

Sudan desert locust update 1-10 July, 2005

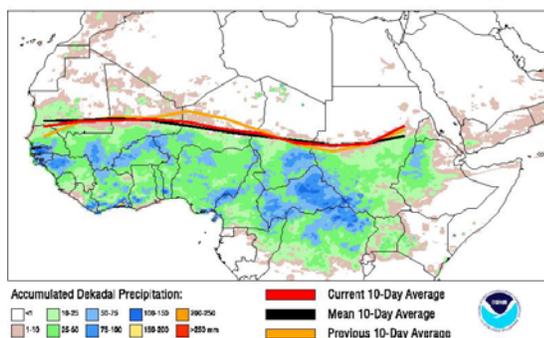
Summary:

Control operations were carried out against 1st and 2nd instar dl hoppers in Western Darfur during the first dekad of July. An unconfirmed report received on July 7th indicated that a dl swarm was seen flying southeast from El Fasher, Northern Darfur. Mature gregarious locusts and egg laying (unconfirmed) were also reported from the southern part of Northern Darfur. According to Sudan Plant Protection Department (PPD), the dl situation in most parts of Northern Kordofan, White Nile, Red and Sea coasts, where survey operations have been in progress, is considered under control.

Meteorological conditions

The Africa section of the ITCZ over Sudan and the Horn remained close to the median position for the month (see below). Several places in West and North Darfur, Northern Kordofan, Gedaref, Khartoum and Kassala received moderate to heavy rain during the 1st dekad of July. Consequently, ecological conditions are expected to improve in these areas over the coming weeks.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
June 2005 Dekad 3



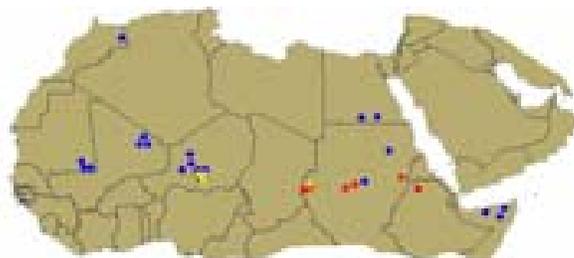
Locust situation

The desert locust situation in Western and Northern Darfur continued to develop in June and July. The southern circuit locusts that reached Western Darfur in late May and early

June and stayed over have produced first generation hoppers. Swarms that arrived early on were seen moving into Southern and Northern Darfur, Western Kordofan, and further east into Gedaref and as far as northwestern Ethiopia.

According to the Sudan PPD, while the overall dl situation in the country is considered under control, some locust activities continued in Western Darfur. 1st and 2nd instar dl hoppers were seen on more than 2000 ha near Al Geniena city and controlled on 590 ha in early July. Egg fields were detected in three locations, but reports were not received from other areas in the region.

An unconfirmed report received on July 7th indicated that a dl swarm was seen flying southeast of Al Fasher, Northern Darfur. Mature gregarious locusts were also detected over 662 ha in Karaso (13 42 27 N/25 27 01E) and Nomo (13 32 00N/ 24 17 00 E), Northern Darfur. Egg laying was reported over some 2,335 ha in the southern part of Northern Darfur.



Legend :

- hoppers/bands
- swarms
- scattered adults

(source: modified from FAO/ECLO)

Actions taken

Control operations were launched against early stage hoppers in Western Darfur. Survey operations were carried out in several locations in White Nile, North Kordofan, Kassala and the Red Sea states and areas surveyed were found free of locusts. Regular survey and monitoring are in progress in Western and Northern Darfur. PPD/Sudan expects the arrival of a DLCO-EA

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(Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa) aircraft anytime soon. This will further strengthen PPD's capacity for survey and control.

Forecast

Small scale breeding is expected to continue in Western and Northern Darfur states.

Limited hatching is expected in West and North Kordofan as well as Kassala areas in the coming weeks. Other areas will likely remain relatively calm during this period.

AELGA will continue monitoring the situation and issue updates and advices as often as necessary.

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