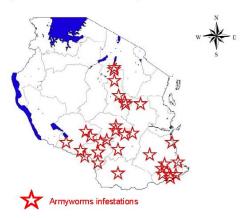
Tanzania Armyworm update for the second week of February, 2006

Armyworm situation:

Armyworm infestations were reported in more than 15 districts in 6 regions - Iringa, Dodoma, Singida, Manyara, Morogoro and Lindi, Tanzania during the second week of February. According to the National Armyworm Forecasting and Control Services (AFCS), more than 63,688 ha of cereal crops and unspecified number of hectares of rangeland have been infested in these regions as of the first week of January 2006 (see AFCS map below).

Elevated moth catches were reported in fifteen districts in the southern and eastern parts of the country during the second week of February with the highest numbers in Kilosa, Ifakara, Bihawana, Iringa, and Karenga. No catches were reported in the northern and northwestern parts of the country, but it is a matter of time for the pests to reach these areas at the on set of the rain.

Armyworm situation as per week 13-19 Feb 06



Forecast:

According to AFSC, all districts in Dodoma, Morogoro and Iringa regions will continue experiencing heavy infestations in the coming week. Masasi, Mtwara, Lindi, Nachingwea, Iramba, Manyoni, Tabora, Igunga, Babati, Handeni, Kilindi, Kiteto and Hanang districts will also continue seeing armyworm invasions.

Actions:

AFCS calls for immediate interventions to save crops and pasture and mitigate further damage. A request for assistance by GOT to the Desert Locust Control Organizations for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA) is expected. DLCO-EA provides monitoring and intervention services to its member countries, including Tanzania.

The Senior Environmental Officer (SEO) from REDSO/ESA is currently in Tanzania assessing the situation and scoping an environmental documentation in the event intervention actions are considered. AELGA will continue closely monitoring the situation and issue updates and advises as necessary.