

**Emergency Transboundary
Outbreak Pest (ETOP) situation
update for August with a forecast
till October, 2008**

Summary

Desert Locust: The Desert Locust situation remained relatively calm in August in most of the outbreak areas. Control operations were carried out against some hoppers in **Libya** and **Algeria** (FAO-DLIS). Scattered hoppers were detected in southern **Mauritania** and a similar situation may exist in northern **Mali** and **Niger** where surveys were impeded by on-going security problem. Isolated hoppers may be present in areas of recent rainfall in **Chad and** the interior of **Sudan**. No locusts were seen during surveys carried out in western **Eritrea** and eastern **Oromiya** of **Ethiopia** but the situation in the **Ogaden** region is still unclear. No locusts were reported in **Egypt, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia** or **Yemen**. Small-scale breeding continued along the **Indo-Pakistan** borders where monsoon rains continued (DLCO-EA, FAO-DLIS, PPDs and DPVs).

Forecast

Adult locusts will persist and breed and numbers will slightly increase in the summer breeding areas from southern **Mauritania** to western **Eritrea**, the **Red Sea** region and along the **Indo-Pakistan** borders, but significant developments are not expected in the coming months (AELGA, FAO-DLIS, DLCO-EA, DPVs, PPDs).



Summer breeding and possible migration (FAO-DLIS)

Other ETOPs

New information was not received on **Italian** locust that begun appearing in northern **Tajikistan** in the past month.

Note: A team of experts that was deployed to assess and assist with the creation of a regional structure for locust control in 10 Central Asian countries continued its field visits. The mission is being sponsored by FAO, OFDA, and others. **End note.**

Red Locust: The International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCO-CSA) helicopter and locust experts deployed to locust affected areas in **Zimbabwe** continued operations. IRLCO-EA urges PPD staff and personnel in **southern Africa** to remain vigilant and report any locust sightings.

Armyworm outbreaks were reported at the time this Sitrep was compiled.

Quelea infestations were controlled by a DLCO-EA aircraft in Nyanza province **Kenya** in rice fields. Infestations were also reported in the Rift Valley province in Kenya where ground and aerial control operations continued. **Tanzania** remained free from Quelea outbreaks

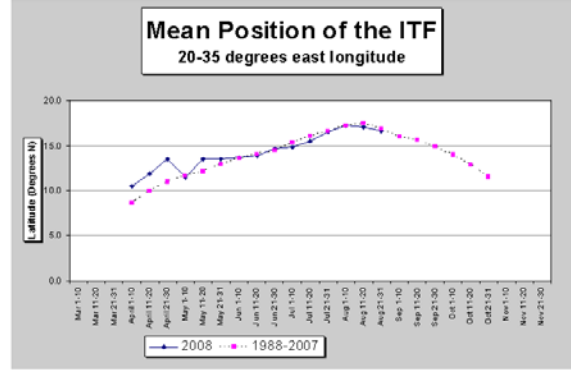
during this period (DLCO-EA, IRLOC-CSA). **End summary.**

This and other archived Sitreps can be accessed on our website:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/locust/

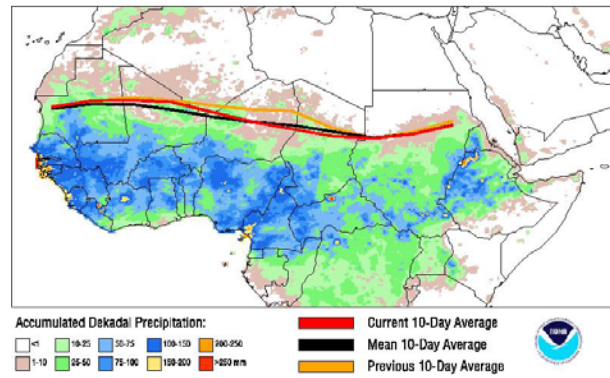
Climatological factors:

In August, the Africa portion of the ITF moved slightly north from the previous month, more so in the second and third dekads. In the second dekad, it was located around 19.1N latitude with the highest reaching 21.1N in the west and at 20.1N in the east and slightly lower in the third dekad (NOAA). This brought rains in many parts of West Africa and the summer breeding areas in the East. Flooding occurred in Niger, Benin, Togo and elsewhere in the region and ecological conditions remained favorable, but it did not coincide with the critical mass of locusts (*the 2004-05 campaign and the harsh weather that followed effectively broke the breeding cycle of the locust*).

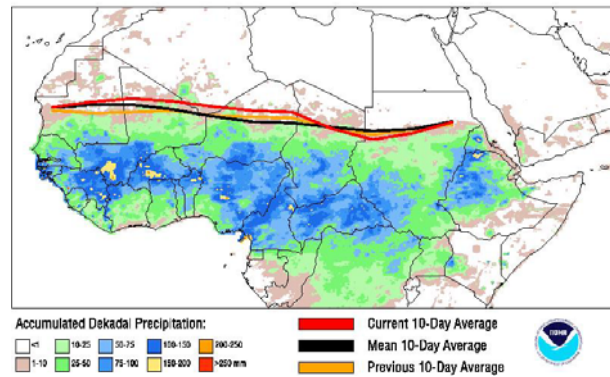


b)

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
August 2008 Dekad 3



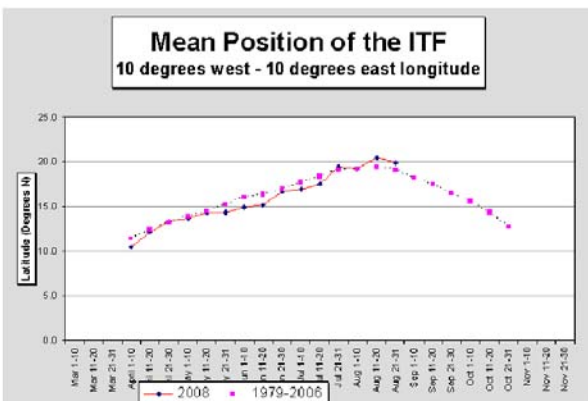
Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
August 2008 Dekad 2



ETOP Situation and Activities:

Western Region

The Desert Locust situation remained calm in most of the outbreak areas in the western region in August. Only



a)

scattered hoppers were controlled in 4,000 ha in central **Libya** and a mere 15 ha in central **Algeria** during this period. Small-scale breeding occurred in southern **Mauritania** and similar activities may be present in northern **Niger** and northern **Mali** that are inaccessible to DPV staff due to on-going security problems (DPVs, FAO-DLIS).

Central Region

Surveys were carried out in the summer breeding areas in the interior of **Sudan**, western **Eritrea**, and eastern **Ethiopia** and solitary mature adults were detected in **Sudan**, but no locusts were reported in **Eritrea** or **Ethiopia**. The situation in the **Ogaden** region remains unclear as surveys were not possible due to the on-going security problem. No locusts were reported in **Egypt, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Yemen**, or elsewhere in the region.

Eastern Region

Small-scale breeding is in progress along both sides of the **Indo-Pakistan** border in areas where monsoon rains fell (FAO-DLIS). No locust was reported in other countries in the eastern region and significant activities are not expected during the forecast period.

Forecast

Adult locusts will likely persist in the summer breeding areas in northern Sahel and small-scale breeding will occur here and along the **Indo-Pakistan** border. As a result, locust numbers will slightly increase during the forecast period. Frontline countries adjacent to

outbreak areas where surveys and monitoring are being undermined by the security situation should be extra cautious as they may be most vulnerable to invasions by *allochthonous* populations. Regular surveys should be maintained in summer breeding areas where ecological conditions are favorable (FAO-DLIS, AELGA, DLCO-EA, PPDs, DPVs).

Central Asia

Moroccan locust infestations ended in southern **Tajikistan** and adjacent areas of northern **Afghanistan**. No new information was received on the **Italian** locust that appeared in northern **Tajikistan** earlier.

Note: Three major locust species, i.e. **Italian, Migratory, and Moroccan** locusts invade CA and the caucuses and affect more than 27 million people. During the Soviet era, locust operations in Central Asia (CA) and the caucuses were carried out through a centralized structure. As the countries in the region became independent, the structure fell apart and locust operations were left to individual countries. Most of these countries lack functional units or viable technical capability to counter locust invasions. As a result, the locusts can move across political boundaries and cause damage to crops and pasture.

FAO has been trying to create a regional platform that will bring together countries and resources and help coordinate cross-border survey and control operations. With assistance from OFDA and others, FAO has been

able to deploy a team of experts to assess and assist 10 CA countries and neighbors, including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan as well as Afghanistan and adjacent areas in Russian Federation and strengthen capacity for a regional coordination of survey and control. **End note.**

Red Locust: The IRLCO-CSA survey helicopter and locust experts that were deployed on July 21st to **Zimbabwe** continued operations. IRLCO-CSA urges PPD staff and personnel in **southern Africa** to remain vigilant and report any locust sightings.

Forecast: Grass burning continued in August and forced locusts to concentrate in patches of unburned areas. Some of the swarms could migrate to other locations where grass burning will not take place. IRLCO-CSA is pursuing survey and control operations in **Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania** in collaboration with the MoAs. UN/FAO responded positively to an appeal issued by the IRLCO for assistance with locust control (IRLCO-CSA).

No new information was received on the **African migratory locust and tree locusts** in August.

The Timors and South Pacific

No new information was received on locusts from the **Timors** at the time this update was compiled, but it is likely that hoppers of **Migratory locust** are present and threaten pasture, maize and/or rice crops. Cross-border infestations often

impact both **East and West Timor**. It is important that active surveillance and preventive interventions are implemented to the extent possible.

In **Australia**, locust operations are expected to increase in 2008 as a result of unusually good rains that fell in the outbreak areas ending a prolonged drought.

Armyworm outbreaks that affected more than 911,000 ha of crops and pasture earlier in **Ethiopia** have ended. Armyworm activities have not been reported in August in **Tigray, Eritrea** or **Yemen** - the last stops of the pest in outbreak years. This suggests that the armyworm season has ended in these countries.

Quelea birds were seen attacking rice crops in Nyanza province **Kenya** and control operations were carried out by a DLCO-EA aircraft. Infestations were also reported in the Rift Valley province in Nakuru, Laikipia, Nyahururu and Meru districts in **Kenya**. Ground and aerial control operations continued in these areas. Quelea activities were not reported in **Tanzania** in August (DLCO-EA, IRLOC-CSA).

Forecast: Quelea infestations are likely to continue being a problem to small grain cereal growers in Nyanza Province of **Kenya** and in winter wheat growing areas of **Zimbabwe**.

Recommendations:

Front-line countries, particularly, those adjacent to areas not accessible for survey must remain vigilant. Countries

in invasion zones should implement preventive control interventions. PPDs and DPVS should collect ETOP information and share it with all stakeholders regularly.

AELGA (Assistance for Emergency Locust and Grasshopper Abatement) will continue monitoring the situation and issue updates and advise.

Pesticide Stocks

Pesticide inventories did not change much as most of the countries did not require significant spraying during this period.

Country	Quantities in l/kg
Algeria	1,800,000**
Burkina Faso	0.00
Cape Verde	0.00
Chad	108,085
Eritrea	44,800
Ethiopia	12,300~
Gambia, Libya*	??
Mali	230,000
Mauritania	497,600+
Morocco	4,107,300
Niger	69,000
Saudi Arabia*	??
Senegal	519,000
Sudan	735,676
Tunisia*	167,600*
Yemen*	??

Current data not available at the time this report was compiled
 + Mauritania donated 70,000 litres to Yemen in July 2007
 ** Inventory expected to be updated
 ~ this represents only DLCO's stocks

Note: Many countries continue benefiting from obsolete pesticide management activities co-sponsored by USAID/OFDA's Cooperative Agreement with the UN FAO through capacity building and other means.
End note.

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or visit us at:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/locust/