

FAO DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN No 136

GENERAL SITUATION DURING DECEMBER 1989 FORECAST UNTIL MID FEBRUARY 1990

No confirmed reports of significant locust populations were received during December. However, there was an unconfirmed report of an immature swarm on the northern coast of Somalia in late November. Hoppers and fledglings were present in northern Somalia in early December. Only low numbers of scattered adults and hoppers were present in West Africa where small scale breeding occurred. Some isolated adults were seen on the Red Sea coast of Sudan; however, no breeding was reported from the winter breeding areas along either side of the Red Sea. A few isolated adults were reported from Rajasthan in India.

In late November, there was an unconfirmed report of an immature swarm on the northern coast of Somalia. In early December, late instar hoppers and fledglings were present at several locations in northern areas where breeding had not been previously reported. The adults may breed again if rain falls in the forecast period; otherwise, some adults will move west.

Small numbers of hoppers and adults were reported from western Mauritania, Tamesna and Adrar des Iforas of Mali, and Tamesna of Niger where small scale breeding occurred. Elsewhere, scattered adults were present in south-eastern and northern Mauritania. Adult populations will persist in all of these areas and some may breed on a small scale where green vegetation exists.

A few adults were seen on the southern Red Sea coast of Sudan; but, no breeding was reported. These populations are likely to persist and breed on a small scale in areas of green vegetation. No further reports of locusts were received from the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coast. However, it is likely that small numbers of adults are present along the Tihama of Saudi Arabia and Yemen AR.

A few isolated adults were reported from Rajasthan in India. These are likely to persist.

No locusts were reported from North-West Africa during December. However, small numbers of scattered adults may be present in southern areas of Morocco and Algeria. No movement is expected into these areas from the south as evening temperatures are too cold to allow night flight.



WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

During December, the ITCZ in West Africa was located well to south at 5-8°N. As a result, no significant rain was reported in the Sahel since late November when light rain occurred near Tidjikja and Atar. Evening temperatures were too low to allow night flight of adults.

METEOSAT and ARTEMIS imagery indicated rainfall during December in northern areas of the Arabian peninsula and along the Tihama. Heavy rainfall due to Mediterranean and Sudan depressions was reported in northern Saudi Arabia and along portions of the Tihama throughout the month. As a result, ecological conditions were reported to be improving along the Tihama of Saudi Arabia. However, vegetation was reported to be drying out on the Tihama coast of Yemen AR. Moderate rains were reported along the east coast of Oman on the 8th with Saiq receiving 24 mm. Light rainfall was reported from UAE on the 15th.

In late November, heavy rains were reported in Wadi Oko/Diib north-west of Port Sudan. In early December, several wadis north of Port Sudan near the coast and the Tokar Delta were reported to be green. Otherwise, coastal and subcoastal areas were dry due to the lack of early winter rainfall.

In late November, moderate rain was reported in Baluchistan, the Mekran coast, and near Karachi. Winds were predominately from the north-west and north-east.

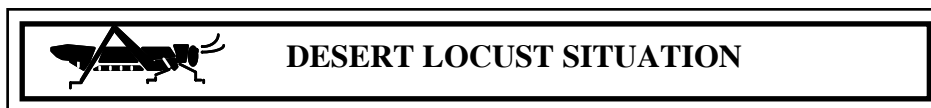
Moderate rainfall was reported in North-West Africa in northern areas of Morocco and Algeria during December.



AREA TREATED IN DECEMBER 1989

Mali
Niger

8,300 ha
9 ha



WEST AFRICA

MAURITANIA

During the first decade of December, scattered immature and mature adults were reported in the two Hodhs near Aioun El Atrous and north of Nema. During the second decade, isolated adults and hoppers were present in northern Trarza and southern Inchiri regions. In Tiris-Zemour region, isolated adults were reported in the east at Ejneyel (2310N/0810W) and Wad El Kharoub (2343N/0839W) and in the west at Imreg (2340N/1058W).

MALI

Low density fourth to fifth instar hoppers and immature adults were reported during the first half of December north of Menaka and in central and western Adrar des Iforas. By the end of the month, fledglings, at densities up to 5,000 per ha, were reported within a total area of 190 ha at three locations in southern Tamesna. A total of 8,300 ha was treated from 1-10 December.

NIGER

There was a late report from Tamesna of hoppers and fledglings, at a density of up to 10,000 per ha, at Tafatakak (1840N/0602E) in late November.

During the first half of December, second to fifth instar hoppers and fledglings were reported in Tamesna on 4 ha at Akade Melane (1825N/0535E), at densities up to 20,000 per ha, and on 1.5 ha at Anes Baraka (1835N/0520E), at a density of 1,500 per ha. Control operations treated 9 ha. Fledglings were also reported within 50 ha at In Ontolog (1738N/0545E) and In Foudouren (1825N/0655E).

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

NORTH-WEST AFRICA

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

EASTERN AFRICA

SUDAN

In early December, isolated locusts were reported on the southern Red Sea coast within 280 ha at Dambil (1819N/3746E), within 210 ha at Umm Barki (1818N/3746E), and at Halibai (1755N/3822E). Ground and aerial surveys of central and northern coastal areas did not find any locusts up to 25 December.

SOMALIA

There was an unconfirmed report of an immature swarm on the northern coast at Durdureh (1120N/4835E) and Elayu (1135N/4850E) on 26 November. In early December, third to fifth instar green and green/black hoppers, and fledglings, were reported over an area of 10 sq. km at Durdureh, 15 sq. km at Elayu, and at Bossaso (1118N/4825E) and Adadoh (1022N/4606E). The fledglings were reported to be dispersing.

Previous unconfirmed reports of locust swarms in northern Somalia in July, August, and September were confirmed as Tree Locusts.

ETHIOPIA, DJIBOUTI, KENYA, and TANZANIA

The locust situation was reported calm up to 30 November.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA and YEMEN AR

The locust situation was reported calm up to 31 December.

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

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

No locust activity was reported up to 30 November.

INDIA

During the last half of November and the first half of December, isolated locusts, at a maximum density of 60 per sq. km, were reported from Bikaner at Pugal (2831N/7248E).

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

NEW ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

No requests for assistance against Desert Locusts had been received up to 31 December.

NEW ASSISTANCE PLEDGED

Finland has pledged \$116,000 via **FAO** for Desert Locust control.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAO/ECLO would like to extend their best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

**FORECAST UNTIL MID FEBRUARY 1990****WEST AFRICA****MAURITANIA**

Small numbers of adults are likely to persist in northern and western areas with possibly localised small scale breeding in Inchiri, Trarza, and Adrar regions.

MALI

Small numbers of adults are likely to persist in Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna with possibly localised small scale breeding in areas of green vegetation.

NIGER

Small numbers of adults are likely to persist in Tamesna and Air with possibly localised small scale breeding in areas of green vegetation.

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

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA**MOROCCO**

Small numbers of adults may be present in the extreme south-west where small scale breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation.

ALGERIA

Small numbers of adults may be present in southern areas where small scale breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation.

TUNISIA and LIBYA

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

EASTERN AFRICA**SUDAN**

Small numbers of adults are likely to persist on the Red Sea coast where small scale breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation.

ETHIOPIA

Small numbers of adults may be present on the northern Red Sea coast where limited breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation.

SOMALIA

Small numbers of adults are likely to persist on the northern coast and may breed again if rain falls during the forecast period. Otherwise, adults may disperse and move toward the western region of northern Somalia.

DJIBOUTI, KENYA, UGANDA, and TANZANIA

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

NEAR EAST

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Small numbers of adults are likely to present on the Tihama where small scale breeding is likely to occur in wadis and other green areas.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Small numbers of adults are likely to present on the northern Tihama where small scale breeding may occur in wadis and other green areas.

YEMEN PDR

Small numbers of adults may be present on the south-western coastal plains where localised breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation.

EGYPT

Small numbers of adults may be present on the extreme south-east where limited breeding may occur in areas of green vegetation.

BAHRAIN, IRAQ, ISRAEL, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, OMAN, QATAR, SYRIA, TURKEY, and UAE

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

PAKISTAN

Small numbers of adults may be present in the Mekran.

INDIA

Small numbers of adults will persist in western Rajasthan.

IRAN

Small numbers of adults may be present on the south-east coastal plain.

AFGHANISTAN

No significant developments are likely and no invasions are expected.

3 January 1990



DESERT LOCUST SUMMARY NO. 136

CRIQUET PELERIN : RESUME

