

## Niger desert locust update for the first dekad of September, 2005

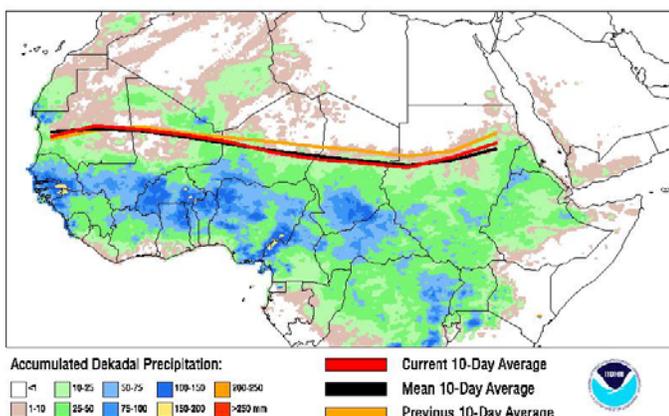
### Summary

Although low density adults and hoppers were detected in several places in Tamesna and Air, the situation remained relatively calm in most of the summer breeding/outbreak areas during the first dekad of September. Control was not required due to low density targets. Active survey and monitoring are in progress.

### Meteorological and Ecological conditions

The ITCZ over the Sahel has begun retreating and rains gradually fading signaling the beginning of the end of summer season. Very few storms were witnessed in the Air and Tamesna and only low to moderate precipitation was recorded in the pastoral zone. However, ecological conditions remained favorable in the locust breeding areas in Tamesna where patches of green vegetation persisted from earlier rains. Conditions were also favorable in central western Air, mostly, in the locust breeding and outbreak areas. Annual plants in the Sahel pastoral region are beginning to dry up.

**Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ**  
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center  
September 2005 Dekad 1



### Locust situation

The locust situation remained relatively calm. However, low density populations composed of mature individuals and hoppers were detected

in several places in Tamesna and north Air. Locusts populations, 5,000 individuals/ha, were observed on 30 ha and 300-500 ha in Agaliouk and Tezerzait, northern and western Air, respectively. Late instar hoppers were detected in Tamesna and Air indicating that small-scale breeding had occurred in these places. Control was not required due to a low density target (less than one locust per meter square) and the total areas sprayed since the beginning of the summer operations remained unchanged, i.e. 1,471 ha.

### Actions Taken

Ground and aerial surveys are in progress in north Air and northern Sahel pastoral regions of Diffa, Zinder, Maradi, Tahoua and Tillaberi. Survey will commence in the southeast Air on 13 and 14 September. Training of quality control teams began on September 12 in Agadez.

### Forecast

Small-scale hatching could take place in the coming weeks in Agaliouk and Tazerzait in areas where mature adult locusts are present.

### Pesticide stocks

More than 200,538 liters of ULV pesticides are available at the DPV for locust control.

### Note on neighboring countries

Very few isolated mature adults were reported in a few places in Tagant, Hodh El Charghi, and Adrar, **Mauritania**. Some solitary first and second instar hoppers were also observed in a few places in south-central and southeastern Mauritania.

No reports were received from **Mali** or **Burkina Faso** and no locusts were detected during surveys carried out in **Senegal**.

### **News Update**

AELGA's webpage, [www.aelga.net](http://www.aelga.net) is now available to the public. Visit us and learn more

about our activities and programs and access our regular reports on DL-ETOP, related issues and many more. For further information, please, contact Yene T. Belayneh, at [ybelayneh@ofda.net](mailto:ybelayneh@ofda.net)

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