



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 - ROME

Cables: FOODAGRI ROME

Telex: 610181 FAO I

Telephone: 579

AGP Division

Locusts, other migratory pests and emergency operations group

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION SUMMARY AND FORECAST

No. 17 January 1980

SUMMARY

Almost all parts of Saudi Arabia received widespread rainfall, which was particularly heavy and frequent on the southern Tihama. There was heavy and widespread rainfall in Hararghe Province of Ethiopia.

Fairly high density newly fledged adults and third and fourth instar hoppers were observed in the northern sector of the Red Sea Province in Sudan. Control operations were in progress and the areas were being surveyed. Many adults were also reported from the eastern desert of Egypt. Scattered adults and a few solitary hoppers were reported from the Qunfidah Tihama of Saudi Arabia. A small number of adults and a few hoppers were located in Wadi Hayran in the Yemen Arab Republic and a few adults were seen from western coastal areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

In South-West Asia only one adult locust was reported from Pakistan and no locusts were reported from West Africa or North West Africa.

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION - JANUARY 1980

WEST AFRICA

No reports were received for January. In December vegetation was green and well developed north of 18°N in Mauritania, particularly in the Aftout area. Only one adult was present in oued Ibdeken in Mali.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

LIBYA

An extensive survey was undertaken in the Ghat region from 12 to 21 January. No locusts were found. No rainfall was received and the vegetation was dry.

No locust reports were received from ALGERIA, MOROCCO or TUNISIA.

EASTERN AFRICA

Weather

Heavy and widespread rainfall was reported in the Hararghe Province of Ethiopia and Dire Dawa received 84.7 mm on 27 January. In the Sudan, northern Red Sea coastal areas received rain on 20 January.

SOMALIA

During aerial reconnaissance of coastal and sub-coastal areas between Loyada and Karin on 11, 14, 17 and 20 January, no locusts were observed and vegetation was dry. The wind direction was generally north east, 5-7 metres per second.

SUDAN

Adults at densities of 240-1380 per hectare were observed in parts of the southern and northern sectors of the Red Sea coast and at 240-420 per hectare in the Tokar delta during the first half of January. Ecological conditions were reported fair. A ground survey in the northern sector of the Red Sea coast on 24 January located newly fledged adults at densities of 3840 - 5580 per hectare over a total area of 450 hectares in Wadis Oko and Di-ib.

Third and fourth instar hoppers were also found over an area of 80 hectares. The area received rain on 20 January and the vegetation was green. Survey and control operations were in progress.

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

NEAR EAST

Weather

Widespread rainfall was reported from almost all parts of Saudi Arabia, in particular the southern Tihama received frequent rains. In the Yemen Arab Republic there were light showers on the Tihama near Az-Zaydiyah (1520N/4300E). Scattered showers were received on 2, 3, 25 and 28 January on the western coastal area of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. In Egypt light showers were recorded in the northern coastal area.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Scattered adults at a maximum density of 300 per hectare were reported from south-east, north-east and north of Qunfidah. One hopper per three bushes was also recorded over an area of 100 sq. km south-east of Qunfidah. Adults in small numbers were observed in north and south of Jizan in the foothills of the Asir, at Najran and Hauta.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Scattered adults at a density of 30 per hectare and 20 green fourth and fifth instar hoppers were found in Wadi Hayran. Ecological conditions continued to be suitable for locust breeding in the Tihama.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

A total of 9 adults were observed in Wadi Masdiyah (1245N/4415E), Mishal (1339N/4547E) and Wadi Timhan (1317N/4535E) between 15-18 January. The locusts were confined to sorghum cultivations. Ecological conditions in general were favourable for breeding.

EGYPT

Many solitary adults were observed in Abrak (2325N/3445E) and Sheikh Shazli districts in the middle of the south-eastern desert, where are favourable for breeding. KUWAIT was reported free. No reports were received from BAHRAIN, IRAQ, JORDAN, SULTANATE OF OMAN or the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

SOUTH WEST ASIA

Weather

Rainfall was fairly widespread in Saurashtra and Kutch; isolated in Gujarat region and light in north Rajasthan on 1 January. Scattered rain fell in Pasni, Turbat, Khuzdar, Nuskhil and Quetta areas from 16 to 26 January, the maximum being 46 mm at Quetta. Rainfall data for southern Iran and Afghanistan are not available.

INDIA

No locust was reported from any part of the scheduled desert area.

PAKISTAN

Only one female adult locust was collected in Khuzdar area on 9 January.

AFGHANISTAN was reported free. No report from IRAN has been received for January. A few solitary adults were reported from green parts of the Jiroft area in December.

FORECAST FOR MARCH-APRIL 1980

Further rain reported on both sides of the Red Sea will extend the period during which breeding is possible. The largest reported populations are in coastal and sub-coastal areas of Sudan.

Significant populations were reported from the central part of the south-eastern desert of Egypt and similar populations may exist in northern Ethiopia. Further breeding is likely in all these areas during the forecast period and may be on a scale sufficient to produce hopper bands and even some small swarms. In Arabia numbers are lower but further breeding could result in the production of groups of hoppers in especially favoured areas along the Tihama. Small scale breeding is likely to occur in Baluchistan of Pakistan and south-eastern Iran and in western, central and eastern Algeria and perhaps in western parts of Libya.

In Eastern Africa breeding is likely to continue in coastal and sub-coastal areas of Sudan and perhaps in adjacent areas of northern Ethiopia. It may be on a scale sufficient to produce some hopper bands and even some small swarms towards the end of the forecast period. Small numbers of adults are likely to be present in coastal areas of northern Somalia and neighbouring parts of Djibouti and some breeding may occur.

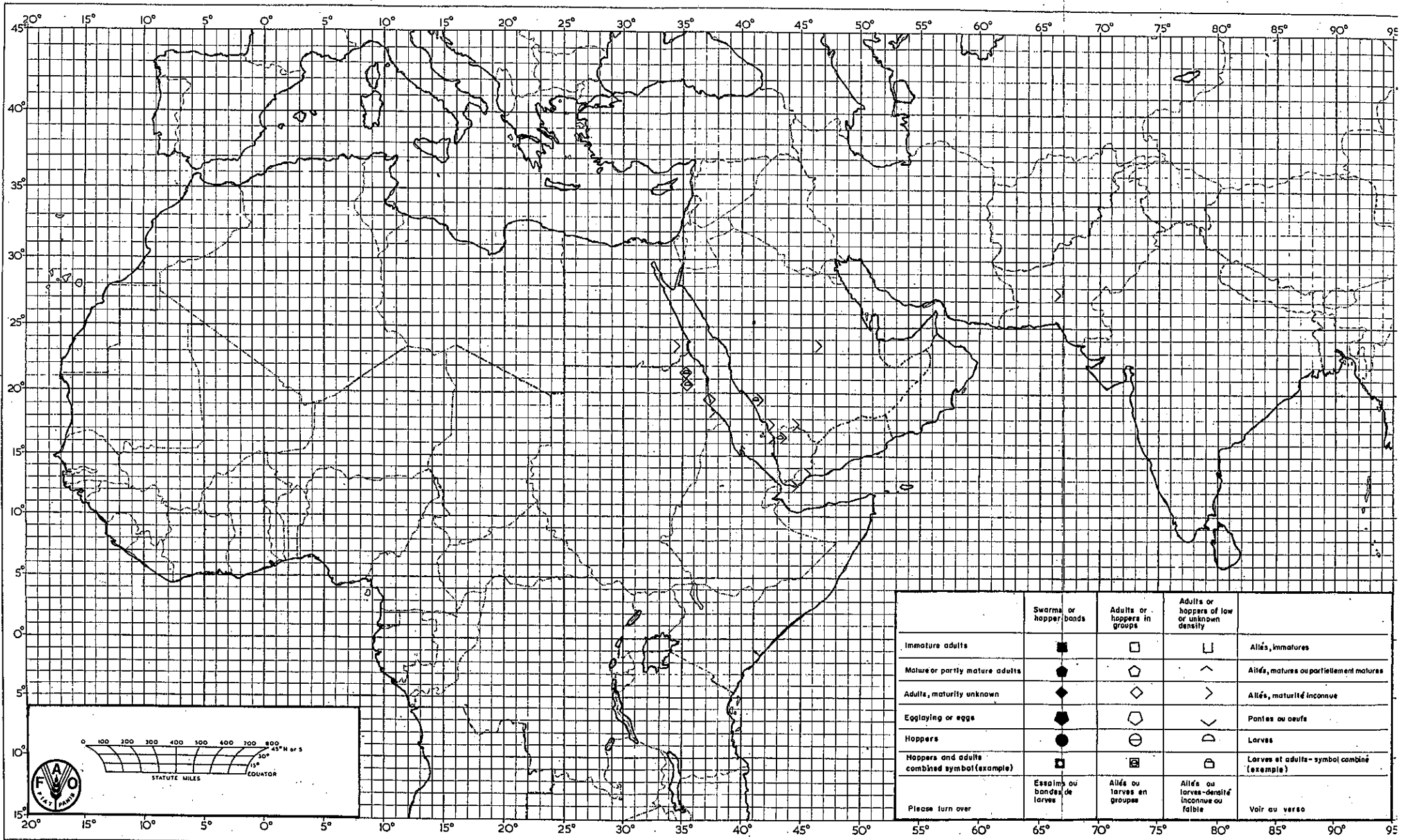
In the Near East breeding is likely to occur in the south-east desert of Egypt and may result in the formation of groups of hoppers or even bands. Some small swarms may be produced towards the end of the forecast period. In Saudi Arabia further breeding is likely to occur along the Jizan, Qunfidah and Jeddah Tihamas and may commence in interior Wadis and Oases in the western part of the Kingdom but is unlikely to be on a large scale. In the Yemen Arab Republic small scale breeding will continue and may commence in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. Widely scattered breeding may occur in specially favoured areas of the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

In South-West Asia widely scattered low density breeding will occur in coastal areas and interior valleys in Baluchistan of Pakistan and in south-eastern Iran. Some adults could reach Afghanistan and start to breed.

In North-West Africa only small numbers of adults are likely to be present in southern, central, western and eastern Algeria and western Libya. Small scale breeding may be widespread if ecological conditions are favourable.

In West Africa only small numbers of adults are likely to be present in Mali and Niger. In Mauritania low density breeding may continue if there is adequate rain. Small numbers of adults are likely to move into northern Mauritania and Western Sahara, and could start to breed.

Rome
25 February 1980



| | Swarms or hopper bands | Adults or hoppers in groups | Adults or hoppers of low or unknown density | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Immature adults | ■ | □ | ◻ | Alliés, immatures |
| Mature or partly mature adults | ● | ◐ | ∧ | Alliés, matures ou partiellement matures |
| Adults, maturity unknown | ◆ | ◊ | > | Alliés, maturité inconnue |
| Egg laying 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 | Alliés ou larves en groupes | Alliés ou larves - densité inconnue ou faible | Voir au verso |