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EMERGENCY CENTRE FOR LOCUST OPERATIONS

DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No. 193



GENERAL SITUATION DURING SEPTEMBER 1994 FORECAST UNTIL MID-NOVEMBER 1994

The Desert Locust situation continued to improve during September. No major developments were reported although ecological conditions remained favourable in many parts of the summer breeding areas. In Mauritania, scattered adults continued to persist in the south-eastern regions where some breeding occurred; however, no control operations were required. Scattered adults persisted in the summer breeding areas of India and Pakistan, and limited control operations were undertaken in India against small patches of hoppers and adults.

No significant infestations were reported from other countries in West Africa, Eastern Africa, and in the Near East.

It is the time of the year when the adults are likely to commence their migration towards the winter breeding areas, although this is not expected to be on a large scale. Surveys in these areas should be programmed to continue to monitor the situation.

The FAO Desert Locust Bulletin is issued monthly, supplemented by Updates during periods of increased Desert Locust activity, and is distributed by fax, telex, e-mail, FAO pouch and airmail by the Emergency Centre for Locust Operations, AGP Division, FAO, 00100 Rome, Italy.

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WEATHER & ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 1994

Based on field reports, METEOSAT and ARTEMIS satellite imagery, and Météo-France synoptic and rain data. Rainfall terms: light = less than 20 mm of rain; moderate = 20 - 50 mm; heavy = more than 50 mm.

During September, the ITCZ was frequently located by 18°N-20°N over the Sahel in West Africa, reaching as far as 22°N over northern Mali on the 13th-14th. Although there were indications of its seasonal southwards movement (as far south as 8°N over western Sudan on the 19th) under the influence of depressions which began to move east across the Mediterranean during the second half of the month, rainfall continued in several parts of the summer breeding areas where, as a result, favourable ecological conditions persisted. Seasonal rains have also commenced in North-West Africa.

In Mauritania, areas of green vegetation persisted in the south-east, although rains have decreased during the first decade of September and occurred primarily in northern Brakna and Nema; during the second and the third decades, widespread light to heavy rains occurred in Trarza, south-eastern Tagant near Moudjeria (112 mm on the 15th and 20th) and northern Brakna; green vegetation and standing water were reported at many places. Moderate to heavy rains also occurred in Tiris Zemmour on the 26th-27th. Ecological conditions are likely to remain favourable in parts of Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna of Mali, and Tamesna of Niger as a result of substantial rains received during August and some light rains during September. In Chad, favourable conditions persisted in the Lac, Kanem, Ouaddai, Biltine and Tibesti regions as a result of continuation of significant rainfall during the first half of September.

In Eastern Africa, breeding conditions were favourable over a large area in Northern Kordofan where many wadis flooded and some rains were continuing early in the month. Substantial cold cloud activity was visible over the Red Sea coast of Sudan, Eritrea and southern Egypt during the last decade. In Eritrea, several wadis remained green along the Red Sea coast north of Massawa as a result of flooding during August whereas conditions commenced to dry out on the coastal plains. Conditions were reported as green in several areas in the north of Somalia, where light to moderate rains were reported at the end of the last decade.

During the first two decades, substantial cold cloud activity was visible over the Tihama of Yemen and to a lesser extent the southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia. As a result, conditions are expected to improve in all these areas, although rains were reported only from southern Tihama of Saudi Arabia. No cold cloud activity was observed from other parts of the Peninsula.

In South-West Asia, light to heavy rains continued to fall over the summer breeding areas of Pakistan and Rajasthan during the first half of the month; these were often above the monthly average and, as a result, ecological conditions are expected to remain favourable for breeding during the next few weeks over a large area. However, the winds over the Indian Ocean have weakened during the second decade and their general pattern have changed to nord-east during the last decade, indicating that the summer monsoon is coming to an end. Some light rains were received further west in southern Baluchistan where, as a result, ecological conditions may be favourable in some places.



AREA TREATED IN SEPTEMBER 1994

India 72 ha (1-12 September)



DESERT LOCUST SITUATION

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

During the first decade of September, isolated immature and mature adults, some of them mating, were reported primarily in Hodh el Chargui at several locations near Oualata (1717N/0702W) and to a lesser extent in Assaba near Kiffa and Timbedra (1615N/0810W); the latter were mixed with a few 1st-4th instar isolated hoppers; no locusts were reported in Tagant near Tidjikja and east of Moudjeria (1753N/1220W). During the second decade, adult (many of them mature) numbers apparently slightly increased near Oualata and Timbedra, and some began to be reported in south-western Tagant in areas of recent heavy rains south of Letvatar (1745N/1232W). However, the overall infestation remained small.

Late in the month, there were unconfirmed reports of swarms in south-western Tagant at Tamassoumit (1835N/1239W) where laying may have occurred, and in Trarza near Boutilimit (1733N/1442W); however, only a few locusts were reported by ground teams.

MALI

During August, isolated adults were reported west of Adrar des Iforas near Aguelhok (1928N/0052E) and Asler (1853N/0015E), and in the Timetrine region near Tinkar (1926N/0021W) during the first decade; no locust activity was reported during the second decade.

NIGER

Isolated adults were reported in the south-east near Diffa (1318N/1237E) during the first decade of September.

CHAD

During September, isolated adults were reported in the Kanem region at Mondo (1349N/1532E) on the 14th-16th and there was an unconfirmed report of locust in the Lac Region in Baga Sola (1332N/1419E) during the second decade. No other locust activity was reported in the Lac and Kanem regions, as well as near Abéché (1350N/2050E) during the first and the second decades of September.

CAPE VERDE

No locust activity was reported up to 20 August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 September.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA

No locusts were reported between 15 August-14 September.

MOROCCO

No locust activity was reported during August.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 September.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

No locusts were reported during extensive ground surveys in the Northern Kordofan between El Obeid, Wadi Milk (1408N/2814E), Sodori (1424N/2907E) and Umm Saiyala (1423N/3107E) between 28 August-1 September.

ERITREA

No locusts were reported during ground surveys along the Red Sea coast north and south of Massawa, notably in areas of green vegetation such as Wadi Wachiro (1540N/3915E), Wadi Shelshela (1545N/3910E) and Shieb (1552N/3904E) during the first half of September.

SOMALIA

During August, no locusts were reported during ground surveys undertaken east of Erigavo (1037N/4727E) and along the northern coast between Bosasso (1112N/4841E) and Reban (1108N/4733E) on the 16th-26th.

In late September, no locusts were reported during ground surveys between Hargeissa, Berbera, Burao (0931N/4532E), Las Anod (0829N/4721E) and up to 25 km east of Gardho (0930N/4905E) on the 26th-30th.

DJIBOUTI, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No locust activity has been reported during August.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

No locust activity was reported during September.

KUWAIT

No locust activity was reported during August and September.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 September.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

During the second half of August, isolated adults were reported from 41 locations of Tharparkar, Nara, Cholistan and Lasbela deserts, with a maximum density of 750 adults per sq.km at Bitra Toba (2748N/7057E) in Rahimyar Khan district on the 21st. Similar infestations were reported from 73 locations of the same regions during the first fortnight of September, with a maximum of 1200 adults per sq.km at Shaana Toba (2830N/7116E) in Bahawalpur district on the 14th.

INDIA

During the second half of August, numbers of reports of isolated adults increased in Rajasthan with 30 locations in Jaisalmer district, with a maximum of 1600 adults per sq. km at Sadewala (2736N/7015E) on the 29th; isolated 1st-5th instar hoppers were reported from the same district at Mithrau (2730N/7133E) on the 25th.

During the first half of September, 28 ha of 2nd-3rd instar hoppers were treated in Jaisalmer at Bhoj Raj Ka Tala (2622N/7015E) on the 1st, and 44 ha of adults and hoppers of both Desert and Migratory Locusts were treated at Mithrau on the 11th-12th. Isolated adults continued to be reported from Rajasthan in Jaisalmer (36 locations), Barmer (3 locations), Bikaner (4 locations) and Jodhpur (1 location) districts, with a maximum density of 1100 adults per sq.km at Sultana (2726N/7053E) on the 12th.

No locust information had been received from other countries in the region up to 30 September.



FORECAST UNTIL MID-NOVEMBER 1994

WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

Low numbers of adults will continue to persist and breed on a small, possibly moderate scale, in areas of recent rains in the south-east, primarily near Oualata, Timebedra, Kiffa and south-west Tagant; as a result, additional small numbers of hoppers are expected during the next few weeks. However, these infestations are more likely to decline in these areas throughout the forecast period when the conditions will commence to dry out and with the movement of new generation adults towards west and north into Trarza, Tagant, Adrar, and Inchiri.

ΜΔΙΙ

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breed in any areas of recent rains in Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna.

NIGER

Scattered adults are likely to be present and breed in any areas of recent rains in Tamesna.

CHAD

Isolated adults are expected to persist and breed in some areas of recent rains of Kanem. Some isolated adults may be present in the Lac and BET regions where the may breed on a small scale in areas of recent rains.

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

No significant developments are likely.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

ALGERIA

Isolated adults may be present and persist in the extreme south.

MOROCCO, TUNISIA and LIBYA

No significant developments are likely.

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

Scattered adults are expected to be present and breed in Northern Kordofan and Northern Darfur. Migration of new generation adults towards the eastern provinces and the Red Sea coast is likely to commence during the forecast period; although this is expected to be on a small scale, surveys in these areas should be programmed to monitor the situation.

ERITREA

Scattered adults are expected to appear on the coastal areas near the Red Sea during the forecast period as a result of the seasonal migration from the west.

ETHIOPIA

Isolated adults may be present and persist in the Railway Region.

SOMALIA

A few isolated adults are likely to be present on the north-west coastal plains where they may breed in areas of recent rains.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, TANZANIA and UGANDA

No significant developments are likely.

NEAR EAST

SAUDI ARABIA

Isolated adults are likely to be present and breeding in any areas of rainfall on the southern Tihama and adjacent areas of the interior.

YEMEN

Isolated adults are likely to be present and breeding in any areas of rainfall on the Tihama and coastal plains near Aden. Isolated adults may be present in Wadi Jawf, Sabatayn and Wadi Hadhramaut.

OMAN

A few isolated adults may appear on the Batinah coast as a result of the seasonal migration out of the summer breeding areas of South West Asia.

UAE

A few isolated adults may appear on the Fujayrah coast as a result of the seasonal migration out of the summer breeding areas of South West Asia.

BAHRAIN, EGYPT, IRAQ, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, QATAR, SYRIA, and TURKEY No significant developments are likely.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

Isolated adults will persist in the summer breeding areas along the Indian border where small, possibly moderate scale breeding, is almost certainly in progress; however, no major developments are expected. By the end of the forecast period, small numbers of new generation adults are expected to appear in Baluchistan as a result of the seasonal migration from the east.

INDIA

Isolated adults will persist in the summer breeding areas along the Pakistan border where small, possibly moderate scale breeding, will continue; however, no major developments are expected. New generation adults are expected to appear during the forecast period, but their numbers are likely to decrease as a result of the beginning of the migration west towards the winter breeding areas.

IRΔN

A few isolated adults may appear in south-eastern Baluchistan by the end of the forecast period.

AFGHANISTAN

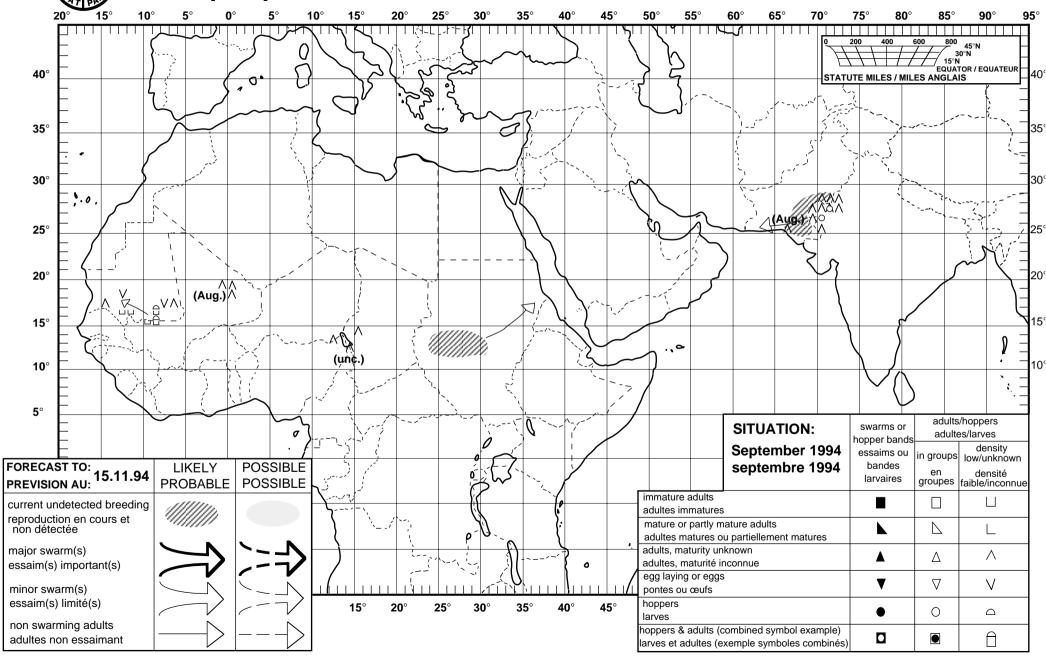
No significant developments are likely.

3 October 1994



Desert Locust: summary Criquet pèlerin: situation résumée





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