

# DESERT LOCUST ALERT

FAO Emergency Centre for Locust Operations



(10 Oct 2000)

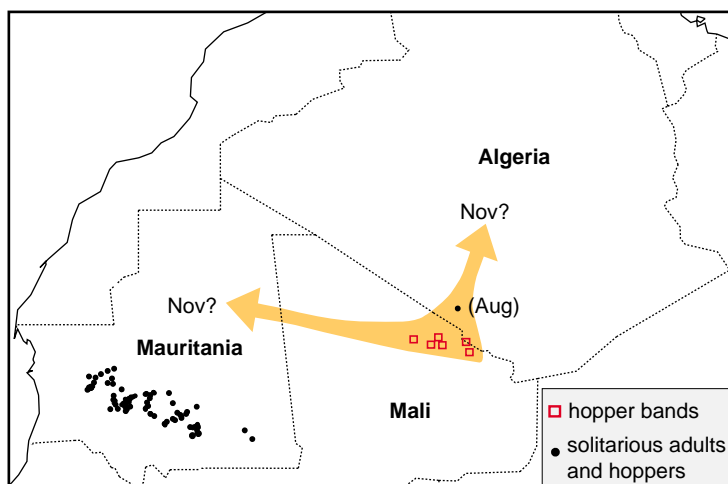


## General Situation up to 10 October 2000 Forecast until mid-November 2000

New reports received from Mali since the issue of the last FAO Desert Locust Bulletin (No. 264 on 4 October 2000) indicate that a few bands and swarms are present in the north. Some of these could move into adjacent areas of southern Algeria and northern Mauritania. Those countries and their Commission are urged to undertake regular surveys and keep FAO informed. At this point, other regions are not affected.

conditions remain favourable for breeding and locust maturation. Consequently, additional hatching and band formation could occur for a few more weeks. Several small swarms could start to form from the last week of October onwards. Once conditions begin to dry out, these could move north into southern Algeria or north-west into northern Mauritania in November. The scale of this movement is difficult to estimate until further details are received from Mali.

In northern Mali, maturing swarms and adult concentrations were present during the first week of September between Tessalit and the Algerian border. There was one report of a flying swarm while most of the others were seen settled on trees. During the last dekad of September, first to third instar hopper bands mixed with adults were seen at nine locations in the same area. This suggests that laying occurred at the end of August which was not reported. This coincides with unconfirmed reports of hoppers and adults in adjacent areas of southern Algeria during the second half of August (see Bulletin No. 264).



As light to heavy rainfall fell in the area in September and, more recently, on 7 October,

In Egypt, the locusts reported in the south were confirmed as Desert Locust.

The FAO Desert Bulletin is issued monthly, supplemented by Updates during periods of increased Desert Locust activity, and is distributed by fax, e-mail, FAO pouch and airmail by the Locusts and Other Migratory Pests Group, AGP Division, FAO, 00100 Rome, Italy. It is also available on the Internet.

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