



- Calm
- Caution
- Threat
- Danger

JOINT PROCEEDING

FOURTH INDO-PAK LOCUST OFFICERS BORDER MEETING 2019

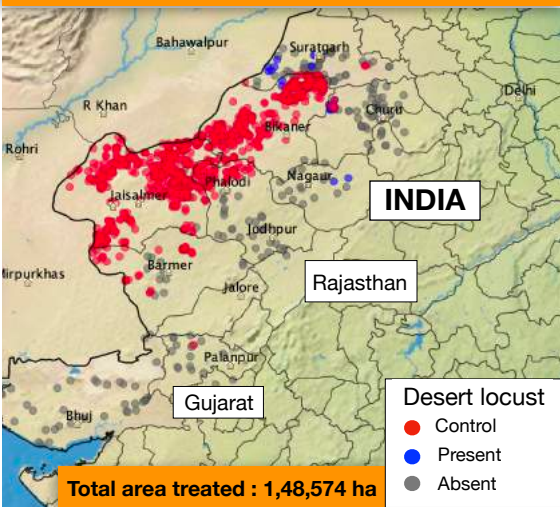
YEAR 2019 / NO. 4

Date : 19.09.2019

LOCUST SITUATION PAKISTAN (19 August to 17 September 2019) : Desert locust survey and control operations were carried out in Cholistan, Nara and Tharparkar deserts of Punjab and Sindh provinces as well as Uthal area of Balochistan during the reporting period. Total 584 localities were surveyed and out of which locust was present at 455 localities. During the survey, the immature/mature solitary and gregarious locust groups/ swarms and solitary/ gregarious hoppers of all instars were reported in south of Bahawalpur (2830N7135E) and Rahimyar Khan (2810N-7050E) in Cholistan Desert, Thari Mirwah (265324N-685009E) in Nara Desert, east of Khipro (260734N693045E) as well as Nangarparkar (243256N-702157E) in Tharparkar Desert. All the reported locust infestation was successfully controlled by using ground control means. An area of 25,210 hectares was treated during the reporting period. Total 56,740 hectares have been treated in Pakistan so far (March 345 ha., April 540 ha., May 4,135 ha., June 10,505 ha., July 8,030 ha., August 16,560 ha. and up to 17th September 17,500 ha.

LOCUST SITUATION INDIA (16 August to 15 September, 2019) : Desert locust distant, cross country and special border surveys in the Scheduled Desert Areas (SDA) of India were conducted by survey teams and covered 1377 localities. Control operations were undertaken at 1135 localities against low to medium density small swarm / mature adult (transient/gregarious) groups and 1st to 5th instar hopper, fledgling groups in Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bikaner, Churu, Jodhpur, Suratgarh of Rajasthan and Banaskantha district of Gujarat and area treated 78967 ha. Total 1,48,574/- ha area has been treated in SDA of India up to 15th September, 2019 (22-31 May, 2019 = 1560 ha, 01-30 June = 3971 ha, 01-31 July = 36350 ha, 1-31 August = 65089 ha, 01-15 September = 41604 ha).

Locust situation : 16 Aug. to 15 Sept. 2019

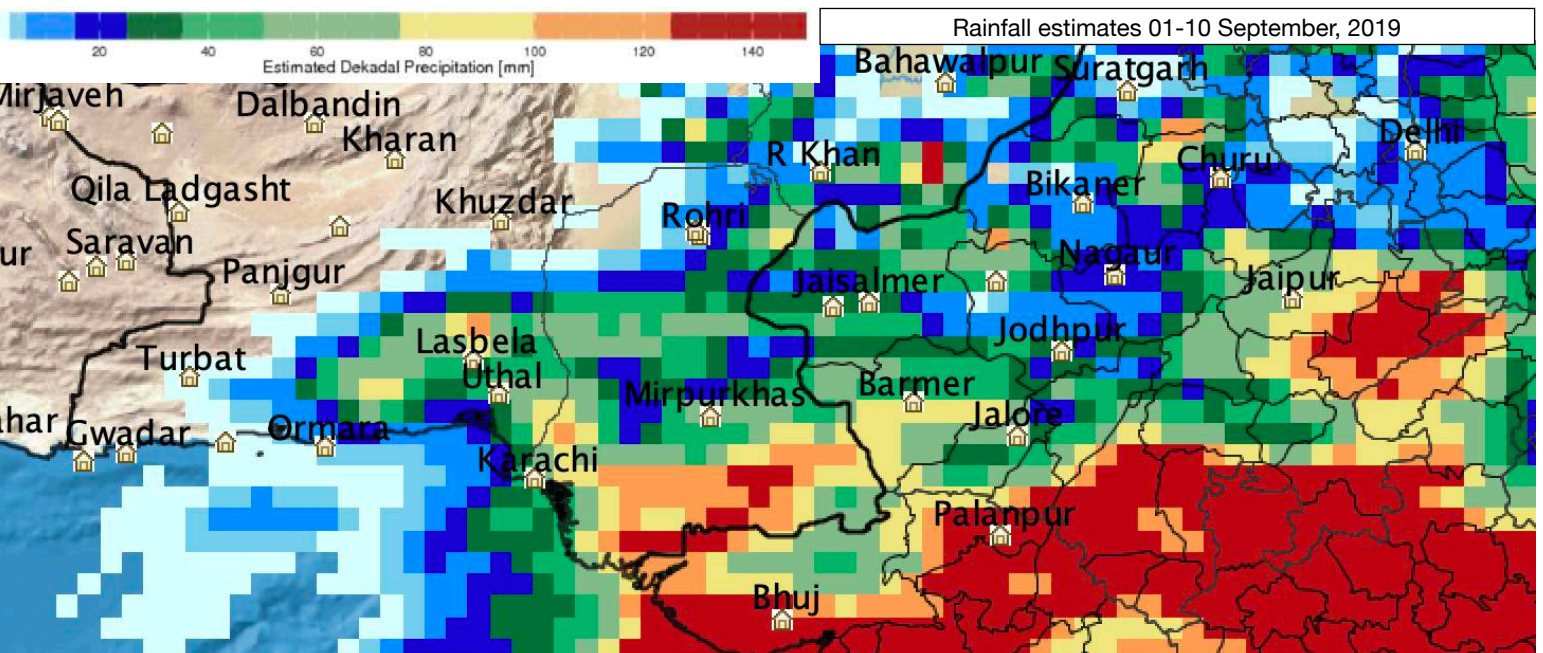


Locust situation : 19 August to 17 September 2019

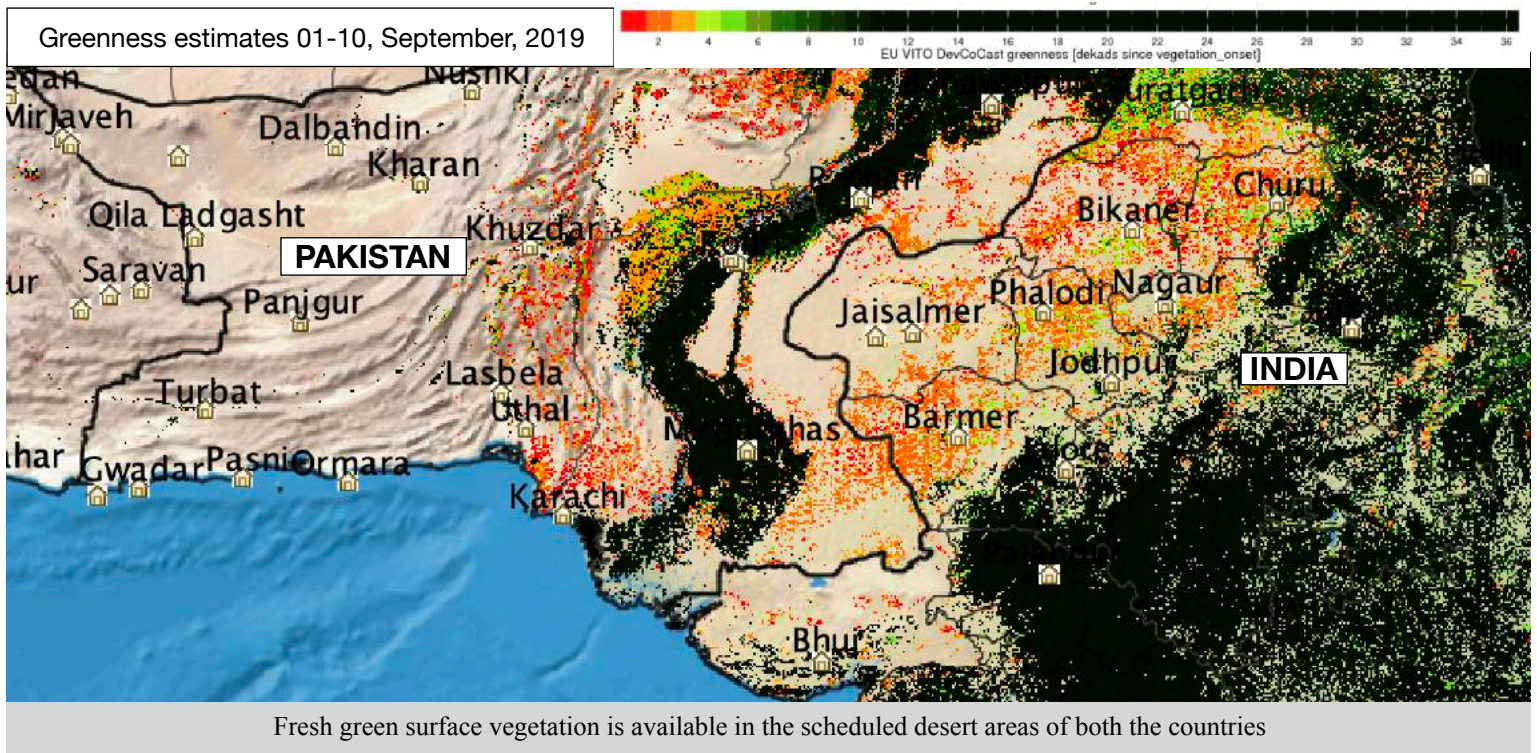


Control operations against mature adult groups/swarms and hopper groups (1st to 5th instar and fledgling) were undertaken in both the countries

ECOLOGY AND WEATHER: As per the rainfall estimation map for the first decade of September 2019, moderate to heavy rainfall occurred in all the locust infested areas, due to which soil moisture was found wet and vegetation was observed green at all localities in both the countries during the first fortnight of September, 2019.



Moderate to heavy rainfall occurred in the entire Scheduled Desert Areas of both the countries



MISCELLANEOUS : Fortnightly desert locust situation bulletins, recent FAO bulletin, RAMSES map showing desert locust situation, green vegetation, soil moisture and rainfall estimation for the reporting period of both the countries were exchanged and discussed during the meeting. Mr. Keith Cressman, Executive Secretary (SWAC)/ Senior Locust Forecasting Officer also participated in the meeting to devise a desert locust control strategy to curb the menace effectively.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT : The Locust Officers of both the countries expressed their deep and sincere thanks to the Pakistan Rangers and Border Security Force of India for extending their full cooperation and support for making necessary arrangements for the meeting at Khokhropar Meeting Hall, Pakistan. Delegates from both the countries thanked each other for their cooperation for smooth conducting of the meeting. Indian delegation thanked Pakistan side for cordial welcome and hospitality extended during the course of the border meeting.

FORECAST : The locust breeding is going on in either sides of the border which will cause of hatching and formation of more hopper groups/ bands in the coming fortnights. Resultantly, immature adult groups and perhaps a few small swarms may appear during the last week of September, 2019. Therefore, strict surveillance and control operations are required to keep the locust activities under control by both the countries in their respective jurisdictions.

VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING : The 5th border meeting of the year 2019 will be held at Munabao/ Khokhropar border point on 17th October, 2019 at 0900 hours (PST)/ 0930 hours (PST) on India side.

PAKISTAN

Participants

INDIA

1. Dr. Falak Naz, PPA and Director General, Karachi.
2. Dr. Muhammad Tariq Khan, Director (Technical), DPP, Karachi
3. Muhammad Hussain Dars, Assistant Entomologist
4. Mr. M. Shahbaz, Assistant Entomologist (Locust), HQs, Karachi

1. Dr. Rajesh Malik, PPA and Director (PP), DAC, New Delhi.
2. Dr. J. P. Singh, Joint Director (Ento.), HQs Faridabad.
3. Dr. Pankaj Salunke, APPO (E), LCO, Suratgarh.

FAO representative : Mr. Keith Cressman, Executive Secretary, SWAC, FAO HQs, Rome, Italy



Fourth Indo-Pak locust officers border meeting of 2019 was held at Khokhropar (Pakistan side) on 19th September, 2019 at 09:00 hrs (PST) / 09.30 hrs (IST)