

Proceedings of the Third Indo-Pak border meeting held on 9th August,, 2005 at Munabao / Khokhropar Border meeting point

The third Indo-Pak border meeting of the year 2005 between the locust officers of India and Pakistan was held on 9th August, 2005 at Munabao / Khokhropar border meeting point at 0800 hours (IST)/ 0730 hours (PST). Following officers / officials participated in the meeting:

India

S. No.	Name of the Officer/ Officials	Designation
1	Shri A.K. Bandhyopadhyay	Deputy Director (Ent.), LWO Jodhpur
2	“ K.P. Singh	Deputy Director (Engineering), LWO Jodhpur
3	“ Anil Sharma	Assistant Plant Protection Officer, LWO Jodhpur

Pakistan

S. No.	Name of the Officer/ Officials	Designation
1	Mr. Zafar Ali	Deputy Director(HO) Karachi
1.	Mr. Syed Akhlaq Hussain	Entomologist (L), Mirpurkhas
2.	Mr. Bashir Muhammad	Assistant Entomologist (Locust), Karachi
3.	Mr. Ahmed Din Awan	In charge wireless, Karachi

Locust situation in India (1st July,2005 to 31st July,2005) : Scheduled short, distant and border locust surveys in scheduled desert area of India and adjacent Indo-Pak border were conducted by the officers and staff of Locust Warning Organisation (LWO) which revealed that India continued to remain free from any gregarious locust activity. However, scattered solitary mature / maturing adults were reported from ten localities of Jodhpur district at the density ranging from 50 to 2500 PSKM (maximum being at Radah (260749N-720446E) and 375 PSKM at Asutar (2711N-7014E) of district Jaisalmer of Rajasthan. Soil moisture was not suitable for locust breeding in border districts of Bikaner, Barmer, Jaisalmer and Palanpur.

Weather:

- a) **Rainfall:** Light to heavy rainfall has been reported from some parts of the scheduled desert areas of India in the range of 0.6 to 93.0 mm. District-wise number of localities and rainfall data are given below:

S. No.	District (HQ)	Frequency	Rainfall in mm	Place and date where highest rainfall occurred
1.	Jodhpur	14	2.0 to 49.4	Jodhpur on 01.7.2005
2.	Bikaner	18	6.0 to 67.0	Kolayat on 04.7.2005
3.	Barmer	04	2.0 to 52.0	Balotra on 03.7.2005
4.	Jaisalmer	04	1.0 to 43.0	Nokh on 02.7.2005
5	Sikar	04	11.0 to 93.0	Sikar on 06.7.2005
6	Bhuj	03	3.1 to 15.0	Bhuj on 01.7.2005
7	Churu	01	27.3	Churu on 01.7.2005

b) **Wind direction:** Wind direction at 300 m remained South West to North East during the month

Locust Situation in Pakistan (1st July, 2005 to 31st July, 2005): Pakistan continued to remain free from gregarious locust activity during the period under report. However scattered mature solitary adults ranging from 2-100/ha were observed in 62 localities of Lasbela, Tharparkar, Nara and Cholistan desert of summer / monsoon breeding areas. A maximum population of 100 adults / ha was observed at Jaruhi (2644N-6909E) in Nara desert of Sukkur on 7th July, 2005.

Region wise detail of solitary adult population is given below:

Region/outposts	No. of localities	Range of population / ha	Place of maximum population	date
Karachi				
Mirpurkhas	17	6-37	Hirar (2505 N – 7033 E)	14.7.2005
Uthal	4	4-20	Sapat (2525 N – 6550 E)	30.7.2005
Bahawalpur				
Bahawalpur	8	2-13	Lakhoowala (2845 N- 7215 E)	9.7.2005
Rahim Yar Khan	19	5-25	Gunianwala (2746 N – 7058 E)	30.7.2005
Sukkur				
Sukkur	14	13-100	Jaruhi (2644 N – 6909 E)	7.7.2005

Weather: Light to moderate rainfall occurred at some places of locust breeding areas and heavy rains on 29th and 30th July, 2005 in the areas of Nagarparkar in Thar and Rahimyar khan in Cholistan desert.

Details in accordance with quantum of rainfall recorded in Meteorological Observatories are as under:

District	Frequency of rainfall	Range in mm	Date where highest rainfall occurred
Sukkur	2	17.0-29.0	06.07.2005
Rahim Yar Khan	3	14.0	28.7.2005
Bahawalpur	2	1.0-42.0	06.07.2005
Karachi	2	1.3-1.6	16.7.2005
Uthal	1	7.0	05.07.2005
Chhore	4	1.7-58.0	30.7.2005
Khuzdar	8	1.0-16.0	08.7.2005

Forecast: Since ecological conditions are conducive for locust breeding in summer breeding areas, therefore, patchy breeding and population of adults may increase in both the countries. Hence strict vigilance is required in the scheduled desert area of India and Pakistan.

Miscellaneous:

- 1 Fortnightly Desert Locust Situation Bulletins from June, 05 to July, 05 of both the countries were exchanged.
- 2 Both the delegates agreed to establish wireless communication at 13.30 hours (IST) / 13.00 (PST) on the allotted frequency from 16th August, 2005.
- 3 Both the delegates agreed to conduct the 1st special locust border survey under FAO Assistance programme along the border in both countries w.e.f 22.08.2005 to 29.08.2005. The findings of the survey will be discussed in the next meeting.

Venue of the next meeting: The 4th border meeting of the year 2005 would be held at Khokhropar / Munabao on 7th September, 05 at 0800 hours (PST/ 0830 hours (IST).

Acknowledgement:

Locust officers of both the countries expressed their deep and sincere thanks to the Rangers of Pakistan and BSF of India for extending their full cooperation and support in arranging the meeting at India / Pakistan border point. The Pakistan delegates thanked Indian delegates for cordial welcome, hospitality and courteous dealing during the course of meeting.