

ETOP update for June, 2006

SUMMARY

Spring breeding areas in North West Africa, the Middle East and Southwest Asia remained calm in early to late-June. Only a few mature and immature adult locusts were reported in the Air and Tamesna, Niger. Survey operations were not required in Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Sudan where unfavourable ecological conditions persisted in the primary breeding and/or outbreak areas during the reporting period.

A late report indicated that more than 165,000 ha of crop and pasture were infested by armyworm in mid- to late April in southern and south-eastern Ethiopia. Control operations were carried out on some 35,000 ha. Moths have begun moving into northern and north-eastern Ethiopia and southern Eritrea.

The armyworm season in Tanzania has ended and no more activities are expected.

DLCO-EA aircraft spayed against red locust populations in Rukwa and Wembere plains, south-western Tanzania. The grass burning that has commenced in the region will likely force adult locusts to concentrate and form small groups in patches of green vegetation.

WEATHER

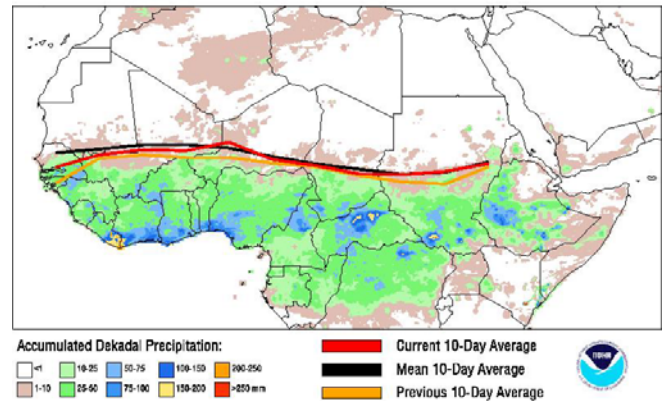
From June 1 – 10 and June 11 - 20, 2006 (see maps), the Africa portion of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) slightly moved north compared to its position of the previous dekade of around 13.6N, but south of its 15.8N position of last year and a 14.88N mean of 1998-2005. In the west, between 10W-10E, the ITCZ was about 0.8 degrees north of its previous location and in the east, between 20E-35E, it moved 0.8

degrees to the north to 13.4N compared with the normal location of 13.5N. This brought some rain in a few places in the western summer breeding areas and precipitation was reported in Niger, Senegal and Mali.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

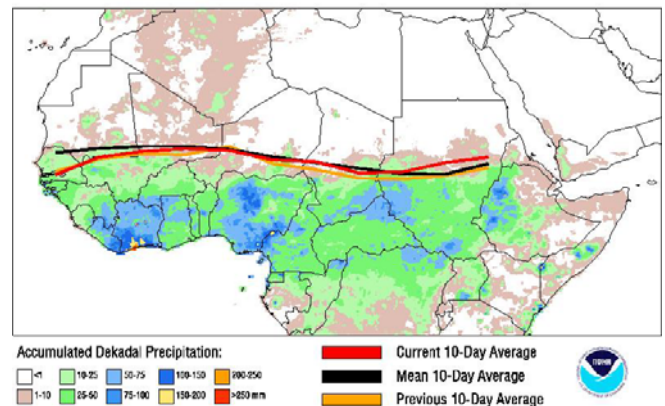
June 2006 Dekad 1



Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ

As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center

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Desert Locust

Spring breeding areas in North West Africa, the Middle East and Southwest Asia remained calm in early to mid-June. Only a few mature and immature adult locusts were reported in areas of recent rainfall in the Air and Tamesna, Niger in mid to late-June. Unfavourable ecological conditions persisted in most of the primary breeding and outbreak areas in Mali,

Mauritania and Sudan in early to late-June and survey operations were not carried out during this period. A few scattered adult locusts were seen in the summer breeding areas in Somalia and only one adult locust was found in the third dekad of June in western Eritrea.

FORECAST

Locust numbers will further decline in spring breeding areas in north-western Africa and only a few adults will likely move south to the summer breeding areas in northern Sahel. These and a few solitary adults that may exist in these areas may result in a limited-scale breeding in areas where conditions are favourable. Small-scale breeding may also start along the Red Sea coasts and in the Indo-Pakistan borders where summer/monsoon rains are expected in the coming months, but nothing serious is expected in the coming months.

African Armyworm

Ethiopia

A late received report indicated that some **99,475 ha** of crops and **66,240 ha** of pastureland were infested by the armyworm during the second half of April in southern southeastern and eastern Ethiopia. Control operations protected some **30,750 ha** of crop fields with **34,000 l/kg** of pesticides and **4,302 ha** of pastureland via cultural practices.

Tanzania:

A late received report indicated armyworm outbreaks on **7,400 ha** of maize; **410 ha** of finger millet and **275 ha** pasture in Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions, Tanzania in April. By May, the outbreak

season in Tanzania had ended. No reports were received from Kenya in May or early June.

Forecast

Moths are expected to continue migrating into northern and northeastern parts of **Ethiopia**, southern parts of **Eritrea** and Eastern **Uganda** and may lead to freshly new outbreaks and infestations. Re-infestations are also likely in some places in **Kenya** and **Ethiopia** where outbreaks were reported earlier. Active surveillance and monitoring are essential.

Red Locust

Control operations continued against red locust (RL) till mid-May in **Rukwa** and **Wembere** plains in southwestern Tanzania. As of March 2006, DLCO-EA aircraft have carried out a total of 51 h and 25 m in spray hours to control the red locust infestations in Tanzania. Other RL outbreak countries remained relatively calm.

Forecast

With the burning of grasses commencing, concentrations of adult locusts could start appearing in patches of green vegetation in a few places. Active survey and timely interventions will be essential.

Tree Locust

An unconfirmed report of tree locust infestations was received in May from **Afar** and **Somalia Regional States** in **Ethiopia**.

PESTICIDE STOCKS

Large quantities of pesticides, most of which are leftovers from the 2003-05 DL campaign, exist in Sahelian West Africa and Northern

Africa (see table below). A dialogue has begun between affected-countries and partners to look into ways to avoid a potential disposal problem in the near future.

Country	Quantities in litters
Algeria	??
Libya	??
Mali	230,064*
Mauritania	590,200
Morocco	4,000,000
Niger	187,590
Senegal	609,205
Tunisia	??

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

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