Later, high density adults were reported damaging cultivations along the Atbara river between Goz Regeb and Baaluk (1637N/3513E). Aerial and ground control measures were applied.

RED SEA PROVINCE

Many immature, maturing and mature, medium-high density swarms reached the Tokar delta throughout the month. Many were copulating and laying. Aerial and ground control operations were mounted over 340 square kilometres using 14,960 litres of Diazinon and 2,050 litres of Fenitrothion. Other swarms were reported from Aqiq (1812N/3812E), Adobana (1810N/3816E) and between Jebel Aitarba (1755N/3821E) and Karora (1742N/3822E). North of Port Sudan control operations were in progress against early instar hoppers in Khor Oko (2028N/3651E).

On 6 January an immature 6 hectare swarmlet was seen at Khor Balatat (1757N/3722E) and controlled using 220 litres of Fenitrothion 50%.

ETHIOPIA

In early December a ground survey team reported that farmers were controlling scattered adults at Wadi Gulbub (1628N/3906E) and Wadi Adibarbo (1648N/3800E). A copulating swarmlet was reported from Emit (1628N/3848E). In the first week of January mature adults were reported from Wadis Emit (1625N/3945E), Algena (1718N/3835E), Geleb Sagla (1700N/3850E) and Akbanazuf (1550N/3910E). A swarmlet which had already laid was seen west of Massawa.

SOMALIA

Scattered adults were reported from northern Somalia.

No locusts were reported from DJIBOUTI.

NEAR EAST

Meteorology

The north of the Arabian peninsula continued to be affected by Mediterranean depressions. These gave widespread rainfall, which extended along the Tihama.

Breeding conditions

As a result of the good rains, breeding conditions were favourable along the Tihama.

Locusts

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

As reported in Summary No. 99, a swarm of mixed maturity was reported from Gumaiga (2020N/4027E) on 1 December, and adults reached Tebuk in early December. In mid-December further swarms reached the Tihama between Jeddah and Jizan and started to lay. Helicopters and ground units attacked all swarms with very good results but hatching occurred, leading to the formation of hopper bands. These were also controlled with excellent results. By 14 January all swarms and major hopper infestations were reported to have been controlled. A total of 16,250 litres of Dieldrin and 7,500 litres of Fenitrothion were applied.

Scattered adults were seen around Jeddah and Khulais.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

In the Arqa. area control continued against small groups of hoppers.

GULF OF OMAN

A single locust was observed on board a ship at 2000 hours GMT on 1 January at 2407N, 5716E. The wind was NW, 7-16 knots.

There were no other reports from the Region.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Meteorology

Light to medium rainfall was recorded at Uthal, Kharan, Quetta and Khuzdar on 25 November and at Panjgur the following day. No rain was reported in the winter-spring breeding areas during December.

Breeding conditions

Unfavourable.

Locusts

INDIA

Scattered adults were reported from six localities in Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Ganganagar districts in the second half of November from one locality in Bikaner district in the second half of December.

No locusts were reported from PAKISTAN during December, or from AFGHANISTAN or IRAN.

FORECAST FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH 1987

Gregarious breeding will become more widespread on both sides of the Red Sea and breeding will commence in the interior of Saudi Arabia. Breeding may also begin in southern Western Sahara and adjacent areas of Mauritania.

In West Africa adults which survived control operations in November may start to breed in Western and North-Western Mauritania in areas which receive winter rains. Adults in Mali and Niger will remain in areas with green vegetation but will not breed.

In North-West Africa breeding may commence in southern Western Sahara in areas which receive winter rain. Small scale breeding may start in south-east Morocco and in areas of the Algerian Sahara which receive rainfall or run-off.

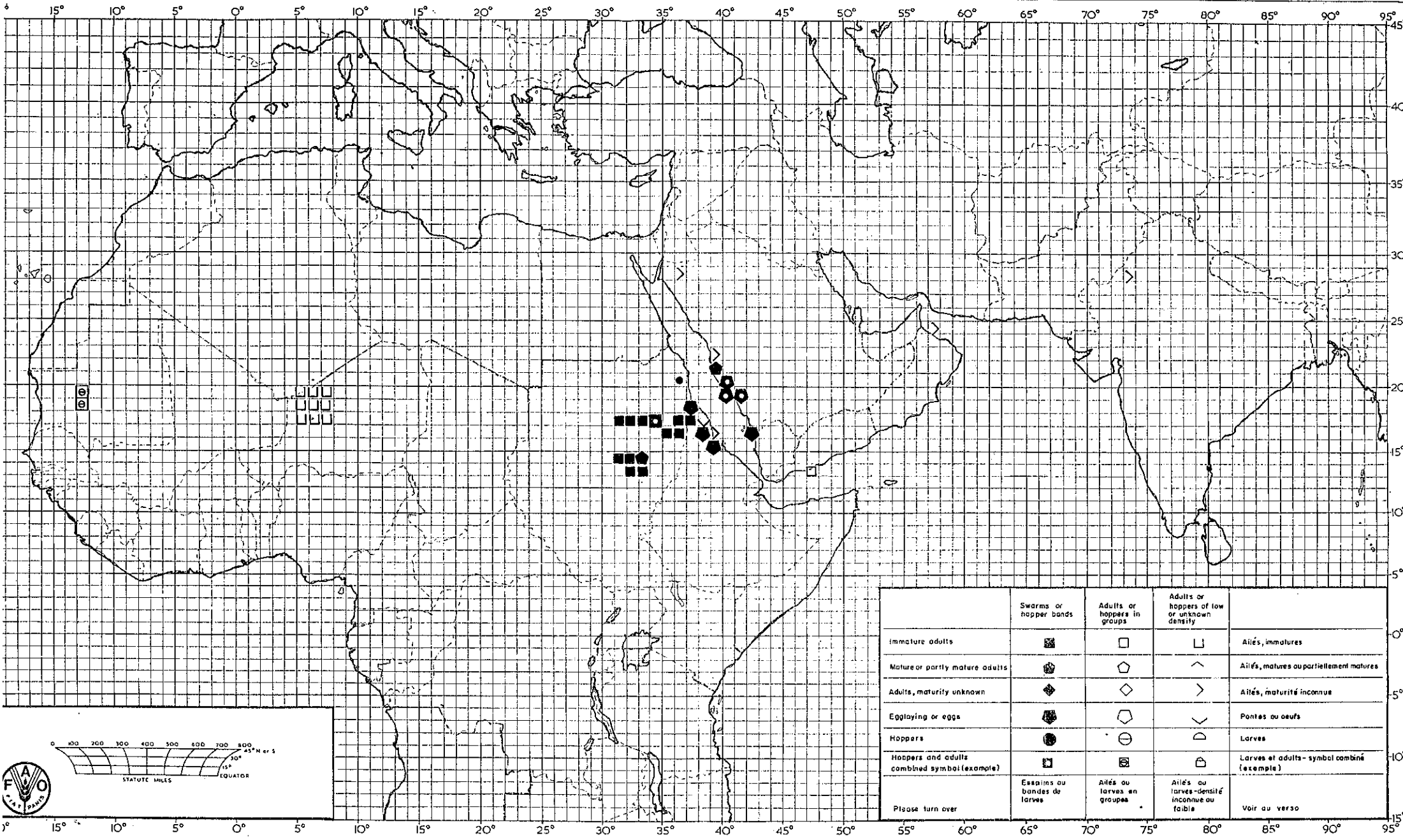
In Eastern Africa gregarious breeding will be widespread on the Red Sea coastal plains of Sudan and northern Ethiopia. Small scale breeding may occur in the northern coastal plains of Somalia if there is rain.

In the Near East gregarious breeding will continue on the southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia and is likely to extend northwards to the northern Tihama and may occur in Sinai, Israel and Jordan. Further crossings of the Red Sea may occur during periods of warm southerly winds. Gregarious breeding is also likely to occur in the South-Eastern Desert of Egypt. In the interior of Arabia breeding may become widespread in central and northern Saudi Arabia and may extend into southern Jordan, Southern Iraq and Kuwait. Gregarious breeding may also extend to the Yemen Tihama. Small scale breeding is likely to continue in coastal areas of Yemen PDR.

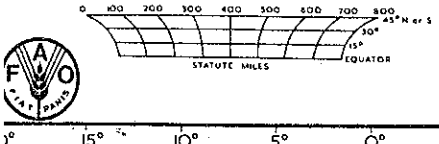
In South-West Asia small scale breeding may start in coastal areas of Baluchistan of Pakistan and adjacent areas of Iran.

Rome
19 January 1987

Desert Locust Situation Summary No. 100 DECEMBER 1986 - EARLY JANUARY 1987 / DECEMBRE 1986 - DEBUT DE JANVIER



	Swarms or hopper bands	Adults or hoppers in groups	Adults or hoppers of low or unknown density	
Immature adults	■	□	⌊	Ailés, immatures
Mature or partly mature adults	●	◊	∨	Ailés, matures ou partiellement matures
Adults, maturity unknown	◆	◇	>	Ailés, maturité inconnue
Egg laying or eggs	⊙	◊	<	Pontes ou oeufs
Hoppers	●	⊖	∩	Larves
Hoppers and adults combined symbol (exemple)	⊞	⊞	⊞	Larves et adultes - symbol combiné (exemple)
Please turn over	Essaims ou bandes de larves	Ailés ou larves en groupes	Ailés ou larves - densité inconnue ou faible	Voir au verso



15° 10° 5° 0° 5° 10° 15° 20° 25° 30° 35° 40° 45° 50° 55° 60° 65° 70° 75° 80° 85° 90° 95°