

PROCEEDING OF THE FIRST BORDER MEETING OF 2016 BETWEEN THE DESERT LOCUST OFFICERS OF PAKISTAN AND INDIA HELD AT KHOKHROPAR / MUNABAO BORDER POINT ON 22ND JULY, 2016

The first border meeting of the year-2016 between the Desert Locust officers of Pakistan and India at Khokhropar / Munabao border point held on 22nd July, 2016 at 0800 hours (PST) /0830 hours (IST) on Pakistan side. The following officers attended the meeting.

PAKISTAN

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|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Azam Khan, | Director (Technical), DPP, Karachi |
| 2. Mr. Ghulam Qadir Lund, | Asstt. Entomologist, DPP, Karachi |
| 3. Mr. Dharam Pal, | Asstt. Entomologist, DPP, Mirpur Khas |

INDIA

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| 1. Dr. S.K. Verma, | Deputy Director (Entomology), LWO Jodhpur |
| 2. Mr. Mahesh Chandra, | Plant Protection Officer (PP), LCO, Barmer |
| 3. Mr. Mahavir Sharma, | Asstt. Plant Protection Officer, LCO, Bhuj |
| 4. Mr. Pramod Kumar Gour, | Scientific Assistant, LCO, Bhuj |

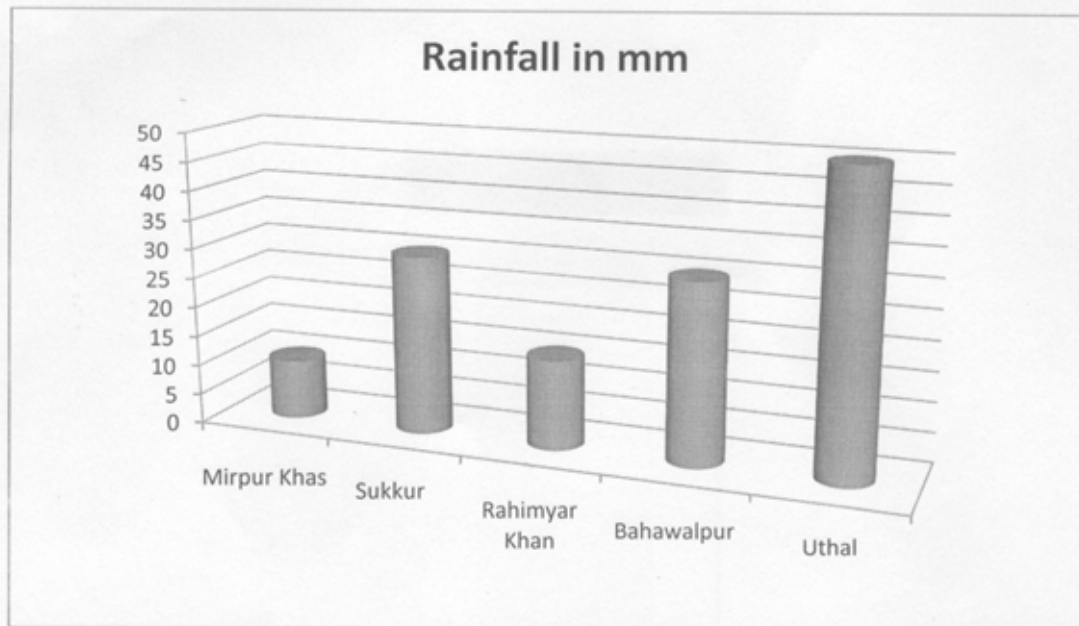
Desert Locust Situation.

(01st June, 2016 to 20th July, 2016)

Distant, cross country and special Locust surveys in the Scheduled desert areas of summer-monsoon breeding zone were conducted by the survey teams in their respective jurisdiction on both sides of the border. As per the survey reports both Pakistan and India remained free from the gregarious as well as solitary locust population during the period under report. However, in three localities of Sukkur region on Pakistan side near Sanewari, i.e. 274018N/70048E, 274154N/70149E and 274457N/70347E some solitary adults were reported with maximum number of 15 adults per hectare, while in Uthal area some solitary locust individuals have also been reported with maximum number of 05 adults per hectare.

Ecology and weather

Dry and hot weather prevailed in most of the summer-monsoon locust breeding areas of Pakistan and India during first fortnight of June, while it remained cloudy in second fortnight of June, 2016. On Pakistan side light rainfall occurred in Mirpur Khas, Rahimyar Khan and Uthal areas, while light to moderate rainfall was reported in Sanewari and Tajjal areas of Sukkur region during the 2nd fortnight of July, 2016. On India side moderate rainfall was observed during second fortnight of June 2016 in the isolated scheduled desert areas. On either side vegetation was mostly dry with medium density, except Tajjal area of Sukkur on Pakistan side where it was greening. On India side vegetation was observed green in all areas of rainfall. Soil moisture was also dry in most of the surveyed areas except some localities in Mirpur Khas, Sukkur and Uthal areas of rainfall in Pakistan, where it was reported as wet. On Indian side soil moisture was also reported wet in the areas of rainfall.



Rainfall recorded on Pakistan side during the period of report

Forecast

Keeping in view the ecological conditions of the field on both sides, the number of solitary individuals may increase in the coming months. Further monsoon rains are expected in the desert areas on either side, due to which the ecological conditions may become more favourable for locust breeding and grouping of solitary individuals may occur in some areas. Therefore, a regular watch by undertaking locust survey in scheduled desert areas on either side may be continued.

Miscellaneous

1 FAO has already informed Pakistan and India regarding a locust threat through **locust watch** therefore, we may remain vigilant for the exogenous locust swarms infiltration from Yemen side also.

2 The fortnight Desert Locust situation bulletins, recent FAO Desert Locust bulletins were exchanged and thoroughly discussed during the meeting.

Date and Venue of next meeting

The second joint locust border meeting of the year-2016 will be held at Munabao / Khokhropar on 30th August, 2016 at 0830 hours IST and 0900 hours PST on India side.


Acknowledgement

The Indian delegates acknowledged the cordial hospitality and warm welcome by their Pakistani counterparts.


PAKISTAN



(Azam Khan)
Director (Technical)
DPP, Karachi

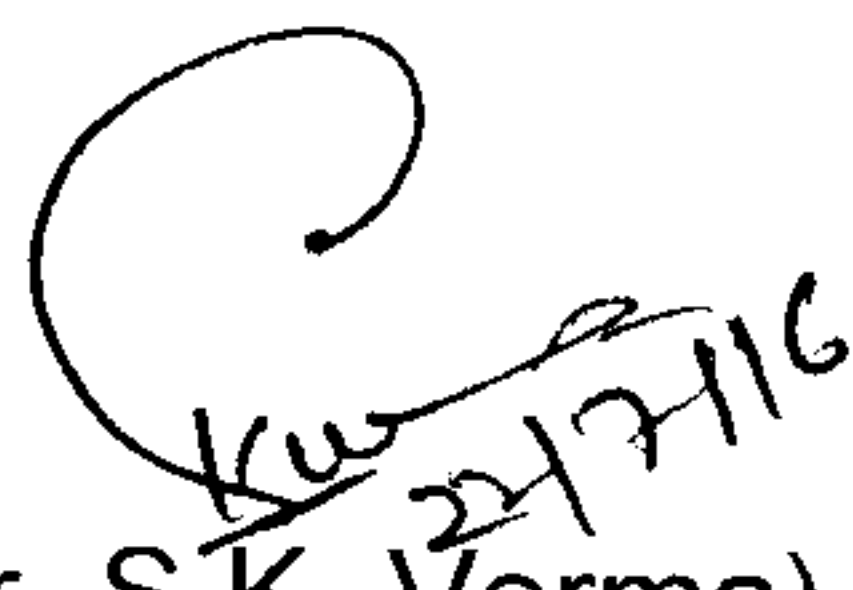


(Ghulam Qadir Lund)
Assistant Entomologist
DPP, Karachi




(Dharam Pal)
Assistant Entomologist
DPP, Mirpur Khas

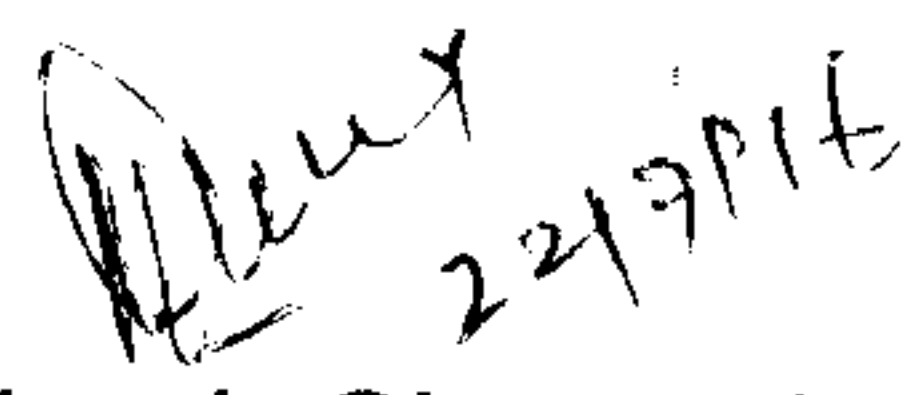
INDIA



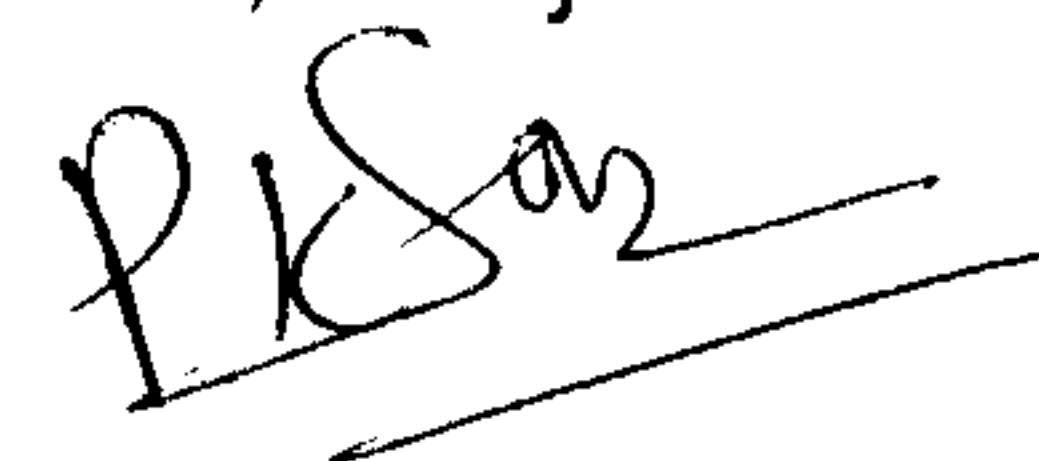
(Dr. S.K. Verma)
Deputy Director (Entomology)
LWO Jodhpur



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