

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. 21 May 1980

SUMMARY

The most important populations reported were in Sudan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Three immature swarms were reported in south-eastern Egypt in early May. Groups of hoppers, fledglings and immature adults were reported in adjacent areas of Sudan and groups of hoppers were reported from the northern Tihama of Saudi Arabia. All populations were controlled. Scattered locusts were also reported from the Yemen Arab Republic, Iran and India.

No locusts were reported from West or North-West Africa.

W/N8214

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION - MAY 1980

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

LIBYA

No locusts were reported.

No reports have been received from ALGERIA, MOROCCO or TUNISIA.

WEST AFRICA

No locust activity was reported.

EASTERN AFRICA

Weather

The northern sector of the Red Sea coastal area of Sudan received heavy rains on 20 May and many parts of summer breeding area received good rainfall which created favourable ecological conditions for breeding. In Ethiopia light to moderate rain was reported from parts of the northern highlands; Asmara recorded 28.9 mm during the month. Dire Dawa area received light rains on 6 and 29 May, the total for the month being 8.3 mm. Medium to heavy rains were reported in Somalia in the first week of May.

SUDAN

Control operations by dusting, baiting and with exhaust nozzle sprayers were in progress against dense groups of adults and fledglings and small patches of hoppers in northern parts of Red Sea province at Khor Adarim (2139N/3619E), Khor Adarkwan (2140N/3609E), Khor Agwatit (2147N/3608E) and Khor Shendeib (2150N/3606E). The following quantities of insecticides were used: 196 litres of fenitrothion ULV, 210 kg EHC dust 25% and 435 kg of poisoned bait. Very good results were reported. By the end of the month the density of adults ranged from 180 to 9 600 per hectare.

No locusts were reported from DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOMALIA, TANZANIA or UGANDA.

NEAR EAST

Weather

In Saudi Arabia rainfall was reported on Hijaz and Asir mountains; Taif received frequent rain. Jauf received rain in early May. Most parts of the Kingdom were dry and the vegetation on the Tihamas and the spring breeding areas in the interior was very dry. In the Yemen Arab Republic

moderate rain was reported from the highlands and light and isolated showers were received in the Tihama. There was light to moderate rain south-east of Mukairas in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Fifth instar hoppers at a density of 3-5 per square metre over an area of 100 square kilometres were found in wadi Dhalam (2752N/3610E) north of El Wejh on the northern Tihama on 1 May. Control operations using 4 000 kg BHC dust were concluded on 15 May. In the Jizan area hoppers and adults were controlled at several localities over an area of 13 square kilometres.

About 30 scattered adults were reported from several localities in Qunfidah area.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

A few solitarious adults were reported from wadi Hayran and wadi Habi on the northern Tihama. Ecological conditions in the Tihama were not suitable for breeding.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

During surveys undertaken in Lodar valley from 5 to 8 May and in wadi Beiha and wadi Ayn from 17 to 22 May no locusts were found.

EGYPT

On 5 May an immature swarm measuring 10 square kilometres entered Egypt from Sudan and was controlled in wadi El Di-ib (222CN/3600E). On 7 May another immature swarm measuring 12 square kilometres entered the same valley and was controlled, and on 10 May a third immature swarm coming from the south scattered over 16 square kilometres in wadi El Di-ib and the Bosheib mountain area. Control operations were undertaken.

IRAQ and KUWAIT were reported free. No reports were received from BAHRAIN, JORDAN, SULTANATE OF OMAN or the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Weather

Isolated light to moderate rain occurred in Rajasthan on 8-9 May and in Saurashtra on 10 May. In the latter half of the month isolated rain occurred in north Rajasthan on a number of days and there was scattered rainfall in Jodhpur and Bikaner divisions on 16 and 21 May. No rainfall was reported from Iran.

INDIA

Isolated adults at a density of 15 per square kilometre were reported from Indarwa (2700N/7048E) in Jaisalmer district on 7 May and at a density of 75 per square kilometre at Dewa (2711N/7059E) in Jaisalmer district on 19 May.

IRAN

A total of 7 isolated solitarious adults was reported from Dalgan (2735N/5921E) in Sistan and Baluchistan province from 12 to 19 May.

AFGHANISTAN was reported free. No reports were received from PAKISTAN.

FORECAST FOR JULY-AUGUST 1980

The forecast period marks the onset of summer breeding. Rainfall associated with the northward movement of the south-west monsoon has already reached the summer breeding areas of Sudan and parts of West Africa. Considerable numbers of adults will start to breed in the summer breeding areas of Sudan and there is likely to be low density breeding in West Africa, northern Ethiopia, southern Arabia, Rajasthan in north-west India and adjacent areas of Pakistan.

In Eastern Africa there is likely to be widespread breeding in the interior of Sudan. Initially it will probably be at low density. Similar breeding could also occur in northern Ethiopia. Small numbers of adults could reach eastern Ethiopia, Djibouti and northern Somalia.

In the Near East small numbers of adults will likely start to breed in interior and coastal areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and in the interior of the Yemen Arab Republic.

In South-West Asia low density breeding will commence in Rajasthan and adjacent areas of Pakistan and possibly in Las Bela district.

In West Africa breeding by adults produced around the Red Sea may commence in eastern Chad. Breeding initially at low densities is likely to occur in areas receiving rainfall or run-off in Niger, Mali and southern Mauritania.

In North-West Africa the situation will remain quiet.

Rome
25 June 1980

