



***** MONTHLY BULLETIN *****

The Monthly Bulletin is compiled from information retrieved from monthly Migrant Pest Reports received from SADC member countries, IRLCO-CSA, and the Armyworm Forecasting Service.

MIGRANT PEST REPORTS AND MAP FOR APRIL 2005

Migrant pest reports for April 2005 were received from:
Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and IRLCO-CSA.
No reports were received from: *Congo, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland or Zambia.*

SUMMARY (Fig.1)

No outbreaks of the African armyworm were reported from the SADC member countries.

Locusts. Malawi reported concentrations of red locusts in the south eastern regions. IRLCO-CSA controlled red locust swarms in Tanzania and issued an alert to neighbouring countries. No further reports of locusts were received from the Region.

4 Quelea roosts and 10 colonies were controlled in South Africa. IRLCO-CSA reported that birds were causing problems in Tanzania and Kenya. The remainder of the region remained calm.

ARMYWORM

The region remained FREE of armyworm infestations.

LOCUSTS

Malawi (T Maulana). Three transient, immature, basking red locust adult swarms were reported from Nayuchi during the second week of April. No controls were undertaken.

Tanzania (R Magoma & IRLCO-CSA). Four red locust swarms, ranging in size from 5-10ha, were sighted in the first week of April near Mwamukul Village, on the western edge of the Katavi Plains. During the second week, a dense red locust swarm was reported at Ikaka Village, and a flying swarm was located 36km W of Mpanda town near Ikola Village. The displacement of the swarms was in a westerly direction and it is believed that the swarms escaped from the Iku-Katavi outbreak area. An ALERT was sent to the DRC, Zambia, Burundi, Rwanda, and Angola, as well as to the ICOSAMP desk. Various control operations were undertaken by IRLCO-CSA against low density settled swarms in this outbreak area, using 96% ULV Fenitrothion.

The remainder of the SADC Region remained calm.



RED-BILLED QUELEA

South Africa (L Geertsema). Twenty-one (21) roosts and 19 colonies were controlled in the North West, Gauteng, Free State and Limpopo Provinces, with 3 colony sites and 4 roosts identified as traditional Quelea sites. All of the sites were located in savannah habitat. Damage to sorghum crops was estimated at about 5-70%, while limited damage was recorded in manna crops. The size of the colonies ranged from 0.2 to 29 ha, and the roosts from 0.5 to 32ha. The total area treated was 171.4ha with an estimated number of 20,5m birds present. The largest concentrations of birds (3m each) were at Heilbron and Lichtenburg. Control in environmentally safe areas was undertaken using Falcolan® (active ingredient cyanophos 520g/l) and Queletox. Explosives were used in environmentally sensitive areas. Non-target species mortalities were recorded as 1 x Grass Owl, 1 x Guinea Fowl, 3 x Doves, and 7 x Masked Weavers.

Tanzania (R Magoma). Although Quelea were reported at 4 roosts and 10 colonies, four sites were abandoned. Quelea were controlled in the Mwanza, Tabora, Arusha, Dodoma, and Coastal districts. The size of the colonies ranged from 12 to 85 ha, while the roost sites were 10 to 35 ha in size. Estimated total number of birds was 26m. The total area treated was 393ha with a percentage kill of 70-90%, using Queletox.

No further reports of Quelea birds in the SADC region were received.

GENERAL NOTICES

1. The reporting rate for April is 64%. Country collaborators are reminded that reports should reach the coordinator by the **end of the 1st week of the following month** so that they can be included in the Bulletin. Reports should be sent even if there were **NO** migrant pest outbreaks, or **NO** surveys were conducted.

Information and Reports should be faxed or emailed to:

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ON THE WEB

This month's highlighted websites are:

Early Warning

www-web.gre.ac.uk/directory/NRI/pcs/MetCCD0.htm - Armyworm forecasting

www.fews.net/south - Famine Early Warning System Network for southern Africa

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2005	
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Swaziland: Mr B Makhuba	
Tanzania: Mr R Magoma	
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This bulletin has been sent to you by the ICOSAMP co-ordinator in South Africa, **Margaret Kieser**. If you think that your colleagues would be interested in receiving this news, please feel free to forward this Bulletin to them. Subscription to the ICOSAMP email list is FREE.

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Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: April 2005

