

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



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PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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Locusts, other migratory pests and emergency operations group

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 43 MARCH - EARLY APRIL 1982

SUMMARY

Ground control operations continued against hoppers and adults on the Red Sea coast of Sudan and commenced against localised infestations in coastal areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. Small numbers of adults were reported from Algeria, Yemen Arab Republic and Pakistan. Breeding is probably in progress in southern Western Sahara.

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION, MARCH - EARLY APRIL 1982

ALGERIA

Weather

There were variable rains within the recession area in Algeria in January, February and March (in millimetres) (long-term means in brackets):

		<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Laghouat	(3348N/0253E)	18.4 (12)	23.5 (11)	0 (15)
Mechria	(3333N/0017W)	12.2	34.3	5.8
El Bayadh	(3341N/0101E)	21.4	54.0	16.0
Touggourt	(3306N/0545E)	0 (6)	6.0 (6)	0 (9)
El Oued	(3320N/0653E)	0	15.8	0.3
Ain Sefra	(3245N/0035W)	18.7 (10)	24.3 (10)	18.0 (14)
Ghardaia	(3229N/0340E)	1.6 (5)	4.5 (7)	6.0 (13)
Béchar	(3137N/0213E)	18.9 (7)	3.5 (9)	0 (13)
Ouargla	(3157N/0520E)	7.1 (5)	21.2 (3)	0 (5)
Hassi-Messaoud	(3143N/0603E)	Tr	2.4	0
El Golea	(3034N/0253E)	1.0 (3)	0 (8)	1.0 (13)
Beni Abbes	(3008N/0210W)	0	7.9	0
Timimoun	(2915N/0015E)	Tr	0	0
In Amenas	(2803N/0933E)	0	0	0.7
Adrar	(2544N/0017W)	0 (1)	0 (2)	3.0 (3)
In Salah	(2713N/0228E)	0 (2)	14.8 (2)	0 (1)
Illizi	(2629N/0828E)	0	0	0
Anguid	(2626N/0522E)	0	0	0
Tindouf	(2742N/0809E)	0 (1)	0 (1)	0 (5)
Djanet	(2434N/0929E)	19.4	0	0
Tamanrasset	(2247N/0531E)	2.1	0	6.8
In Guezzam	(1932N/0542E)	0	0	0
Bordj Moktar	(2120N/0056E)	0	0	0

Reggane (2642N/0010E) recorded 20 mm on 12-13 March, and rain fell for 36 hours between Béchar and Tindouf on 11-12 February. Further rain fell in Ghardaia, Djanet and Illizi in early April.

As a result of the rain ecological conditions were becoming favourable for breeding in many areas of western and central Algeria.

Locusts

No locusts were reported in January. In February and March, small numbers of immature adults were seen at 32 localities in western and central Algeria and at Illizi in eastern Algeria.

MOROCCO

Weather

The following rainfall was registered in the recession area in Morocco (in millimetres) (long term means in brackets) :

		<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Errachidia	(3158N/0425W)	12.8	7.0	2.0
Marrakech	(3137N/0802W)	50.0	18.0	6.2
Essaouria	(3137N/0947W)	49.0	15.0	28.0
Agadir	(3023N/0934W)	127.0 (48)	8.0 (32)	3.8 (24)
Ouarzazate	(3056N/0654W)	0.2 (6)	4.0 (6)	0 (12)
Zagora	(3019N/0552W)	0	0	0
Tan Tan	(2800N/1056W)	0.4	0.5	0
Sidi Ifni	(2923N/1010W)	62.0	0	15.0
Tiznit	(2942N/0944W)	85.3		
Tafraoute	(2943N/0857W)	58.1		

Locusts

Small numbers of adults were seen in southern Morocco in January and their numbers declined in February and March.

WESTERN SAHARA

Weather

El Aioun (2709N/1312W) received 14 mm of rain in January, 0.2 in February and none in March. On an aerial survey from El Aioun to the Adrar Soutouf in late March ecological conditions were seen to be very favourable for breeding in the Adrar Soutouf area.

Locusts

No ground surveys have been conducted in the period January-March, and no locusts have been reported. However, it is considered probable that substantial populations reached Western Sahara from the south in December and January and that these are currently breeding.

TUNISIA

Weather

The following rainfall was registered (in millimetres) (long-term means in brackets) :

		<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Gafsa	(3425N/0848E)	23.2 (15)	13.2 (14)	2.0 (20)
Tozeur	(3355N/0808E)	1.5 (14)	12.8 (8)	0.7 (6)
Gabes	(3353N/1007E)	24.0 (17)	23.4 (17)	22.0 (16)
Djerba	(3353N/1015E)	14.6 (24)	10.8 (18)	11.0 (20)

Medenine	(3321N/1030E)	52.4	6.7	20.3
Remada	(3219N/1024E)	6.5 (14)	11.3 (6)	6.4 (8)
Ben Gardane	(3308N/1113E)	1.4	17.0	0
Zarzis	(3330N/1107E)	17.6	6.2	0

LIBYA

Weather

The following rainfall was registered (in millimetres) (long-term mean in brackets) :

		<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Nalut	(3153N/1059E)	28.0 (25)	17.0 (15)	13.7 (10)
Zouara	(3255N/1205E)	25.0 (21)	0.6 (13)	13.0 (9)
Tripoli	(3254N/1311E)	46.0 (62)	39.0 (38)	113.1 (19)
Misurata	(3225N/1506E)	6.1 (61)	21.9 (22)	95.4 (17)
Sirte	(3112N/1635E)	32.0 (40)	10.9 (23)	21.9 (16)
Benima	(3206N/2016E)	16.0 (65)	30.2 (35)	56.0 (22)
Agedabia	(3043N/2010E)	11.0 (30)	5.0 (20)	66.2 (5)
Shahat	(3249N/2151E)	41.0 (131)	85.5 (89)	31.0 (61)
Derna	(3244N/2238E)	10.0 (46)	43.4 (34)	6.8 (28)
Jamal Abdel Nasser	(3151N/2355E)	0.3 (21)	66.4 (12)	3.2 (11)
Ghadames	(3010N/0930E)	0 (1)	0 (1)	0 (1)
Sebha	(2701N/1426E)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Houn	(2908N/1557E)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Gialo	(2902N/2134E)	0.2 (0)	0.4 (0)	16 (0)
Tazerbo	(2508N/2108E)	0 (0)	3.0 (0)	0 (0)
Koufra	(2413N/2318E)	0 (0)	0.4 (0)	0 (0)

Locusts

No locusts were reported between January and March.

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Light rain fell on 9 March in northern Mauritania, Bir Moghreim recorded 1.4 mm. On 28-29 March there was further light rain at Atar (8 mm), Akjoujt (3 mm) and Nouakchott (trace). No surveys were made and no locusts were reported.

MALI

Light rain fell in the Adrar des Iforas on 12-13 March. On 18 March the Intertropical Front was north of Niamey and there were several showers in the Adrar des Iforas and Timetrine. No surveys were made and no locusts were reported.

NIGER

On 18 March the Intertropical Front lay to the north of Niamey and there were showers in Aïr.

There were no reports from CHAD.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Further hatching was reported over an area of 20 square kilometres in the Tokar delta. Patches of early instar hoppers and scattered adults were present over an area of 1 500 hectares in the Khor Karora area. Control operations were in progress.

ETHIOPIA

The monthly report for February from Sudan states that there were heavy infestations of hoppers and adults on the northern coast of Ethiopia.

Heavy rain was reported in late March at Djibouti, Assab and in north-west Somalia.

There were no reports of locusts from DJIBOUTI, KENYA, SOMALIA, TANZANIA or UGANDA.

NEAR EAST

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

Weather

Widespread heavy rains fell throughout the country from 29 to 31 March, particularly in the Dathina, Abyan and Lahej areas causing high floods in wadis Ahwar, Hassan, Bana and Tuban. Further heavy rain was reported in early April. Conditions were very favourable for breeding.

Locusts

Green, yellow-green and fawn hoppers were found in and around millet cultivations over an area of 7 hectares at Bir Masal (1325N/4559E), and over 18 hectares at Muqaybirah (1325N/4602E) on 21-22 March. During control operations 125 kg of BHC dust were used. Scattered adults were found in millet cultivations between Shuqra (1321N/4542E) and Al-Khaber (1325N/4608E).

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Light rain fell along the Tihama during the first week of March, and conditions on the Tihama were suitable for breeding. A very few solitarious adults were observed in wadi Ma'ar (154CN/4308E).

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

There were further good rains in all areas particularly during the periods 11-14 March and 26-28 March. The following totals in millimetres were recorded up to 29 March: Sharjah 145.1, Dubai 100.2, Awir 150.2, Abu Dhabi 107.3, Umm Al Qawain 62.0 (to 12 March), Dibba 153.0, Khor Fakkan 134.0, Fujairah 123.0, Kalba 72.0, Digdaga 114.8, Khatt 112.3, Hamraniyah 114.1, Ras Al Khaima 130.2, Falaj Mualla 183.6, Dhaid 151.0, Shaam 158.0, Masafi 164.8, Bithna 117.2, Masfut 143.6 and Marhad 194.6.

from when Feb?

was 133 in Feb

was 72.4 Feb

was 177 in Feb

Despite intensive surveys no locusts were seen or reported.

OMAN

Heavy rain was reported throughout the Sultanate in the last week of March and widespread and heavy rain was recorded during February.

No locusts were seen or reported in March.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

No locusts were reported.

EGYPT

During February a few solitary adults at densities of 10-15 per square kilometre were observed copulating and laying in wadi Di-ib and close to the Sudan border.

There were no reports of locusts from elsewhere in the Region.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

Moderate to heavy rainfall was reported throughout Baluchistan and in Bahawalpur in the first half of March and there were further good rains in Baluchistan, Sukkur and Bahawalpur in the second half of the month.

Small numbers of solitarious adults were observed in Baluchistan in the second half of March.

INDIA

There were light to moderate rains in west Rajasthan in the first half of March.

No locusts were seen or reported in March.

There was no information from AFGHANISTAN or IRAN.

FORECAST FOR MAY-JUNE 1982

This is the period when adults leave the winter-spring breeding areas for the summer breeding areas.

In North-West Africa breeding, which is probably in progress in the Adrar Soutouf area of Western Sahara, and which may have led to the formation of hopper bands, will finish. Adults of the new generation will appear in early May and may include some small swarms. It is possible that these may initially move north-east towards southern Morocco but more likely that they will move south to western and central Mauritania. Some may move to Timetrine and Adrar des Iforas in Mali. Scattered breeding in central and western Algeria will result in the production of small numbers of adults, which are likely to move south to north-east Mali and north-west Niger.

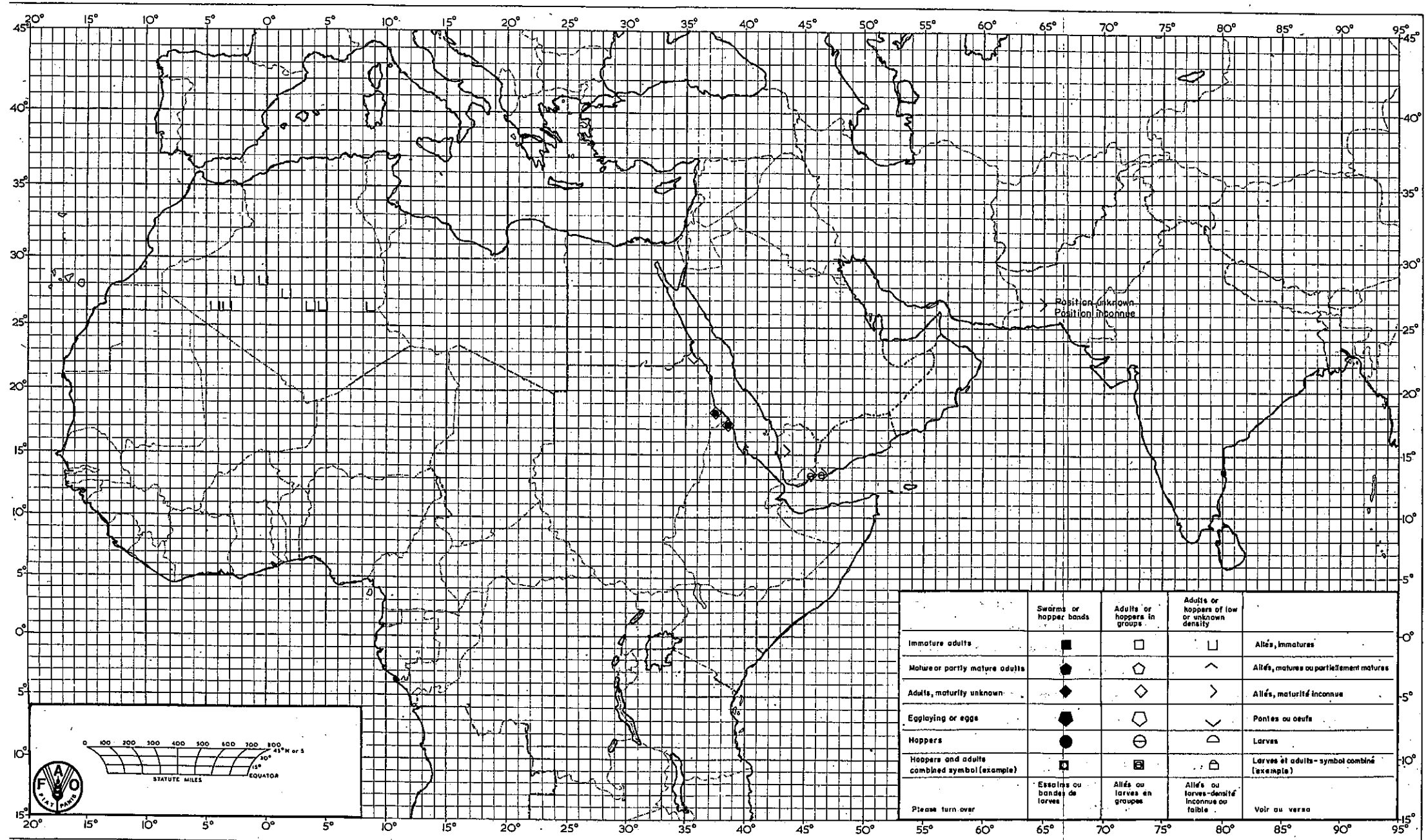
In West Africa breeding which may be in progress in northern Mauritania could be on a scale sufficient to produce some small swarms in early May. These may move initially but it is more likely that they will move south and south-west into central and western Mauritania. If there are early northward pushes of the Intertropical Front some of these swarms may move eastwards to Timetrine and the Adrar des Iforas towards the end of the forecast period. If there are early monsoon rains summer breeding may commence before the end of the forecast period in Mauritania, Mali and Niger.

In Eastern Africa breeding will end on the Red Sea coast of Sudan and Ethiopia and the resulting adults will move into the interior of Sudan. Small scale breeding may continue on the northern coastal plains of Somalia.

In the Near East breeding is likely to continue on the coastal plains and in wadis in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and may result in the formation of some hopper groups. It is now unlikely that adults will reach the Tihamas of Saudi Arabia or the Yemen Arab Republic from across the Red Sea.

In South-West Asia small-scale breeding will end in Baluchistan in Pakistan and small numbers of adults will migrate to the summer breeding areas of Pakistan and India.

Rome
19 April 1982



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

