ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR
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ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS
PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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AGP Division

Locusts, other migratory pests and emergency operations group

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 20 April 1980

SUMMARY

The most important populations reported were in Sudan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. Four immature swarms were reported from the sub-coastal area of north-eastern of Sudan in late April. In the south-eastern desert of Egypt groups of hoppers and adults were being controlled in late April and early May, but three immature swarms entered the country from 5-10 May. In Saudi Arabia considerable numbers of late instar hoppers were found on the northern Tihama in early May. Scattered adults were also reported from a number of localities in Saudi Arabia and in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. In the Mekran of Pakistan preventive control was undertaken against late instar hoppers.

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

W/N7612

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION - APRIL 1980

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

No reports have been received.

According to a late report for January to March, the central Sahara of ALGERIA received moderate rainfall and conditions were moderately favourable for breeding. Small numbers of adults were seen in the following localities: one male adult was captured in wadi In-Adjedjoun (2249N/0407E) on 5 January, two adults were observed in wadi Amded (2244N/0412E) on 25 January, one male was captured in wadi Adjelman (2219N/0402E) on 1 February, one male was captured in wadi Tamanrasset (2146N/0437E), on 2 February and 12 adults were seen in wadi Tamanrasset (2112N/0344E) on 16 February. Two adults were also observed in February at points 2405N/0316E and 2142N/0319E. In western Algeria several adults were seen in wadis Rhazam (2701N/0828W), Chenachen (2609N/0549W) and Abdelrahmane (2659N/0515W).

No locusts were reported from LIBYA, MOROCCO or TUNISIA. Only light rain was reported in Libya, but southern Morocco received good rains, Agadir recording 118 mm in March.

WEST AFRICA

No reports have been received.

According to late reports from January to March, no locust activity was reported from West Africa.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Four immature swarms measuring about 30 sq. km., flying low to the south, were observed in wadi Di-ib between 2139N-2150N and 3606E-3609E from 18-24 April. Isolated fourth and fifth instar hoppers and fledglings at a density of 960 per hectare were also reported over an area of 120 hectares. Ground control operations were in progress. The area is green and received rain on 21 April.

No reports were received from DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOMALIA, TANZANIA or UGANDA.

According to a late report, there was an unconfirmed report of a swarm from Erer and Urso in the Railway Area of ETHIOPIA on 23 March. A ground team surveyed the area but could find no trace of locusts.

NEAR EAST

Weather

In Saudi Arabia, Yenbo, Hail and Gurayit received abundant rain. Rainfall was also reported from Asir, Taiz and Hijaz mountains and from Najran. Vegetation was generally dry on the Jizan and Qunfidah Tihamas although some patches of green vegetation persisted in wadis in the Qunfidah area. The Tihama of the Yemen Arab Republic was dry. In the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, there were heavy rains in the Beihan area on 2 April, in Markhah and Khaurah areas on 16-17 April and again widespread rains were reported between Beihan and Lodar on 22 April. As a result of the rain the seasonal vegetation improved in the summer breeding areas of Beihan.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

South of Jizan adults were reported at a density of 50 per hectare over an area of 6 square kilometres. On the Qunfidah small numbers of adults were observed in cultivations at a density of 100 per square kilometre. One adult was reported from Najran and two each from Asir, Abha, Baha and Dawadmi. On the northern Tihama one adult was observed at Yenbo during April.

In early May late instar hoppers at 3-5 per square metre and low density fledglings and adults were observed over an area of 200 sq. km in wadi Mour near Al Wajh on the northern Tihama. Control operations were in progress.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

No locust activity was reported.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

During a survey of the Abyan delta and Lodar valley one adult was observed at Bir-Uthman (1320N/4531E) on 18 April, three at Am-Durayb (1345N/4547E) on 27 April and one at Am-Majil (1350N/4548E) on 28 April. These adults were grey and were found on the sandy slopes of the wadi beds near cultivated fields of sorghum.

EGYPT

In the first half of April scattered copulating adults and hoppers of all stages were reported from the south-eastern desert, close to the Sudan border. From 24 April and in early May control operations were undertaken against hopper groups of moderate density and immature adults over 6 square kilometres south of Shalatein at 2250N/3550E, and against hoppers and adults over an area of 10 square kilomtres near the Sudan border.

On 5 May an immature swarm measuring 10 square kilometres entered Egypt from Sudan and was controlled in wadi El Di-ib (2220N/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 continuing.

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

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Weather

Isolated very light rain occurred in West Rajasthan on 3 and 14 April and the weather was dry during rest of the month. In Pakistan the weather remained warm and dry throughout winter-spring breeding areas, although light showers were recorded in Kharan and Panjgur areas during the first fortnight. Rain was reported in southern Iran and conditions were suitable for breeding in coastal areas.

INDIA

No locusts were reported.

PAKISTAN

In the second half of April third to fifth instar hoppers were found over a total area of 50 square kilometres in the Shooli (2536N/6206E) and Suntsar (2523N/6149E) area of Baluchistan. Preventive control operations were in progress.

Scattered adults were present at densities ranging from 150 to 3000 per square kilometre in 6 localities in Bhag, Quetta, Turbat and Pasni areas, the maximum being at Shooli.

In the second half of March immature and mature solitarious adults at densities ranging from 75 to 1200 per square kilometre were observed at 14 localities in the Uthal, Panjgur and Turbat areas of Mekran and Lasbela districts of Baluchistan. Fourth and fifth instar solitary hoppers at 1 to 2 per bush were found over an area of 50 square kilometres in the Suntsar (2523N/6149E) area. In addition, according to a late report four isolated adults were observed in Anam Boslan and Esa Chah localities of Nushki Lehsil in Chagai district.

AFGHANISTAN and IRAN were reported free.

FORECAST FOR JUNE-JULY 1980

This period marks the end of migration from spring to summer breeding areas and the onset of summer breeding. Considerable numbers of adults, possibly including some swarms, will move into the interior of Sudan and possibly adjacent areas of Chad and northern Ethiopia. Small numbers of adults could reach the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the interior of the Yemen Arab Republic and possibly the northern Somali peninsula. Small numbers of adults will reach the summer breeding areas of Rajasthan and adjacent areas of Pakistan, and in western Africa of Niger, Mali, Mauritania and southern Algeria. Widespread breeding is likely to commence in Sudan but is likely to be on a small scale in other areas.

In Eastern Africa considerable numbers of adults produced in sub-coastal areas of the northern sector of the Red Sea coast in Sudan, adjacent areas of south-eastern Egypt and possibly others from the northern Red Sea coast of Ethiopia will move into the interior of Sudan and will start to breed. The breeding is likely to be widespread but initially it is likely to be mainly at low density. Breeding could also commence in western Eritrea province of Ethiopia. Small numbers of adults could reach Djibouti and the northern Somali peninsula.

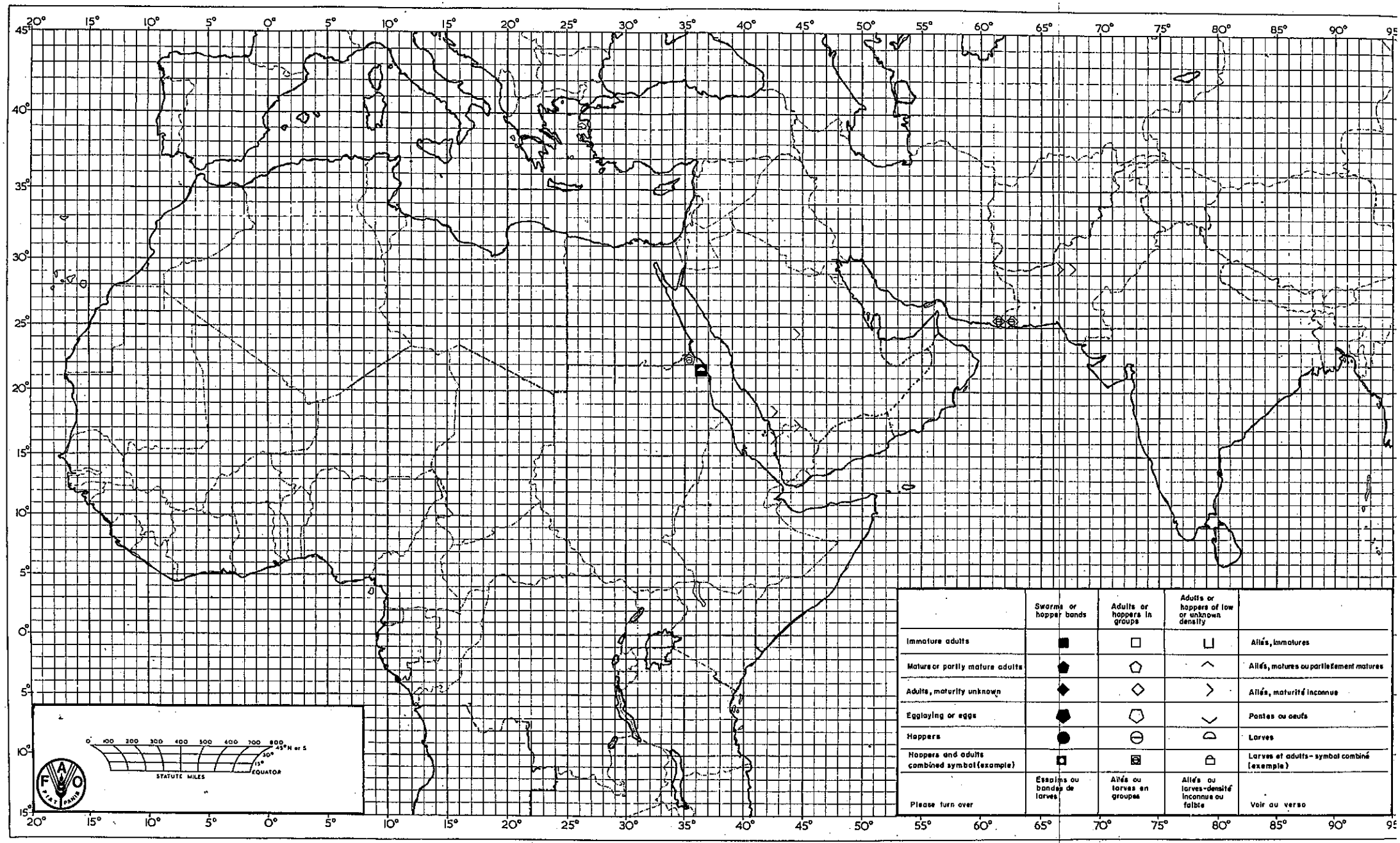
In the Near East any escapes from the south-eastern desert of Egypt and north-western Saudi Arabia will move into the interior of Sudan. Elsewhere only small numbers of adults are likely to be present. Small-scale breeding may commence in interior and coastal areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and in the interior of the Yemen Arab Republic.

In South-West Asia adults produced in spring breeding areas of Iran and Baluchistan will move into the summer breeding area of Rajasthan and adjacent areas of Pakistan but their numbers will only be moderate. Breeding will commence but initially it will be at low density.

In West Africa it is possible that considerable numbers of adults could reach Chad from the east. Small numbers of adults will reach summer breeding areas from North-West Africa. Breeding will commence, but will be on a small scale unless substantial numbers of adults reach Chad.

In North-West Africa any spring breeding will come to an end and most adults will move south to southern Algeria and West Africa although some may persist in areas of green vegetation.

Rome
22 May 1980



	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
Egglaying or eggs	⬢	⬡	⌄	Pontes ou oeufs
Hoppers	●	⊖	⌓	Larves
Hoppers and adults combined symbol (example)	◘	▣	⌂	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