

**Proceedings of Sixth Indo-Pak border meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2005 at Khokhropar/ Munabao border meeting point**

The 6th Indo-Pak border meeting of the year 2005 between the locust officers of India and Pakistan was held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2005 at Khokhropar / Munabao border meeting point at 0830 hours (IST)/ 0800 hours (PST). Following officers / officials participated in the meeting:

**Pakistan**

S. No.	Name of the Officer/ Officials	Designation
1	Mr. Zafar Ali	Deputy Director(HQ) Karachi
2	Mr. Abdul Sattar	Assistant Entomologist (L), Mirpurkhas
3	Mr. Bashir Muhammad	Assistant Entomologist (Locust), Karachi

**India**

S. No.	Name of the Officer/ Officials	Designation
1	Sh K.P. Singh	Deputy Director (Engineering), LWO Jodhpur
2	“ Anil Sharma	Assistant Plant Protection Officer, LWO Jodhpur

**Locust Situation in Pakistan** (1st October, 2005 to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2005): During the month of October, 2005 the areas of Nara, Khipro, Tharparkar and Lasbela deserts remained free from gregarious locust activity. However, Cholistan desert remained active for locust control work.

**A. SWARM MOVEMENT:**

In Cholistan desert 16 pairing and laying swarms / swarmlet of various sizes were reported to have entered from across the eastern border between border pillar No. 488 (2756-7153) and 535 (2748-7108) and settled at Jinduwala (275940 – 714850) in Bahawalpur whereas in rahimyar Khan at Orangwala ( 275267-710953) Jogidas ( 275152-710804), umerkot (275267-710955) and Kakki ( 275288-711537) and laid eggs where the swarm were settled. All the swarm / swarmlets were successfully controlled over an area of 1293 hectare consuming 1293 litres of Malathion 95% ULV.

**B GREGARIOUS / SOLITARY BREEDING:**

Hopper emergence was reported in the above areas and a total of 304 hopper bands of I-V instar of various densities were controlled. An area of 1763 hectare was sprayed with 1378 litres of Malathion 95% ULV and Diazinon 90% ULV during the month.

**C SOLITARY ADULTS:**

During the survey some mature solitary adults ranging from 3-50 / ha were observed a round 17 localities of Sukkur, and Mirpurkhas desert areas. A maximum population of 50 adults / ha was recorded at Ansanwari (2729 N- 6954 E) in Sukkur region on 25.10.2005. Regionwise details of solitary adults population is given below:

Region/Mirpurkhas	No. of localities	Range of population / ha	Place of maximum population	date
<b><u>Karachi</u></b>				
Mirpurkhas	3	6-18	Islamkot (2441N-7010E)	25.10..2005
<b><u>Sukkur</u></b>				
Sukkur	8	10-50	Ansanwari (2729 N-6954 E)	25.10.2005

**Weather:** Hot and dry weather prevailed all over the locust breeding grounds of Pakistan during the period under report.

**Locust situation in India** (1st October, 2005 to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2005): Scheduled short, distant and border desert locust surveys in the Scheduled Desert Area (SDA) of India and adjacent Indo-Pak border were conducted by the officers and staff of Locust Warning Organisation (LWO) which revealed no solitary desert locust population in Jodhpur, Bikaner, Barmer and Palanpur except 1 per hectare adult population at Sirana (252445-720310) of Jalore district on 19.10.2005. In Jaisalmer district control operations against Yellow mature adults continued and a total of 640 hectare area was cleared using Malathion ULV. Isolated patchy laying also occurred during September-October which resulted in emergence of hopper bands in Raichandwala and adjacent areas and so far 4660 hectares area has been cleared in Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts using Malathion ULV and Fenitrothion ULV. Ecological conditions were not suitable for locust breeding along Indo-Pak border in the districts of Bikaner, Barmer and Palanpur except Jaisalmer district. Special Border desert locust surveys were conducted from 18<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2005 as decided in the 5<sup>th</sup> Indo-Pak locust officers meeting and locust population reported as above and the emergence of hopper bands of 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> instar in Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts.

**Weather:**

- a) **Rainfall:** No rainfall occurred during the month under report.
- b) **Wind direction:** Wind direction at 300 m remained variable during the month

**Forecast:** Isolated patchy desert locust activity may continue in pockets in summer breeding areas in both the countries due to favourable conditions. Escapees / persistent locust adult population from both the countries may migrate towards winter / spring breeding areas of the region. Hence strict vigilance on locust development in the schedule desert areas is required in both the countries.

**Miscellaneous:**

- 1 Locust Situation Bulletins of both the countries were exchanged.
- 2 Both the delegates have emphasized that the alternative locust surveillance should be continued to check and control the locust activity in their respective areas.
- 3 Keeping in view the prevailing locust situation in both the countries, both the delegates have agreed to hold an extra ordinary border meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 so as to summarize the locust control work and the further plan of both the countries subject to the approval of the competent authority of both the countries.
- 4 In view of the prevailing locust situation the delegates of both the countries agreed to put a proposal for bilateral meeting to be held in Delhi (India) at suitable time agreed by the higher authorities of both the countries.

**Venue of the Extra Ordinary meeting:** The extra ordinary border meeting would be held at Munabao / Khokhropar border point on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 at 0830 hours (IST) / 0800 hours (PST) Indian side.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Locust border meeting of the year 2006 would be held on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2006 at Munabao / Khokhropar border point (Indian side) at 0830 hours (IST) / 0800 hours (PST)

**Acknowledgement:**

The locust officers of both the countries expressed their deep and sincere thanks to the Rangers of Pakistan and BSF of India for extending their full cooperation and support in arranging the meeting at Khokhropar meeting hall in Pakistan side. The Indian delegates thanked to Pakistan delegates for cordial welcome, hospitality and courteous dealing during the course of meeting.

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