FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 161

GENERAL SITUATION DURING JANUARY 1992 FORECAST UNTIL MID-MARCH 1992

Small scale breeding continued during January on the southern Red Sea coast of Sudan and may also be in progress on the southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia, on the Yemen Tihama and in coastal areas west of Aden; however, breeding is expected to decline during the forecast period unless further rainfall occurs. Small numbers of adults are likely to be present in north-west Mauritania and probably in adjacent areas of the extreme south-west of Morocco where low-density breeding may have occurred as a result of earlier rains.

Isolated immature adults were reported in Oued Draa of Morocco in December and may be present in central Algeria where light rains may have occurred during January.

Low-density immature adults were seen in Tamesna of Niger during December and will persist throughout the forecast period. Isolated adults may also be present in some areas of Aïr of Niger and in Tamesna and the Adrar des Iforas of Mali.

Low-density adults are likely to be present on the Makran of Pakistan and Iran and will breed in areas that receive rainfall. Isolated adults are present and will persist at a few locations of Rajasthan in India.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

This information is compiled from field reports, METEOSAT and ARTEMIS satellite imagery, and daily Météo-France synoptic charts and rainfall data.

During January, the ITCZ oscillated between 13°N-5°N over West Africa. Bands of upper level clouds were present throughout the month extending north-east from Mauritania to Libya and no significant rainfall is expected to have resulted. During the first half of the month, a high pressure system was located over North-West Africa. However, some clouds were seen over the south-central coast of Morocco and in the Oued Draa area on the 6-9th and 12-13th which may have produced light rainfall. A large cloud mass moved over south-western Mauritania on the 12-13th, extending to north-eastern Mauritania. north-western Mali and south-western Algeria on the 14-15th and may have produced some light rain. As a result, ecological conditions may be favourable in some of these areas, particularly north-western Mauritania and adjacent areas of extreme south-western Morocco. During the second half of the month, light to medium rain occurred at times in Tunisia and in northern areas of Morocco, Algeria, Libya and Egypt as a result of eastward-moving depressions over the Mediterranean. Dense and widespread clouds were present over central and northern Mali on the 18-24th and over southern and central areas of Algeria and Libya on the 21st-24th which may have produced light rainfall. In northern Mali, Tessalit received 15 mm on the 21st and light rain fell at a few places in southern Algeria.

A few localized clouds were visible over the Red Sea coast of Sudan during the first and the third decades, and over the Railway area of Ethiopia and north-western coastal plains of Somalia at the end of the month. Widespread cloud masses, associated with a frontal system, developed over the central and southern Red Sea coast of Egypt, extending to the northern coast of Sudan on the 29th-31st, and moving east to the interior of the Arabian Peninsula. Heavy rain fell in the southern Hijaz mountains of Saudi Arabia where Abha reported 61 mm on the 31st. Elsewhere, localised to widespread clouds were present at times during the month over the eastern Arabian Peninsula, becoming dense over the Batinah and Sharqiya regions of Oman on the 25-28th. Only coastal areas of UAE and northern Oman reported light rainfall during the month, where vegetation conditions are expected to be improving in a few areas.

Clouds primarily associated with depressions were present over northern Baluchistan and the Makran of Iran and Pakistan on the 11-12th, 18-19th and 22nd-27th. Light rain was reported in the interior of Baluchistan in Pakistan, and on the Iranian coast where Chah Bahar received 13 mm on the 28th.



AREA TREATED IN JANUARY 1992

No control operations were reported during January.



DESERT LOCUST SITUATION

WEST AFRICA

NIGER

In December, immature adults were found in patches of green Schouwia in central Tamesna at a density of 1,000 per ha on 500 ha at In Afer (1745N/0536E), and at densities of 3-5 per ha in Iguidi (1730N/0603E) and at In-Ontolog (1730N/0600E) on a total of 5,000 ha on the 11th. Although the vegetation was green, no locusts were found at Anou Makarene (1807N/0740E) on the western side of the Aïr on the 14th.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 31 January.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

MOROCCO

A late report was received stating that no locusts were reported during November.

In December, an isolated immature adult was seen in the north-eastern Oued Draa at Hammam (3207N/0113W).

LIBYA

No locusts were seen during December and January.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 31 January.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Low-density breeding continued in Tokar Delta on the southern Red Sea coast where fledglings, immature and mature adults were reported on 3,402 ha at densities of 480-4,800 per ha from 17 December to 13 January.

DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No locust activity was reported up to 31 December.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 31 January.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

No locust activity was reported up to 31 December.

YEMEN

A late report was received stating that no locusts were seen during surveys undertaken in November.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 31 January.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

No locusts were seen during surveys carried out in the second half of December and during the first half of January.

INDIA

No locusts were seen during surveys carried out in the second half of December.

Isolated adults, at a density of 15 per sq. km, were reported between Jodhpur and Barmer at Newai (2559N/7219E) on 6 January.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 31 January.



FORECAST UNTIL MID MARCH 1992

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Low-density adults are likely to be present and persist in Inchiri, northern Trarza and south-western Adrar where small scale breeding may have occurred as a result of earlier rainfall. Scattered adults may be present in north-western Tiris Zemour. Surveys are recommended by the end of the forecast period.

MALI

Isolated adults are likely to be present at a few locations in the Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna.

NIGER

Isolated adults will persist in Tamesna and may be present in Aïr.

CHAD

Isolated adults may be present at a few locations in BET.

BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, GAMBIA, GUINEA BISSAU, GUINEA CONAKRY and SENEGAL

No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA

Scattered adults may be present in a few wadis north of Tamanrasset and south of Tademait plateau. Low-density adults may be present in western and northern parts of Grand Erg Occidental and in some areas north of Tinhert plateau.

MOROCCO

Low-density adults will persist in Oued Draa and scattered adults may be present and breeding in the extreme south-west in areas that received earlier rains.

LIBYA and TUNISIA

No significant developments are likely.

EAST AFRICA

SUDAN

Small scale breeding will decline on the southern Red Sea coast during the forecast period unless further rainfall occurs. Low-density adults may be present and breeding in areas of green vegetation in Wadi Oko.

ETHIOPIA

Low-density adults may be present and breeding on the northern coast of Eritrea.

SOMALIA

Scattered adults may be present on the north-western coastal plains.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Scattered adults are likely to be present on the southern Tihama and breed in areas that have recently received rain or where run-off has occurred. Isolated adults may also be present in central interior areas.

YEMEN

Scattered adults are likely to be present on the Tihama and on the coastal plains of Aden and breeding in areas that have recently received rain.

OMAN

Isolated adults may be present on the Batinah coast.

UAE

Isolated adults may be present on the coast of Fujayrah.

BAHRAIN, EGYPT, IRAQ, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, QATAR, SYRIA, TURKEY

No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

INDIA

Low-density adults will persist at a few locations in Rajasthan.

PAKISTAN

Low-density adults are likely to be present on the Makran of Baluchistan and breed in areas where rainfall occurs.

IRAN

Isolated adults may be present on the south-eastern coast and breed if rainfall occurs.

AFGHANISTAN

No significant developments are likely.

3 February 1992

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Desert Locust: summary Criquet pèlerin: situation résumée

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