ICOSAMP News
Information Core for Southern African Migrant Pests

No 11 (Aug. 2002)

********** **MONTHLY BULLETIN** **********
The Monthly Bulletin is compiled from information retrieved from Monthly migrant pest reports received from SADC member countries and IRLCO-CSA.
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MIGRANT PEST REPORTS AND MAPS FOR AUGUST 2002

Migrant pest reports for August 2002 were received from: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa (locusts + Quelea), Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe (quelea) and IRLCO-CSA.
At the time of compilation of this report, no migrant pest reports were received from: Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe (locusts and armyworm).

Collaborators are kindly requested to read the "General Notices" section for any recent information relating to ICOSAMP.

SUMMARY
No reports of armyworm outbreaks were received from the region.

Red locust concentrations and swarms were controlled in the Iku-Katavi, Malagarasi and Wembere outbreak areas in Tanzania. The locust situation in the remainder of the SADC region remained calm.

Control operations were undertaken against Quelea roosts in South Africa and Zimbabwe. Quelea birds were reported causing damage to small grain cereal crops in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions of Tanzania. Although no Quelea bird activity or crop damage was reported in Malawi, birds were being sold as 'snacks' in Blantyre. No further reports of Quelea activity were received from the region.

Armyworm (Figure 1)
No reports of armyworm were received from the region.

Locusts (Figure 1)
Tanzania: (IRLCO-CSA report) Several Red Locust concentrations and swarms of different sizes and densities were located and controlled in the Iku-Katavi, Malagarasi and Wembere outbreak areas in Tanzania. The surveys and control operations were carried out by IRLCO-CSA in collaboration with Plant Health Services of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Tanzania and Desert Locust Control Organisation for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA). The Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) provided financial assistance and a consultant on locusts.

In the Iku plains of the Iku-Katavi outbreak area, several swarms and concentrations covering an

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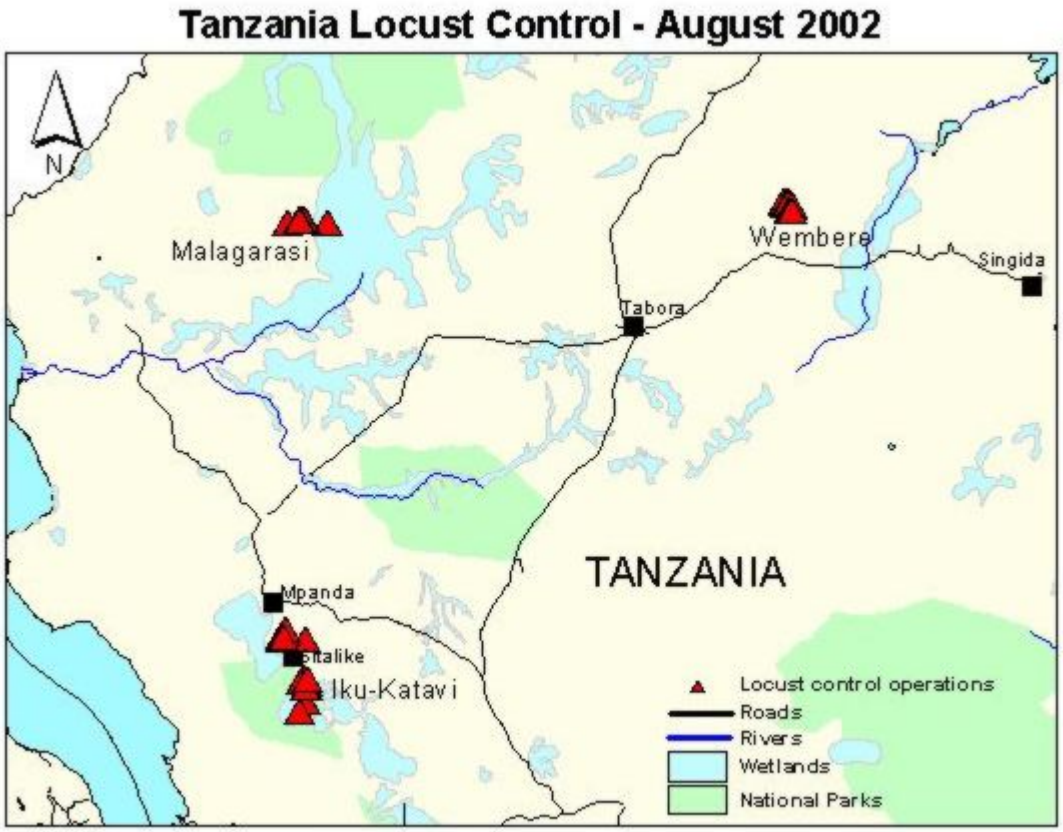
area in excess of 3,000ha were located and controlled using a total of 1,580 litres of Fenitrothion 96%. Over 90% of the Katavi plains had been burnt. Isolated to scattered locusts were flushed in the unburnt grass islands.

In the Wembere outbreak area where approximately 30% of the grass had been burnt, 25 locust swarms/concentrations covering a total area in excess of 2,000ha were controlled using 1,120 litres of Fenitrothion 96%.

In the Malagarasi Basin where less than 30% of the plains had been burnt, four swarms and one concentration covering a total of approximately 700 ha were controlled using 350 litres of Fenitrothion 96%.



No reports of other locust species were received from the region.

Red-Billed Quelea (Figure 1)

Malawi: Although no Quelea activity was noted, Quelea birds were however available on the banks of the Shire River as evidenced by bird 'snack' sales in Blantyre. No crop damage was reported.

South Africa: 8 Control operations (4 at traditional roosting sites) were undertaken against Quelea roosts in the Limpopo, North West, and Northern Cape Provinces, where the damage to

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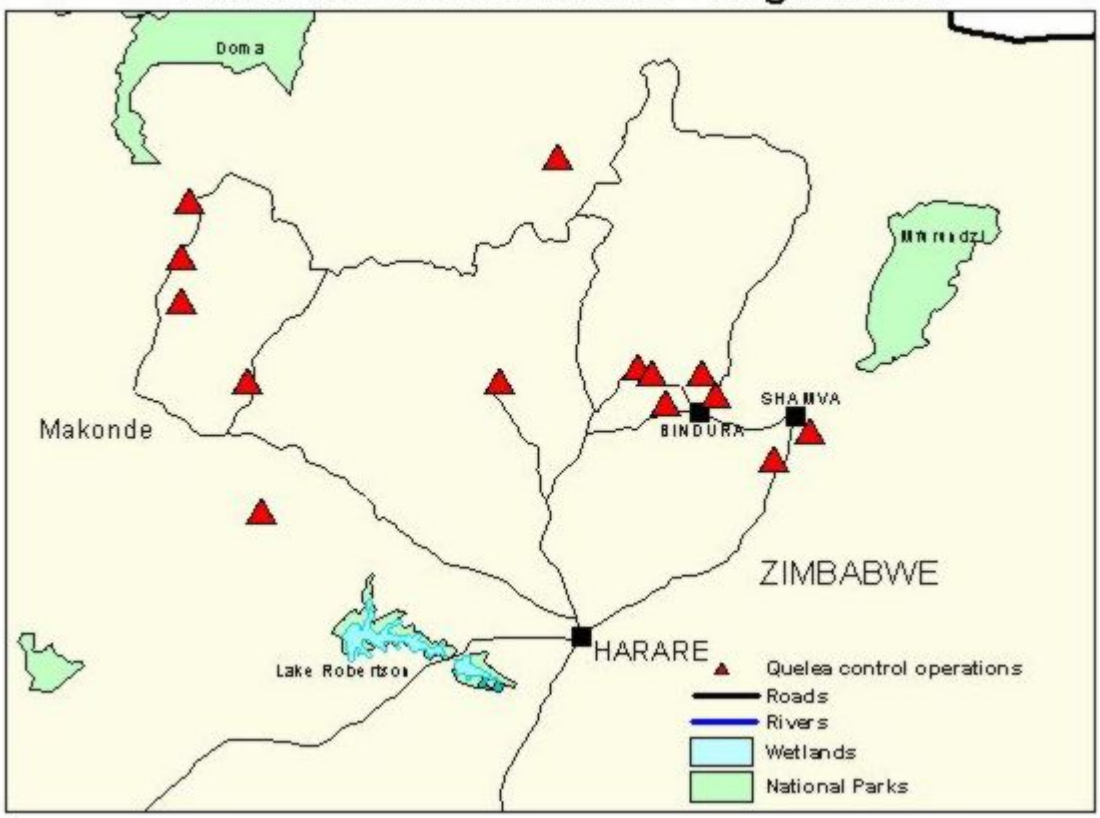
wheat crops was estimated at between 0 - 25%. Roost size varied from 0.4 - 8ha (total area invaded - 17,4ha) with an estimated total number of 2,78m birds. Two roosts were controlled with Queletox at an application rate of 7 litres/ha, whereas explosives were used at those sites identified as environmentally sensitive areas. Percentage kill was estimated between 56-100%. Wind direction measured at all the sites ranged from N to NW.

Tanzania: (IRLCO-CSA report) Quelea birds were reported causing damage to small grain cereal crops in Arusha and Kilimanjaro Regions of Tanzania. Control by Plant Health Services in collaboration with DLCO-EA was in progress at the time this report was compiled. No further details were provided.

Zimbabwe: 14 Control operations were undertaken against Quelea roosts in the districts of Doma, Shamva, Makonde, Bindura, Centenary, Chinoyi, Concession, and Mhangura, where wheat and barley crops were at risk. Roost size varied from 1.54 - 21ha (approximate total area invaded - 100ha) with an estimated total number of 6,7m birds. Queletox was applied at all the control sites and the estimated percentage kill achieved ranged from 50 - 100%.

Zimbabwe Quelea Control - August 2002



No further outbreaks of Quelea birds in the region were reported.

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GENERAL NOTICES

1. We welcome Mr Wellington Chatepa (an IRLCO-CSA employee) based in Limbe, Malawi, to the ICOSAMP collaborator network. He replaces Mr Godfrey Ching'oma who has departed for the USA to further his studies.
2. Collaborators are kindly reminded to make sure that the ICOSAMP migrant pest monthly reporting forms are sent to the Co-Ordinator by the **5th day of the following month**, so that the information can be included in the Monthly Bulletins. Reports should be sent even if **NO** migrant pests were found, or **NO** surveys were conducted.

Information and Reports can be faxed or emailed to:
M Kieser
Fax: +27 12 329 3278 Email: rietmek@plant2.agric.za

ON THE WEB

www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/intro.htm - SADC-FANR homepage
www.arc.agric.za - Agricultural Research Council, South Africa
www.weathersa.co.za - South African Weather Bureau Service

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Information is gratefully acknowledged from collaborators in SADC member countries, as well as the International Red Locust Control Organisation for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCO-CSA) in Zambia.

This bulletin has been sent to you by the ICOSAMP co-ordinator in South Africa, **Margaret Kieser**.

If you feel that your colleagues would be interested in receiving this news, please feel free to forward this Bulletin to them. If you are not already subscribed to the ICOSAMP email list and are receiving this email directly from the Co-ordinator, please consider subscribing. There is no cost involved and you will not be flooded with spam emails.

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Enquiries in connection with the Bulletin can be directed to:
Margaret Kieser
ARC-Plant Protection Research Institute
P/Bag X134
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Fax: +27 12 329 3278
Email: rietmek@plant2.agric.za

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ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2002

SADC

Angola:	Mr S Mateus
Botswana:	Mr T Moruti
Lesotho:	Mr E Tjelele
Malawi:	Mr W Chatepa
Mozambique:	Mr J Varimelo/Mr A Comes
Namibia:	Ms P Shiyelekeni
South Africa:	Mr K Viljoen (locusts) Mr L Geertsema (quelea)
Swaziland:	Mr M Mbuli
Tanzania:	Mr R Magoma
Zambia:	Mrs M Taguma
Zimbabwe:	Dr G Chikwenhere (locusts/armyworm) Ms T Couto (quelea)

Additional Collaborators

SADC-FANR:	Ms M Machiri
IRLCO-CSA:	Mr J Katheru
NRI (UK):	Prof B Cheke

Co-ordinator

Ms Margaret Kieser, South Africa

GIS development

Mrs J Pender, UK

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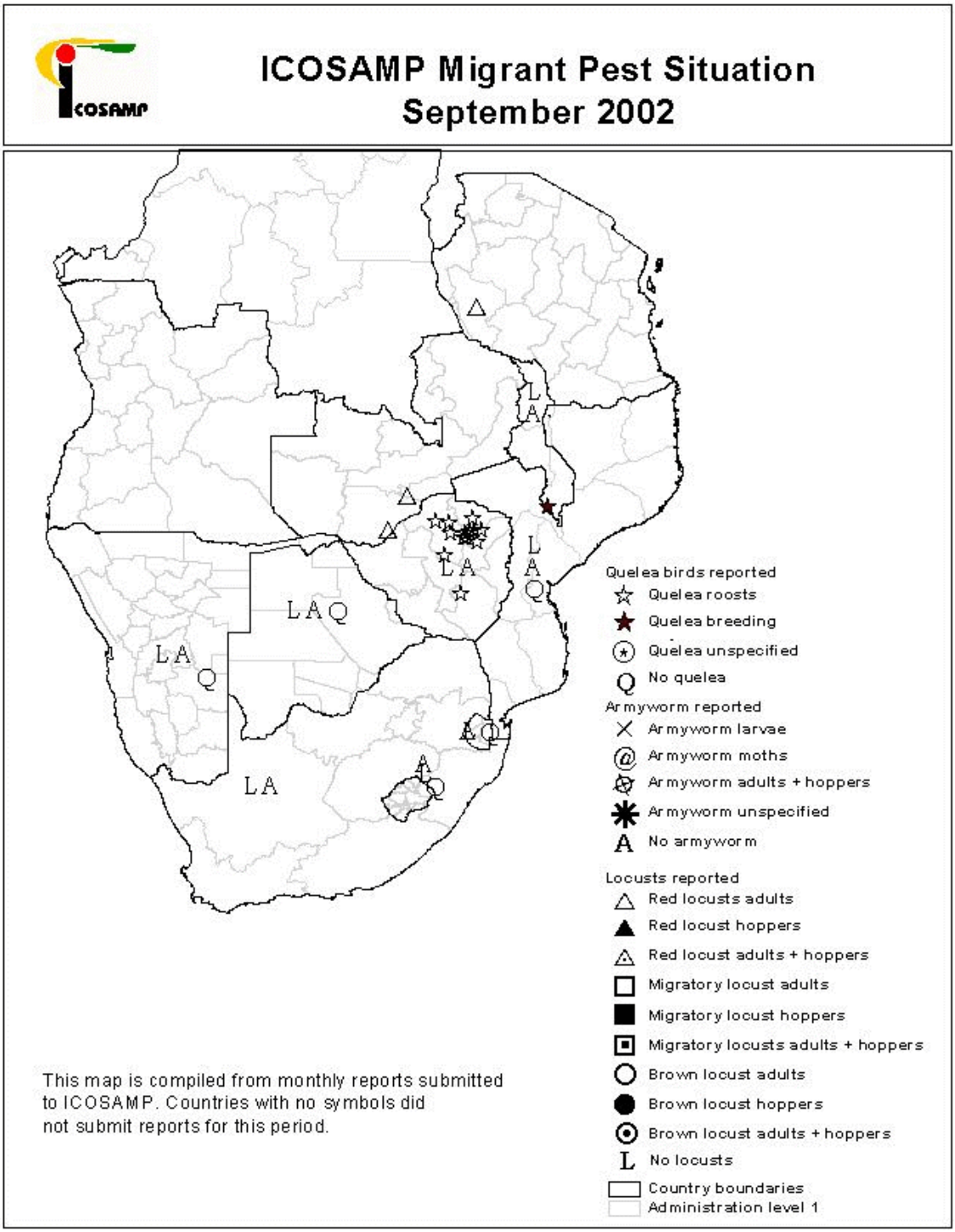
Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: September 2002



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