

ETOP update for July, 2006

SUMMARY

Ground control operations sprayed 244 ha in agricultural fields in central Algeria against small infestations of **desert locusts** and a few isolated adult were reported in north-eastern Morocco. Apart from these, most of the spring breeding areas in northern Africa remained calm in July. The summer breeding areas in the Sahel and southwest Asia also remained fairly calm during the month. A few immature and mature adult locusts were reported in the Air and Tamesna, Niger. Isolated solitary mature adults were reported in southern Mauritania during the third dekad of July. Solitary adults were also seen in agricultural areas in southern Egypt, northern Somalia and in Pakistan near the Indian border. Survey operations were not carried out or did not encounter any locust activities in Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Sudan, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia or Yemen. Small-scale breeding could be seen in August and September in a few places in the summer breeding areas where rains fell but significant activities are not expected during this period. Nevertheless, survey and monitoring are essential.

Red locust infestations were sprayed by DLCO-EA and the MoA in 11,200 ha in Rukwa, Iku-Katavi, Malagarasi and Wembere plains, Tanzania. Grass burning that began last month will likely force adult locusts to further concentrate and form small groups in patches of green vegetation. The International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa submitted a request to the UN/FAO to assist with survey and control operations to curtail potential invasions and minimize overwintering populations in Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.

The last **armyworm** report received from MoA/Ethiopia indicated infestations on more than 165,000 ha and control on some 35,000 ha of crop and pasture in southern and south-eastern parts of the country. With the inter-tropical front and the associated rains northbound, moths may have already begun moving into northern and north-

eastern Ethiopia and southern Eritrea. Survey and monitoring are essential.

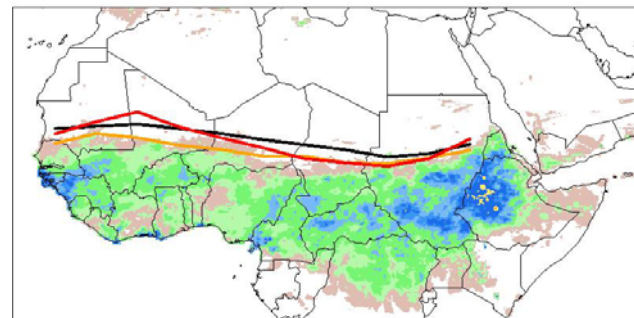
WEATHER

The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ see maps) has been migrating northward progressively and as a result, the rains have begun falling in many places in the summer breeding areas in the Sahel and the Red Sea region where ecological conditions are expected to improve. Monsoon rains in the summer breeding areas in southwest Asia have so far been poor and ecological conditions have not improved much but this could change as more rains begin falling in the coming weeks.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

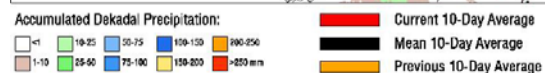
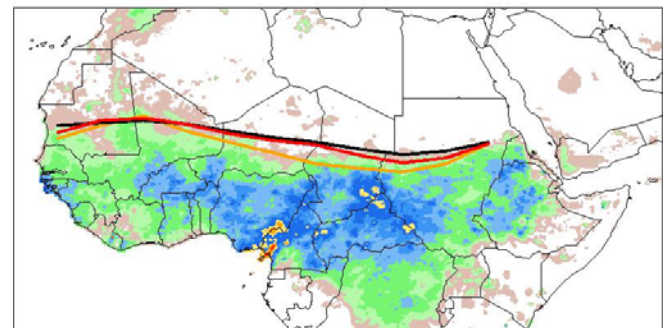
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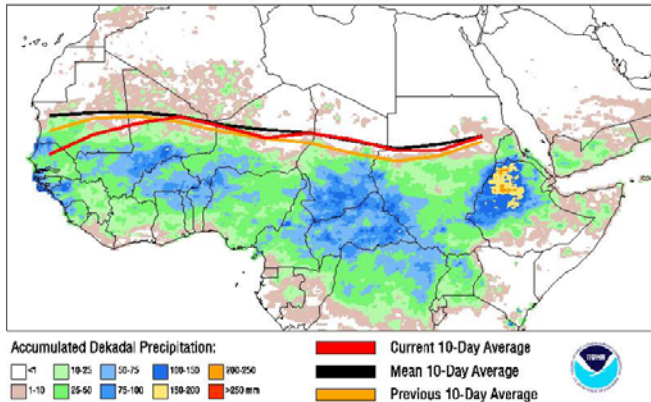
Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

July 2006 Dekad 2



Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ
 As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
 July 2006 Dekad 3



PESTICIDE STOCKS

Large quantities of pesticides, most of which are leftovers from the 2003-05 DL campaign, still exist in Sahelian West Africa and Northern Africa (see table below). A dialogue is in progress between affected-countries and partners to explore ways and means to avoid a potential disposal problem in the near future.

Country	Quantities in liters
Algeria	Data unavailable
Libya	Data unavailable
Mali	230,064*
Mauritania	590,200
Morocco	4,000,000
Niger	187,590
Senegal	527, 783**
Tunisia	Data unavailable

* 355 liters were used against other pests in early June and More than 7,270 empty containers have been decontaminated, crushed and packaged for proper disposal in Mali;

** More than 81,500 liters were used to control pests other than l/g in Senegal over the past months.

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