

PROCEEDING OF THE THIRD DESERT LOCUST BORDER MEETING BETWEEN THE OFFICERS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN HELD AT MUNABAO/ KHOKHROPAR BORDER POINT ON 19TH SEPTEMBER, 2017

The third Indo-Pak desert locust border meeting of the year 2017 between the Locust Officers of India and Pakistan held on 19th September 2017 at Munabao/ Khokhropar border point at 0930 hours (IST)/ 0900 hours (PST) on India side. The following officers participated in the meeting:

INDIA

1. Dr. K.L.Gurjar, Deputy Director (PP), HQs, Faridabad.
2. Mr. Mahesh Chandra, Plant Protection Officer (PP), LCO Barmer
3. Mr. Baldev Singh, APPO, FSIL, Bikaner.
4. Mr. Pramod Gour, Scientific Assistant, DLIO, LCO, Bhuj.

PAKISTAN

1. Mr. Muhammad Tariq Khan, Deputy Director (Locust) HQs. Karachi
2. Mr. Muhammad Hussain Dars, Assistant Entomologist (Locust) Mirpurkhas
3. Mr. M. Shahbaz, Assistant Entomologist (Locust) /DLIO, Karachi .

DESERT LOCUST SITUATION (21 August to 17 September, 2017)

Distant, cross country and special border locust surveys in the Scheduled Desert Areas of India were conducted by the survey teams of 11 circle offices in their respective jurisdictions. Based on the survey data, it has been established that both the countries remained free from gregarious locust activities. In India total 216 spots were surveyed by the teams of 11 circle offices and no locust population was observed during the period under report.

In Pakistan, the routine locust surveys were carried out in the summer-monsoon breeding areas of Nara and Tharparkar deserts in Sindh, Cholistan desert in Punjab and in seasonal-overlapping area of Uthal in Balochistan during the reporting period. A total number of 280 localities were surveyed. Low density isolated mature solitarious adults were seen at 07 localities southeast of Bahawalpur (2923N/7141E) and Rahimyar Khan (2825N/7018E) in Cholistan Desert as well as south of Uthal (254801N-663721E) in Balochistan ranging from 6-12 adults / hectare. A maximum population of 12 adults/ hectare was observed at Baghianwala (274355N-705633E) in Rahimyar Khan on 12-09-2017. No locust was found in Sukkur and Mirpur Khas areas during the reporting period.

ECOLOGY AND WEATHER

In India moderate to heavy rainfall was observed in July 2017 and repeated in August. Rainfall was also observed in 2nd decade of September in few places of scheduled desert area India. Vegetation is green/ greening. Newly developed (1-3 decade old) vegetation is also observed in almost every part schedule desert area of India. Soil moisture is wet near the Indo-Pak border area where as it is dry in Phalodi and Jodhpur. The vegetation status and soil moisture has also shown in the attached map.

In Pakistan, as per the rainfall estimation map for the third decade of August, moderate to heavy rainfall occurred in all the summer-monsoon desert locust breeding areas of Pakistan. Whereas during the first fortnight of September 2017, only light rainfall occurred in some parts of Cholistan and Nara deserts . As per locust survey reports and greenness estimation map for the first decade of September, 2017, the vegetation was found green and soil moisture remained wet in all the surveyed areas except some parts of Bahawalpur and Rahimyar Khan areas where it was found dry.

FORECAST

Keeping in view of the favorable ecological condition of the field and presence of solitary adults, there may be possibilities of locust breeding/ breeding in the remote area of India and Pakistan. Hence a strict and constant vigilance is required by undertaking intensive Locust survey by both the countries in their respective jurisdiction.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fortnightly desert locust situation bulletins, recent FAO locust bulletin, RAMSES maps showing locust situation, green vegetation and rainfall estimation for the reporting period of both the countries were exchanged and discussed during the meeting.

VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The 4th border meeting of the year 2017 will be held at Khokhropar/ Monabao border point on 24th October 2017 at 0930 hours (IST)/ 0900 hours (PST) on Pakistan side.


ACKNOWLEDGMENT -

The Locust Officers of both the countries expressed their deep and sincere thanks to the Border Security Force of India and Pakistan Rangers for extending their full cooperation and support in arranging this meeting at Munabao Meeting Hall India side. Delegates from Pakistan thanked the Indian counterparts for their cordial welcome, hospitality and courteous dealing during the course of meeting.

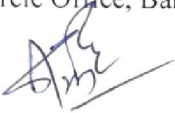
Place: Munabao Meeting Hall, India
Date: 19th September, 2017

PARTICIPANTS

INDIA



(DR. K.L.GURJAR)
Deputy Director (PP)
HQs. Faridabad

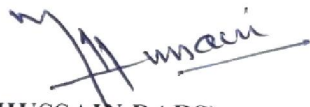

(MAHESH CHANDRA)
Plant Protection Officer (PP)
Locust Circle Office, Barmer



(BALDEV SINGH)
Asstt. Plant Protection Officer
FSIL, Bikaner


(PRAMOD GOUR)
Scientific Assistant/ DLIO
Locust Circle Office Bhuj

PAKISTAN

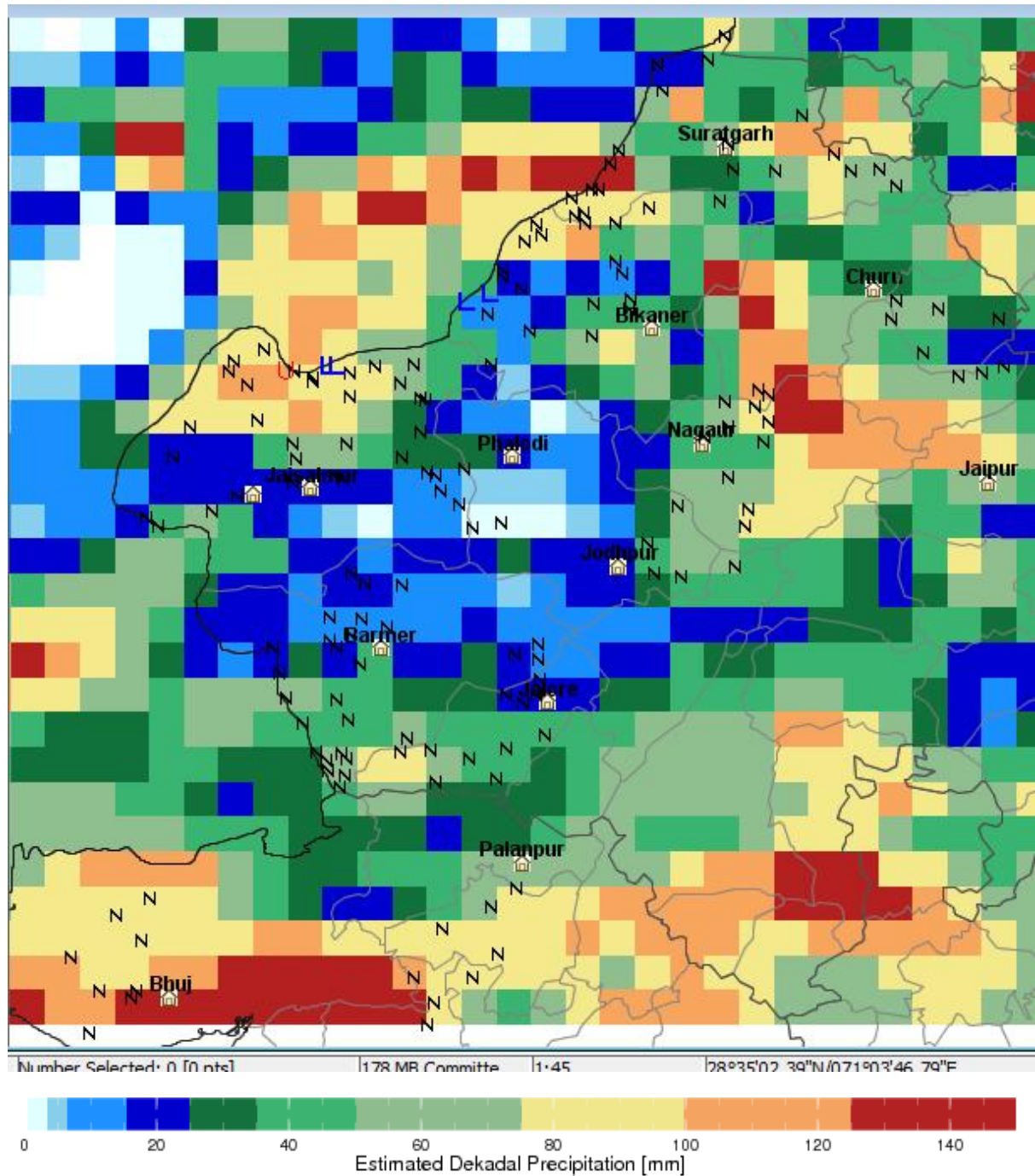

(MUHAMMAD TARIQ KHAN)
Deputy Director (Locust)
HQs Karachi


(MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN DARS)
Assistant Entomologist (L)
Mirpur Khas


(M. SHAHBAZ)
Assistant Entomologist (L) / DLIO
Karachi

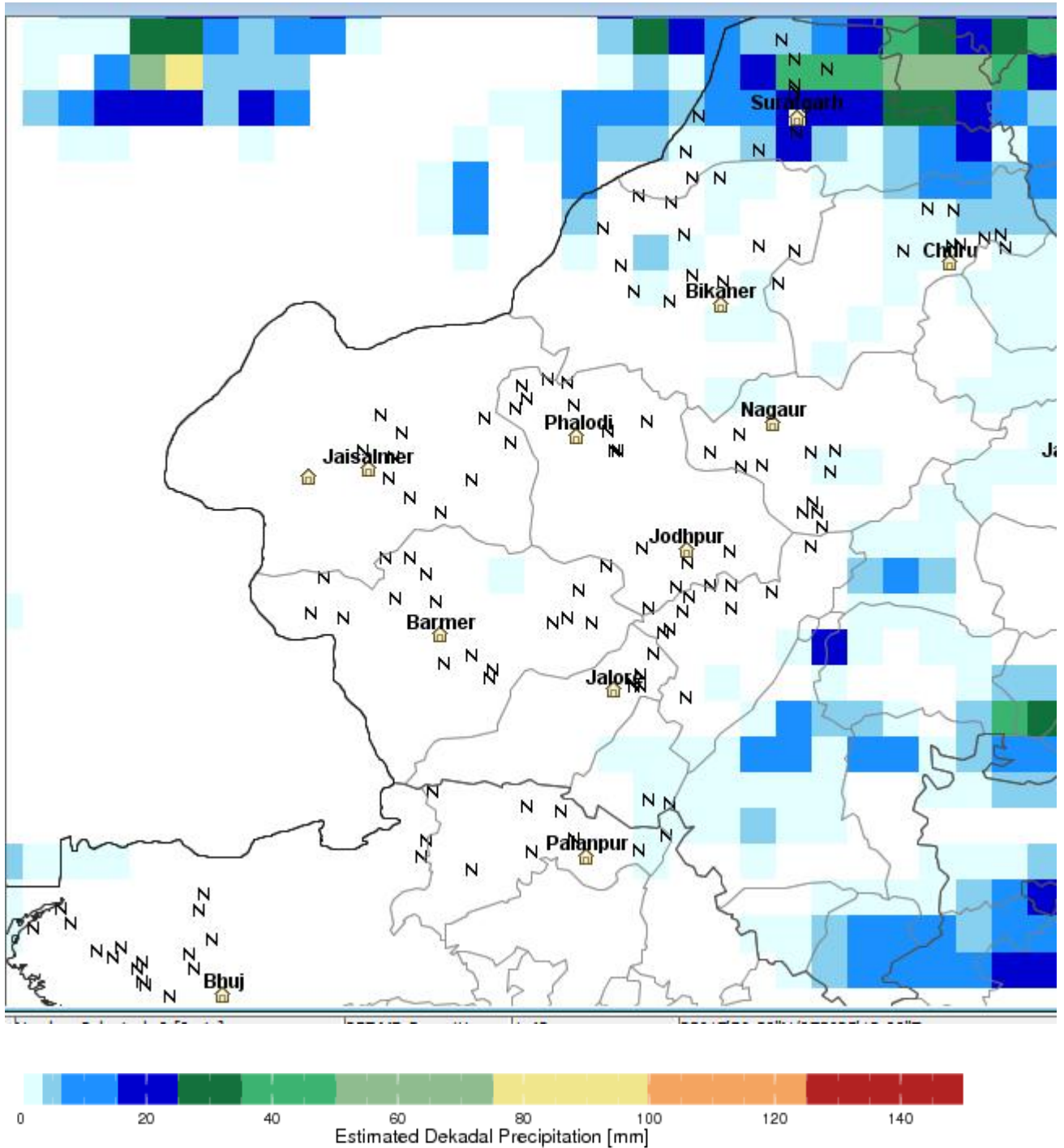
Map showing rainfall estimation for 21-31 August 2017

Moderate rainfall observed at all most all the area of Scheduled desert except Phalodi, eastern part of Jodhpur, Barmer and Jaisalmer adjoining to Jodhpur where Light rainfall observed. Heavy to moderate rainfall was observed at Bhuj area of Gujarat.

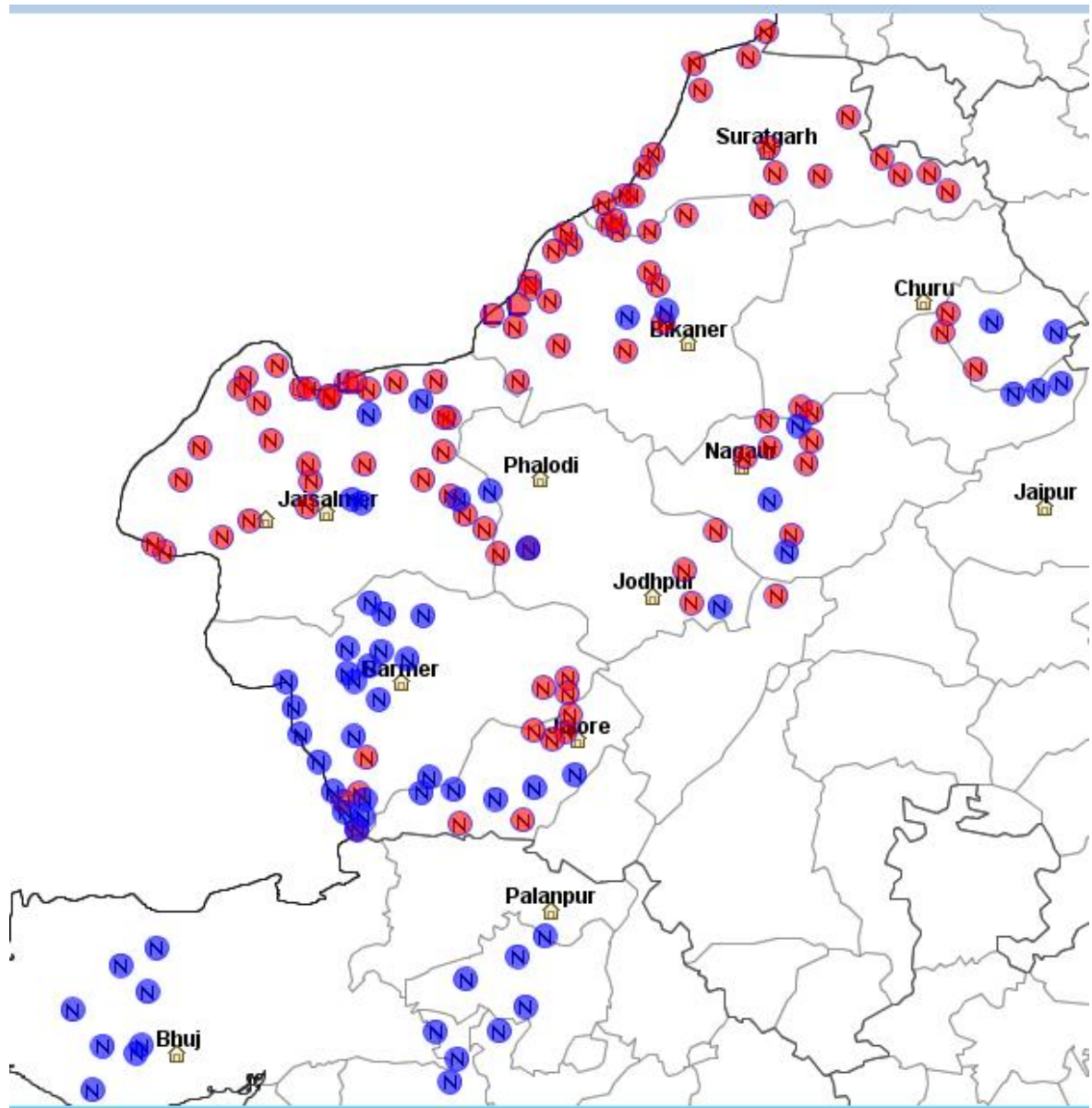


Map showing Locust situation for 01 – 15 September and rainfall estimation for 01-10 September 2017

Light to moderate rainfall observed at Suratgarh area. N is the place where surveys were undertaken and no locust population observed.



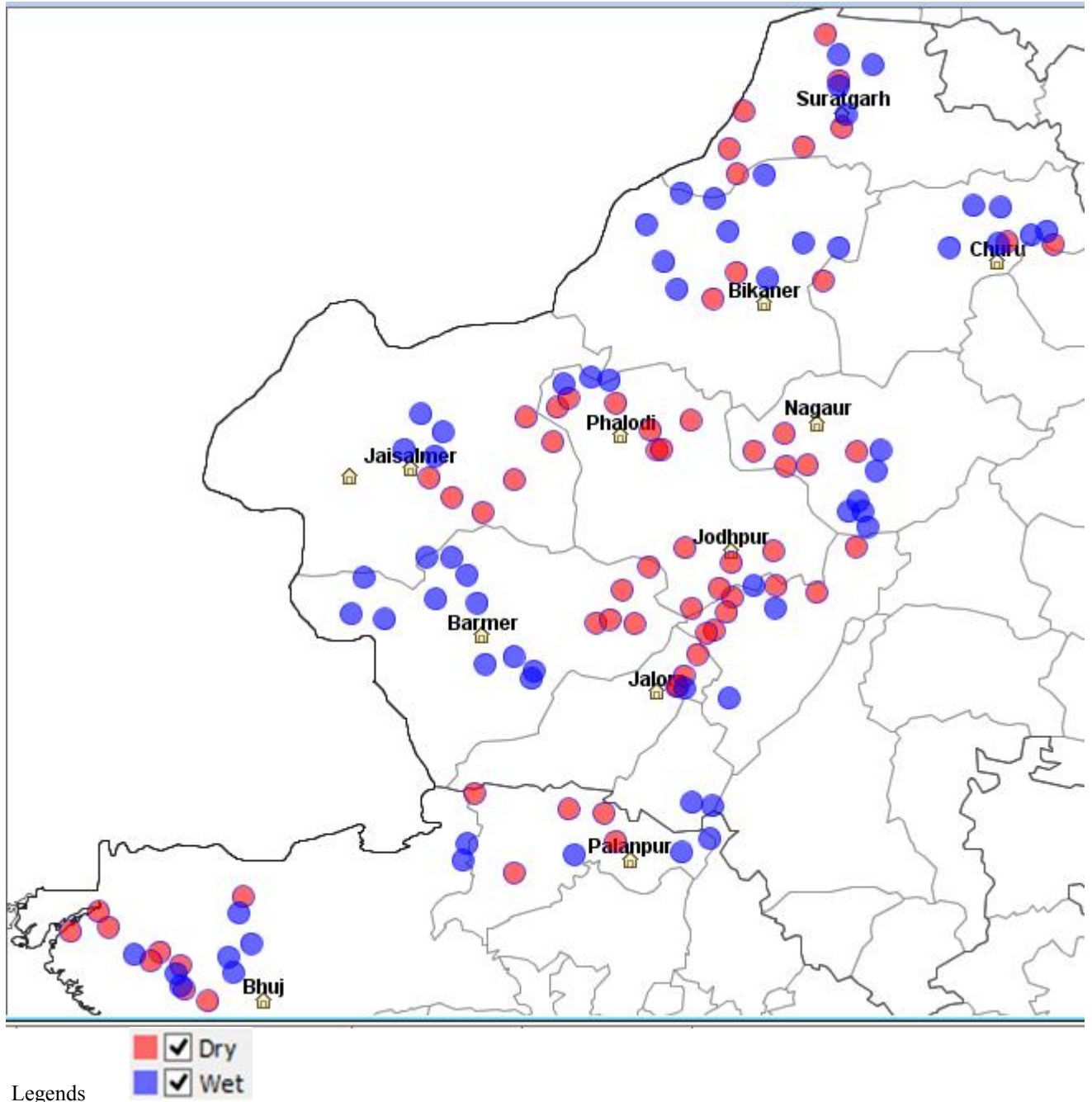
Soil moisture during 2nd fortnight of August 2017 recorded by surveyor during surveys undertaken. The soil of southern part of SDA is wet where as it is dry at northern part of SDA i.e Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Suratgarh.



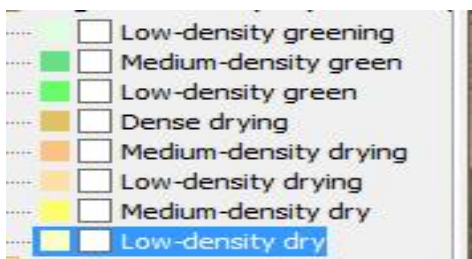
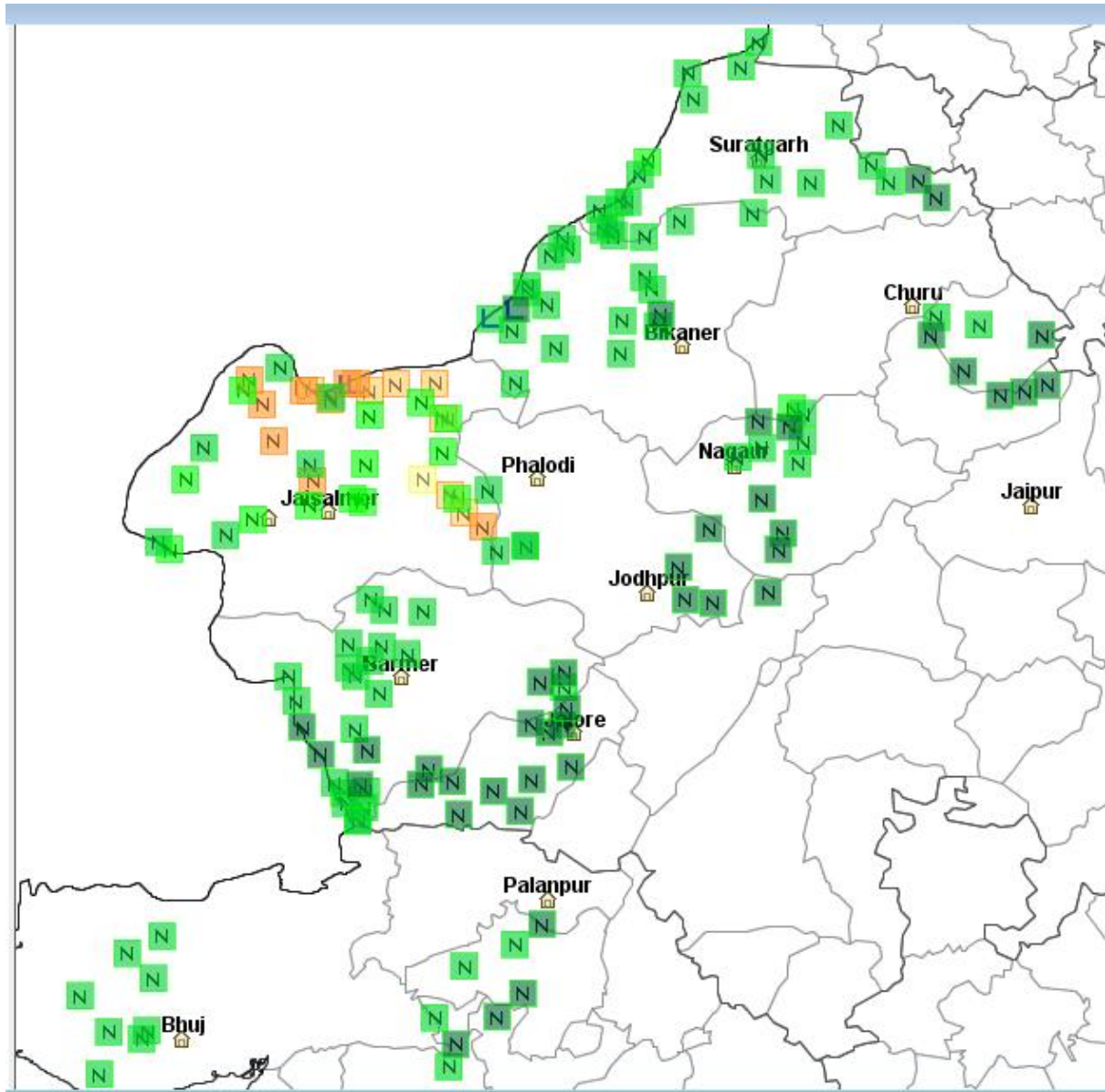
Legends

	Dry
	Wet

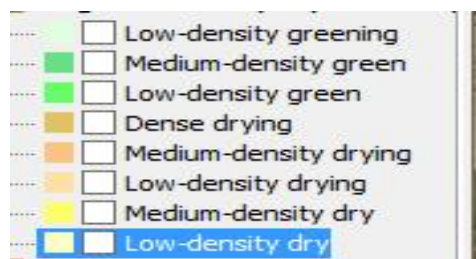
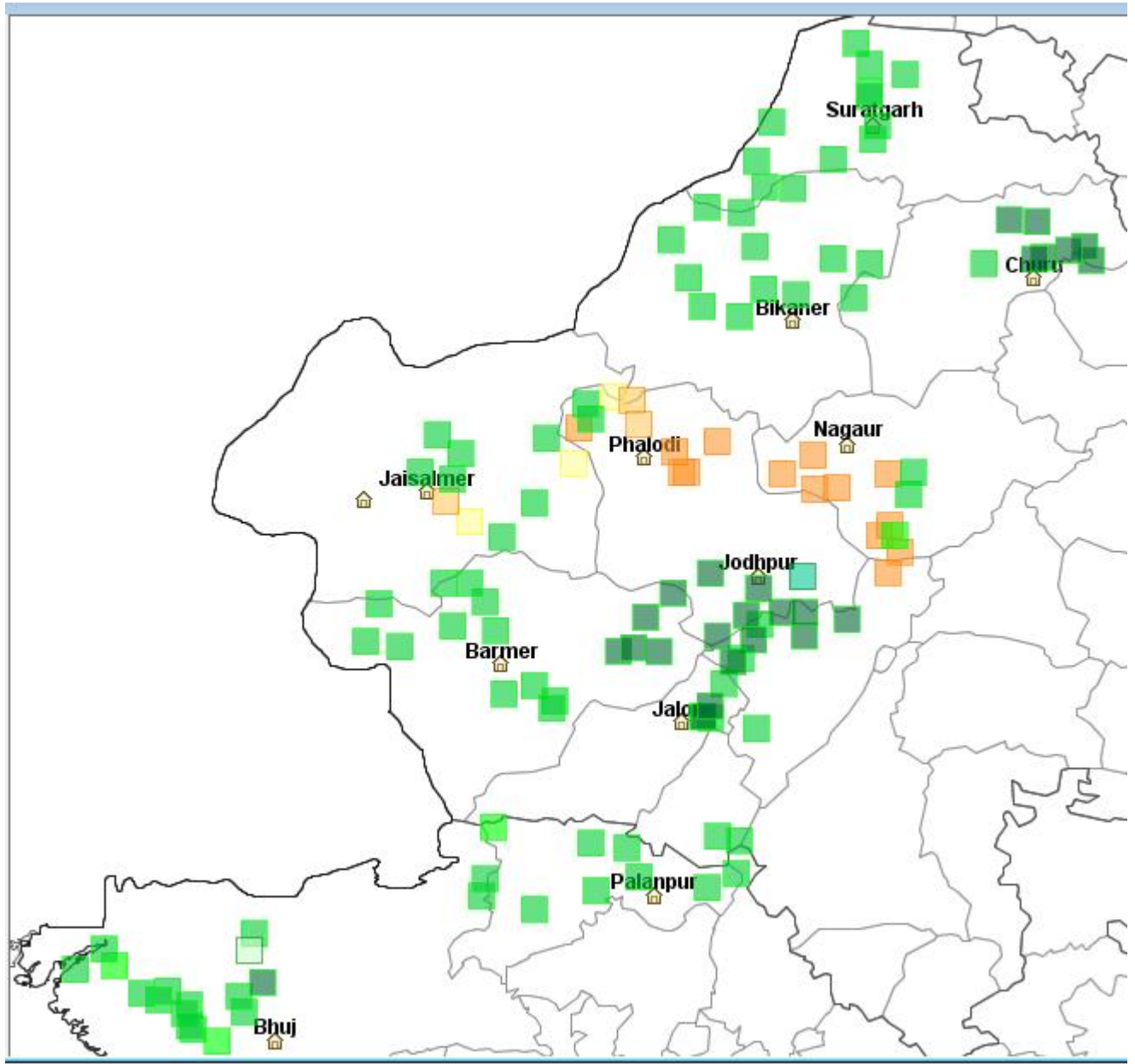
Soil moisture during 1st fortnight of September 2017 recorded by surveyor during surveys undertaken.
The soil in some place is dry and rest area is wet.



Green vegetation observed by the surveyors during conducting locust surveys in the 2nd fortnight of August 2017.
 Almost all the area of SDA is green.

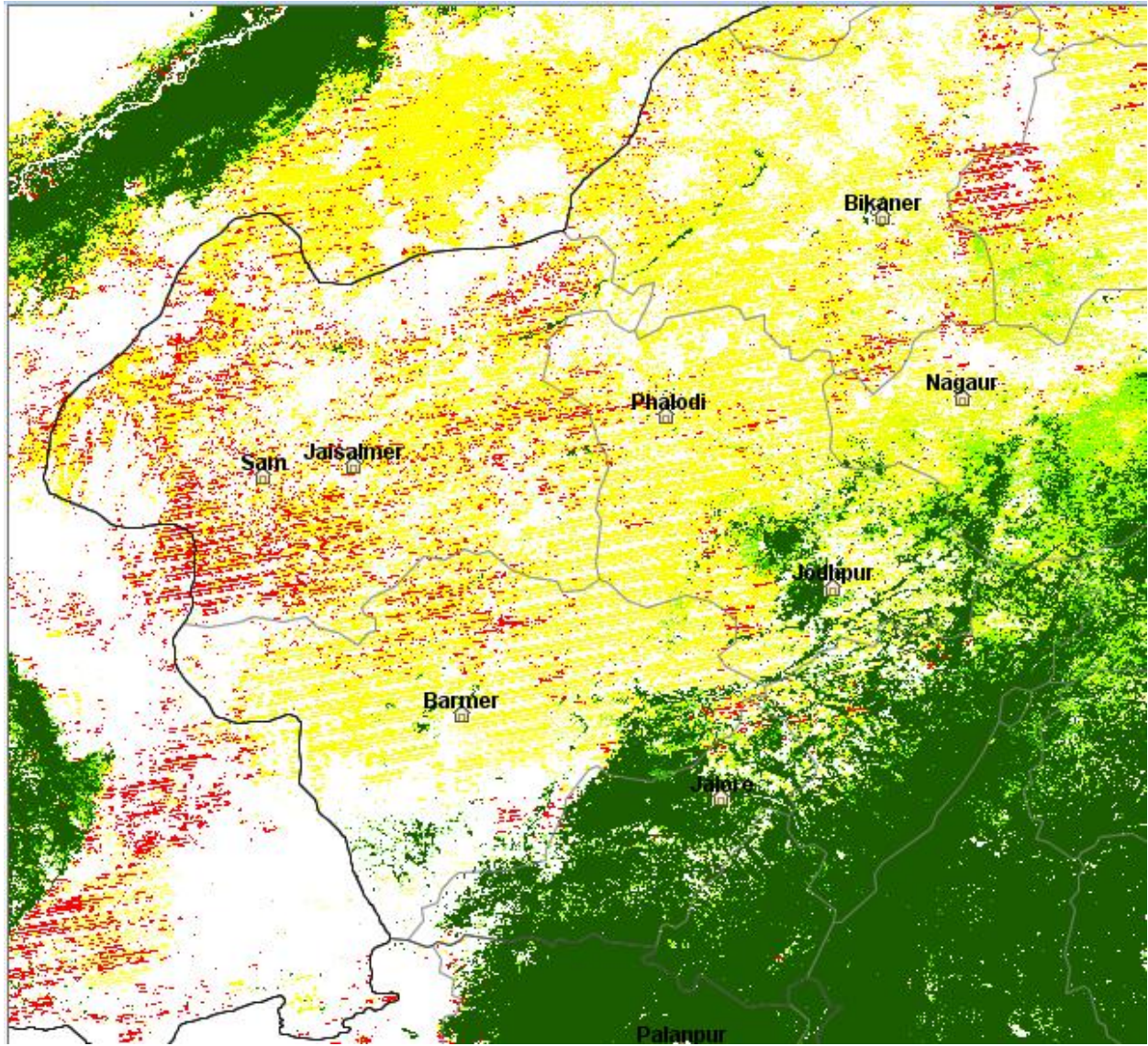


Green vegetation observed by the surveyors during conducting locust surveys in the 1st fortnight of September 2017. Almost all the area of SDA is green except area of Phalodi and Nagaur.



Green vegetation status map for 3rd decade of August 2017

Whole area of Scheduled desert is covered with green vegetation.

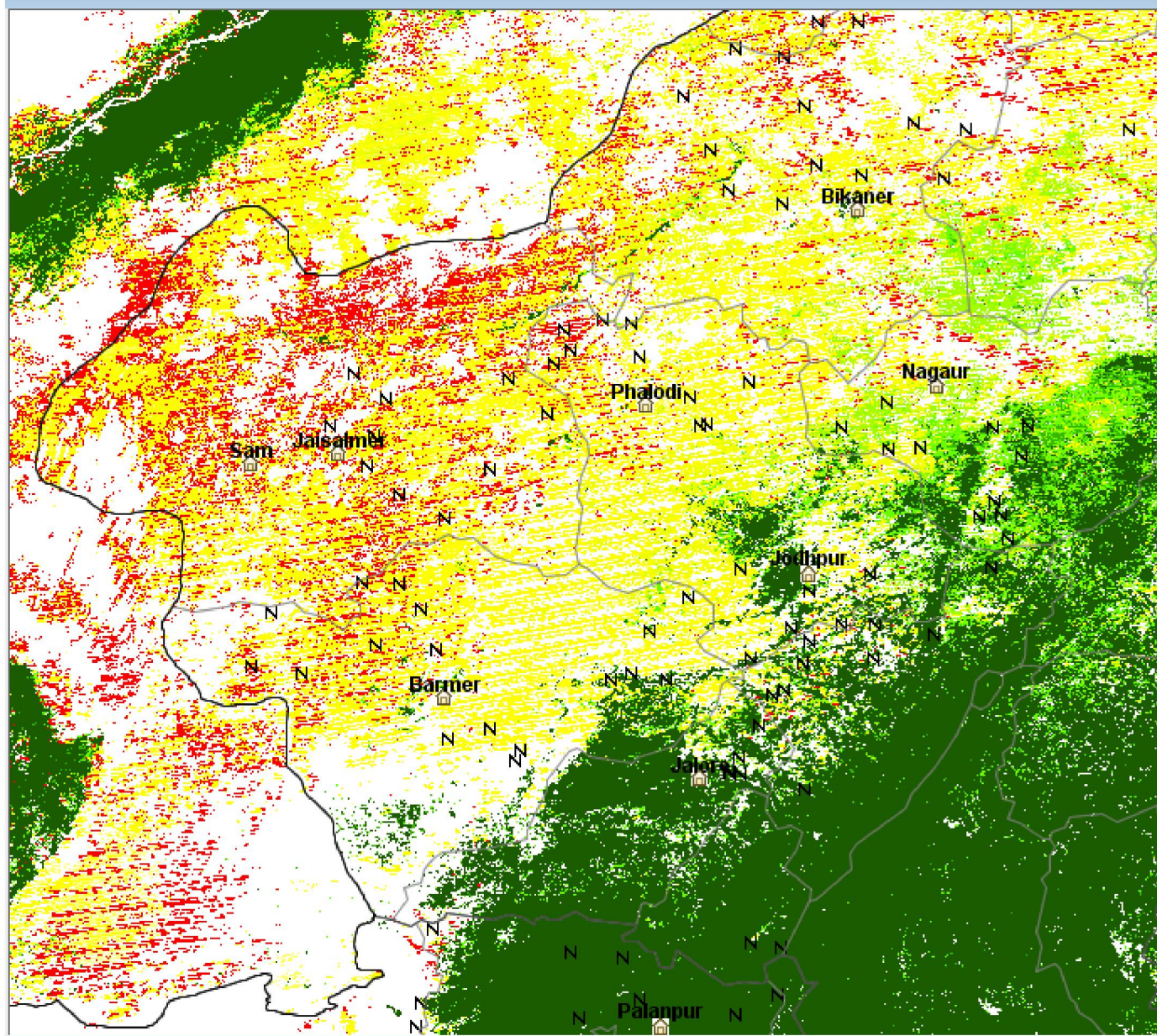


Number of decade of vegetations



Green vegetation status map for 1st decade of September 2017

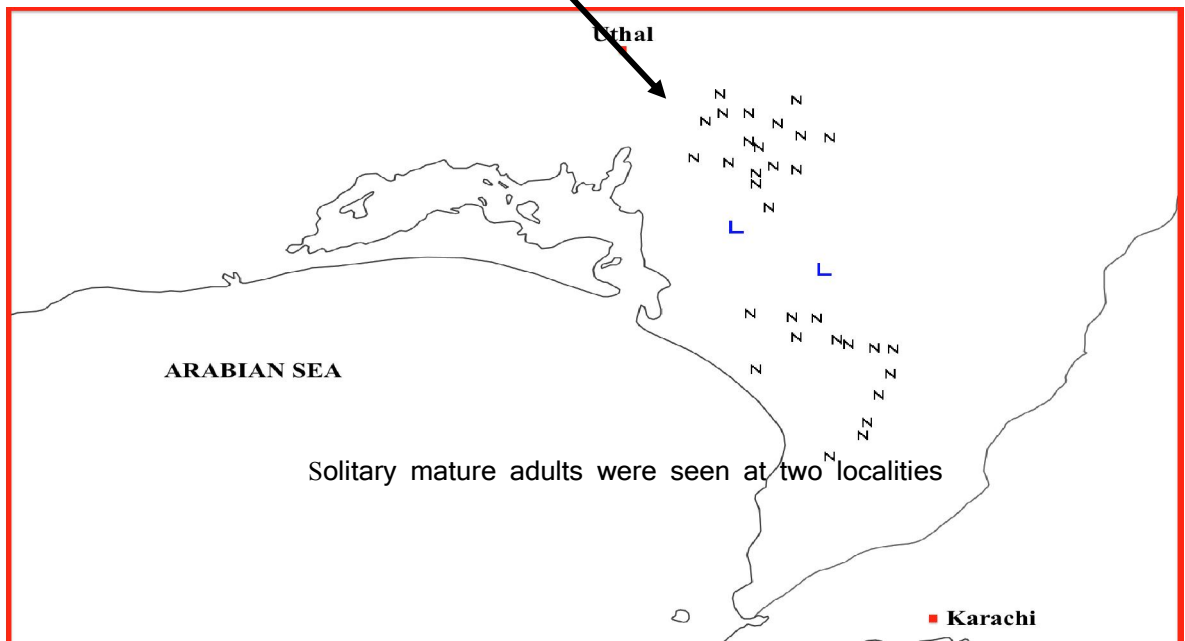
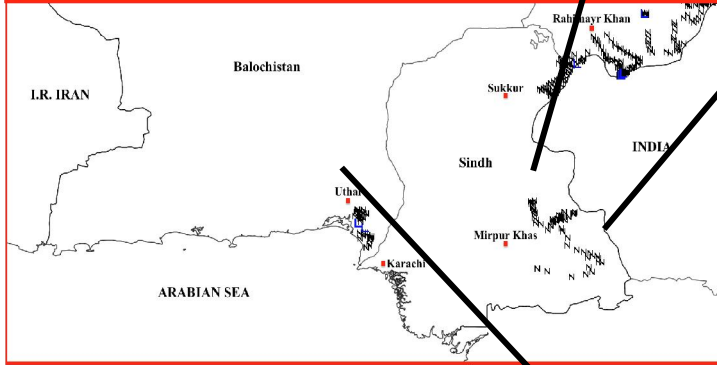
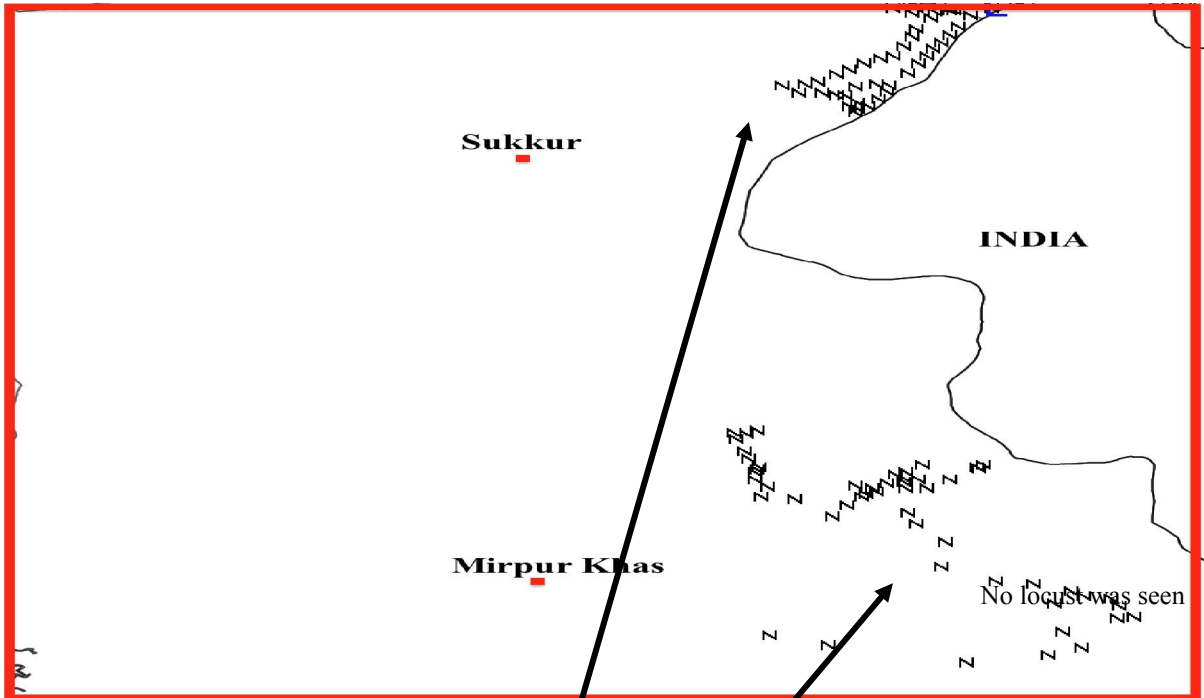
The vegetation of whole area of SDA is green. The vegetation in Jaisalmer area is 1-2 decade old. The vegetation in Barmer, Phalodi, Nagaur, Churu, Bikaner, Jodhpur and Suratgarh area is two decade old and vegetation in some area Nagaur and Churu is 3 decade old.



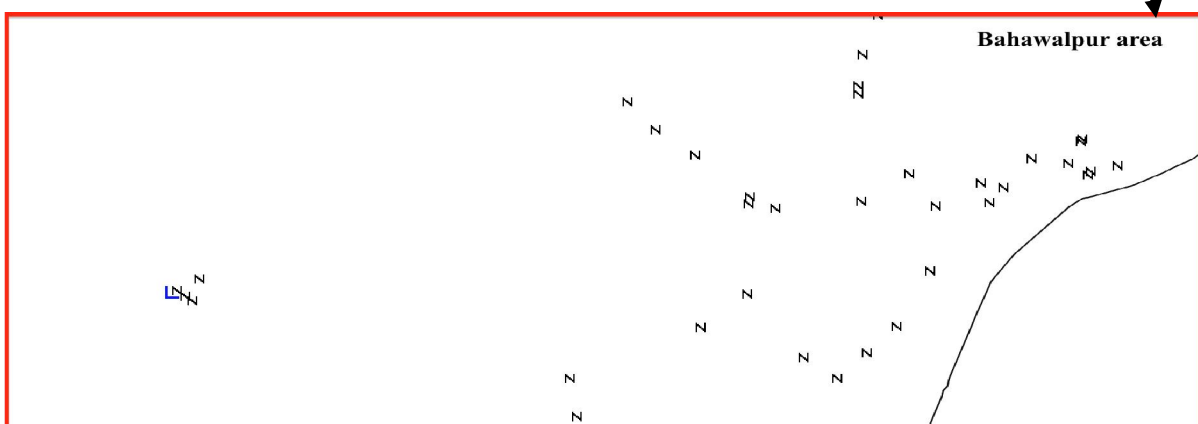
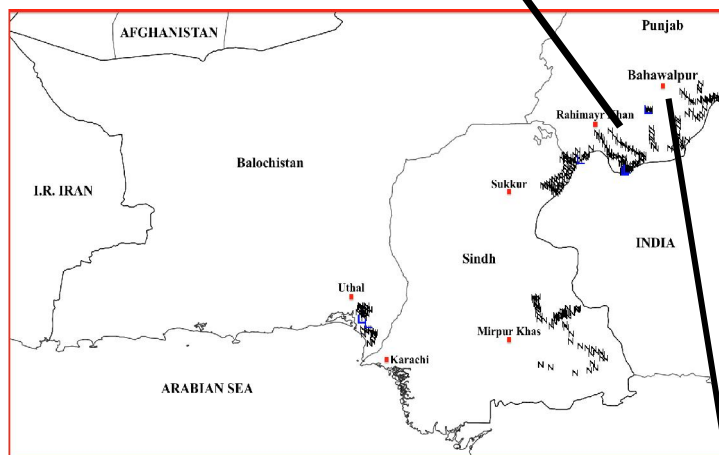
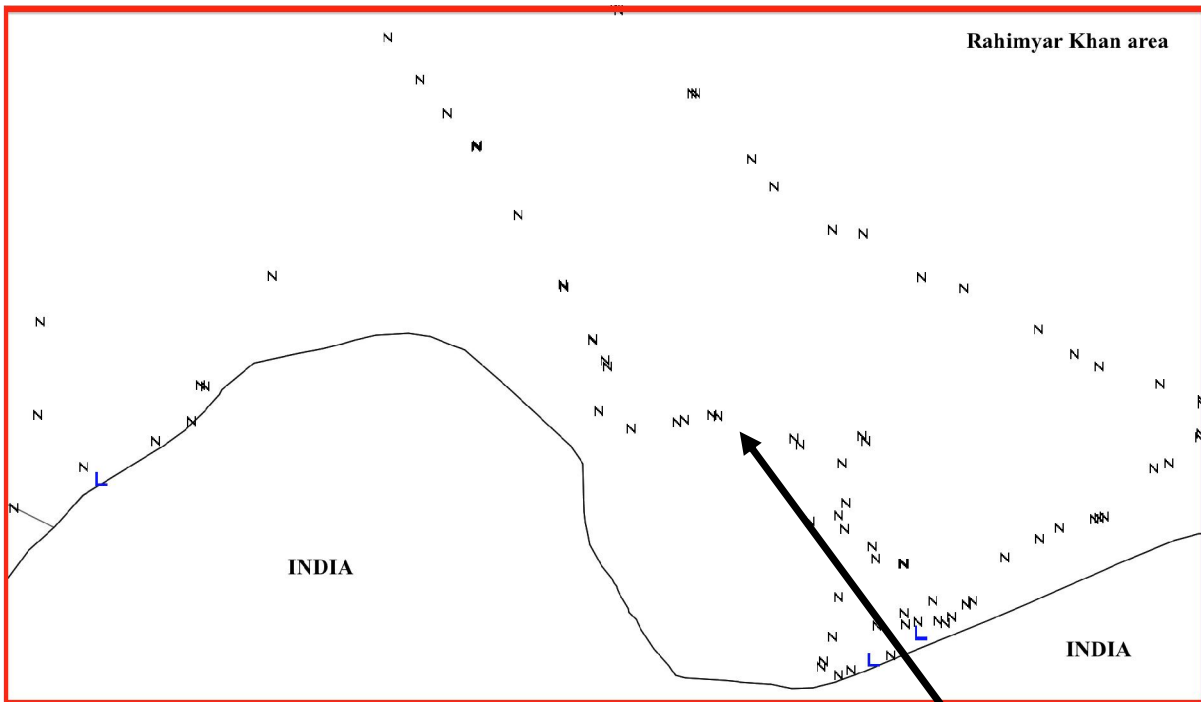
Number of decade of vegetations

1	3	5	7	9
2	4	6	8	10

Map showing the desert locust situation in Sukkur and Mirpur Khas areas from 20th August 2017 to 17th September 2017

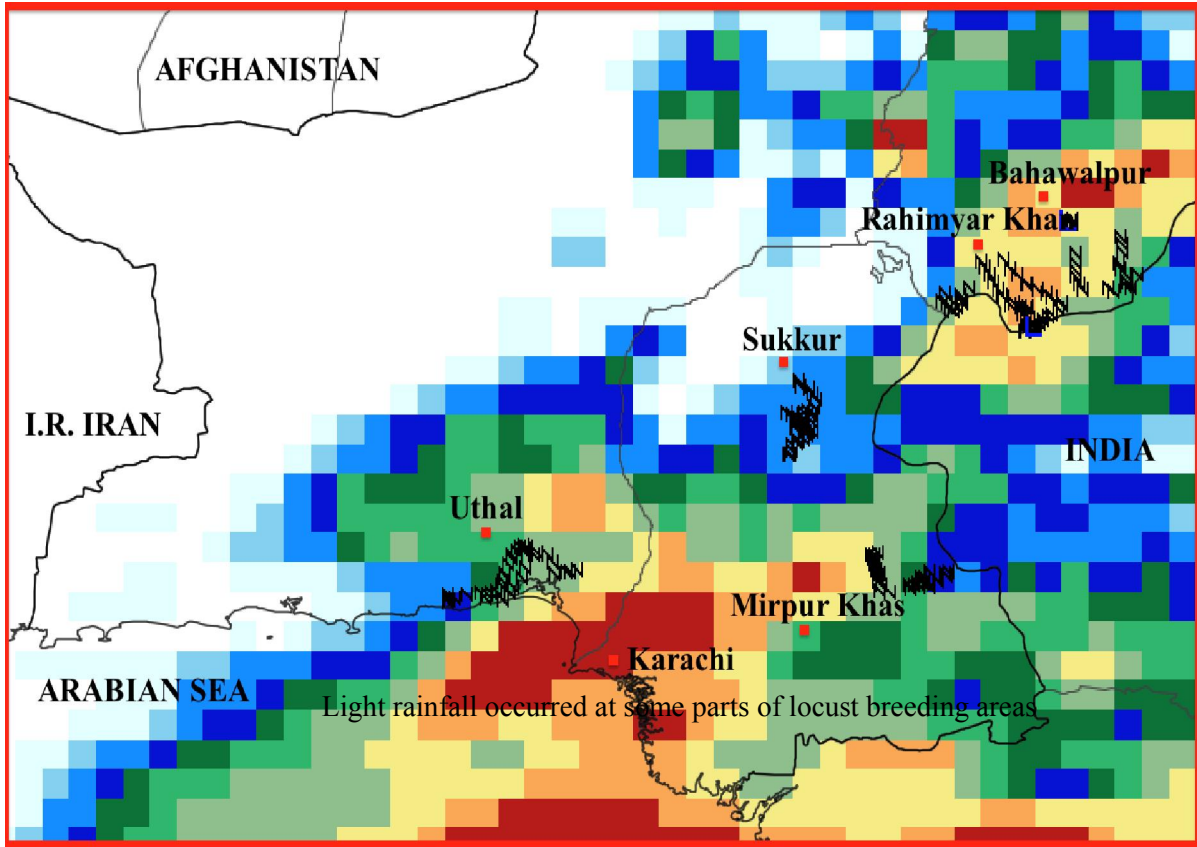


Map showing the desert locust situation in Bahawalpur and Rahimyar Khan areas from 20th August 2017 to 17th September 2017

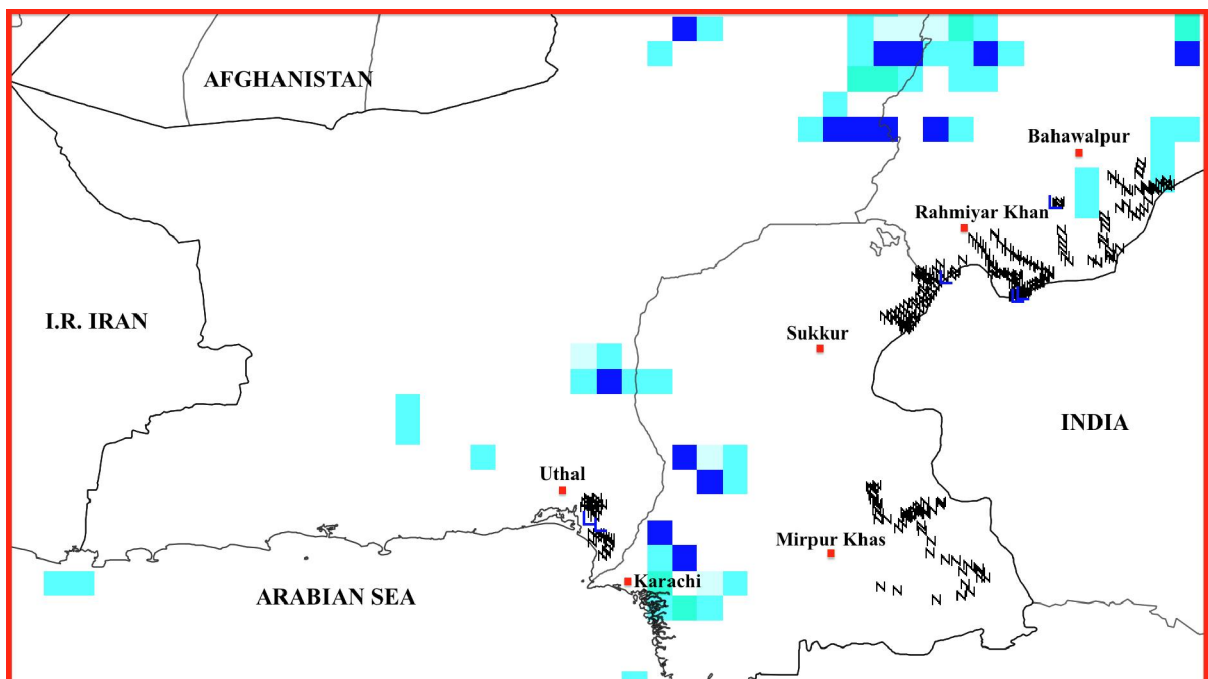


Rainfall estimate map for the third decade of August, 2017

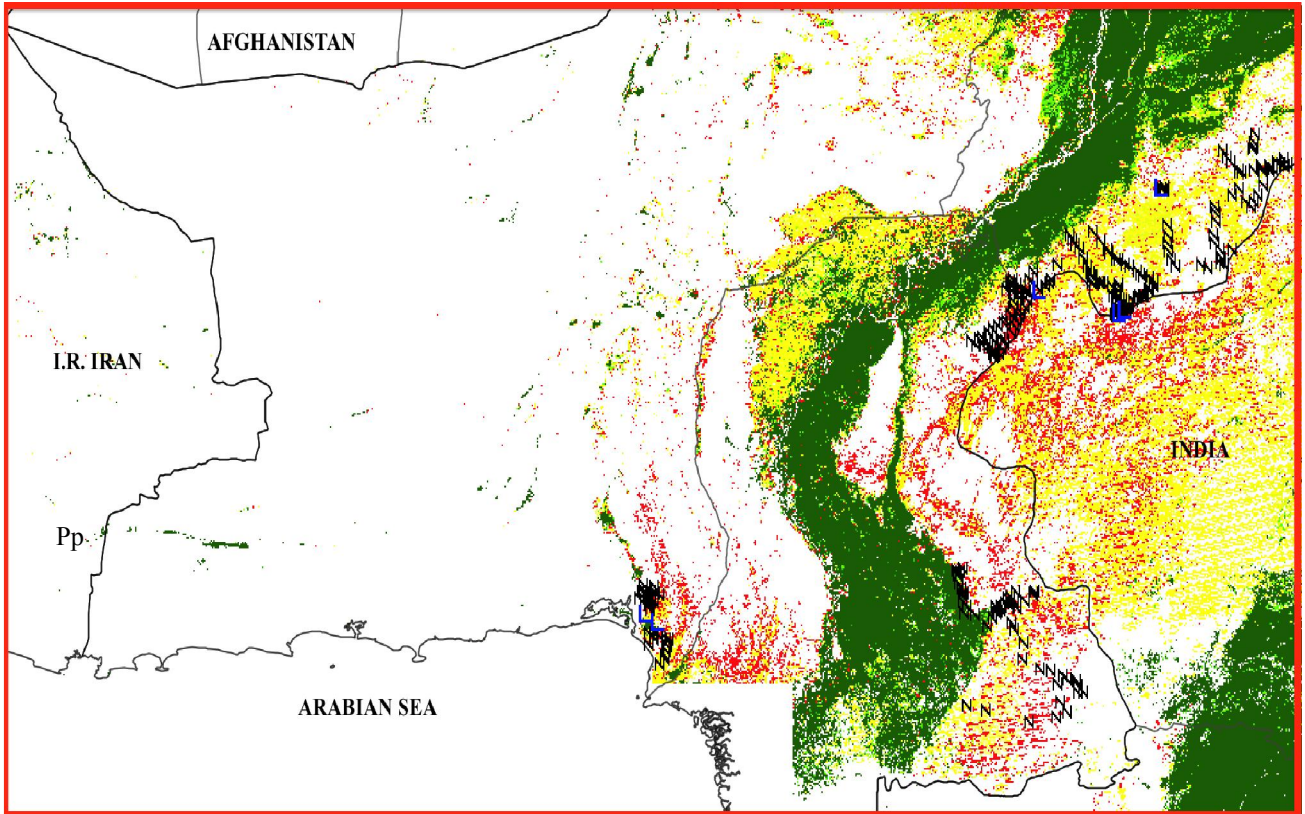
Light to heavy rainfall occurred in locust potential breeding areas during third decade of July 2017



Greenness estimation map for the first decade of September 2017



Greenness map showing the green vegetation in all the locust surveyed areas in Pakistan



Green vegetation available in all the surveyed areas during the reporting period

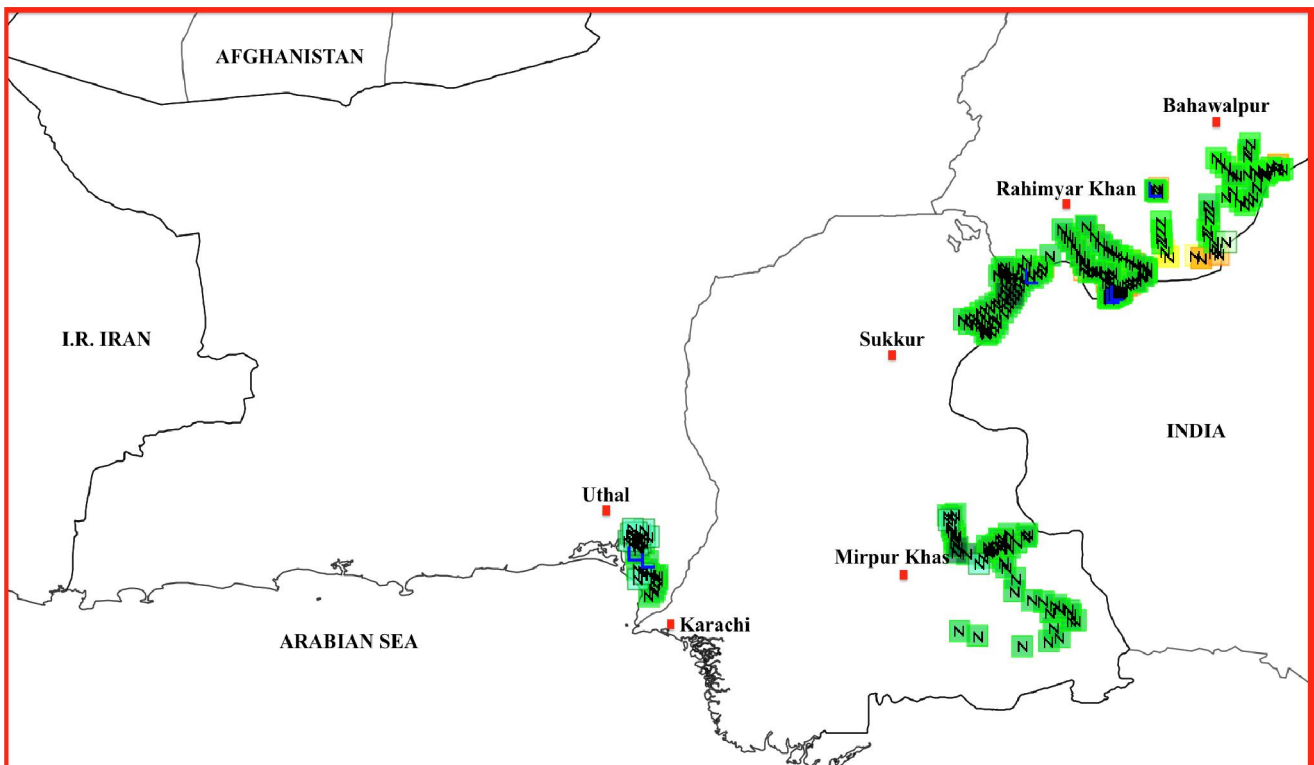




Photo during discussion in Indo-Pak locust officers' monthly meeting held on 19th September 2017.



A group photo of participants with Ranger and BSF officer during the end of meeting.