

## Mali ETOP update for the second dekad of November 2006

### Meteorological and ecological conditions

Dry season has progressively set in all over the country. Stormy rains have virtually ceased. Daily temperatures oscillated between 31° and 45°C and winds were unstable with 1-10 m/s in the second week of November. 90% of the annual vegetation have dried out in most of the country and so is the soil, but perennial vegetation with the exception of Combretum and Guiera Senegalensis, were green during this period.

### Locust situation

According to the national locust control unit (UNLCP) no locusts were detected along the Mali-Mauritania borders and the situation remained relatively calm in most of the surveyed areas during this period. Only isolated scattered immature adults ranging from 1 to 2 individuals/site to 50 individuals/hectare were observed on 755 ha in Faguibine, Aleihenza, Tayert-Sbeth, Gouir-Ed-Diab, El-Blod, Tigazal and Agmeguim, between 16°48' 47"N/3°45'58"W and 18°44'39"N/1°40'37"W in the Lack zone in Tombouctou region by the team that surveyed more than 82,760 ha.

### Action

According to UNLCP, survey and control teams have been dispatched since 13 October, but only the Sahelian part and the Lack Zone are being monitored. The gregarization areas where ecological conditions have continued deteriorating and locusts have not been detected are not covered at the moment.

Despite the presence of some locusts in various areas, the situation did not warrant control interventions during this time.

### Forecast

As ecological conditions continue deteriorating over most of the country, significant developments are not likely. Only isolated immature individuals will persist in the coming weeks.

### Pesticide situation

UNLCP reported that the total quantity of the leftover pesticide stock stands at 223,524 l. This is 2,289 l less than what was reported earlier. The reduction is due to control operations carried out against other pests, including grasshoppers.