



Information Core for Southern African Migrant Pests

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

The Monthly Bulletin is compiled from information retrieved from Monthly migrant pest reports received from SADC member countries and IRLCO-CSA.

MIGRANT PEST REPORTS AND MAP FOR DECEMBER 2001

Migrant pest reports for December 2001 were received from the following countries: *Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique (data not included on map), Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and IRLCO-CSA.*

No December monthly reports were received from Zimbabwe.

SUMMARY

Armyworm larvae were controlled in southern SE Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, and eastern Tanzania. Reports were also received of armyworm larvae in northern Zimbabwe (IRLCO-CSA).

Adult African Migratory locusts (?) were controlled in SE Angola. An unconfirmed report of red locusts was received from the Malema district in Mozambique (IRLCO- CSA).

Roosting and breeding colonies of *Quelea* were controlled in 3 Provinces of South Africa. Roosting colonies were observed in the North Central division of Namibia and were expected to migrate north to Angola.

Armyworm

Angola: 4.5 ha of larvae were controlled in the northern part of the Cuando- Cubango province. Larvae stage unknown.

Malawi: A total area of 1000ha (maize and grass) was treated for larvae (stages 3-6) in the Machinga, Mangochi, Blantyre and Chikwana districts. Heavy rainfall assisted in the control of larvae on remaining hectareage. Moths were not present but pupae were found, and migration to the neighbouring countries of Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia may be expected. Control was undertaken by the affected farmer and agricultural extension staff using Fenitrothion 50% E. C. (IRLCO-CSA)

Mozambique: An infestation (91.386 ha) of armyworm larvae (stages 1-6) occurred in maize, sorghum, rice and the pasture fields in the Nhamatanda, Buzi and Dondo districts of Sofala Province. (Distribution not plotted on current map due to late receipt of information).

Tanzania: Control campaigns were undertaken in the Morogoro district against 1-4 larvae instars. A total of 7045 ha were treated.

Zimbabwe: Armyworm outbreaks (larve instars 2-4) were reported and controlled in the Zambezi escarpment near Mushumbi Pools and Mazarambari. Caterpillars were feeding on pasture and maize. (IRLCO-CSA).

No further reports of armyworm outbreak were received from member countries.

Locusts

Angola: Adult AML flying swarms were controlled (8 ha) in the Cuando-Cubango province. Crops threatened were maize and sorghum.

Mozambique: Although red locusts were reported by farmers in the Malema district of Mozambique, no surveys were undertaken to assess the situation (pers.com. with Mr Madogolele).

No reports of other locust species were received from member countries.

Red-Billed Quelea

Namibia: Roosting colonies were observed in grass pastures in the North Central Division (Ogongo Agricultural College). No control measures were undertaken and colonies are expected to migrate north to Angola.

South Africa: Quelea roosts and breeding colonies were controlled (chemical and explosion) in the Northern, North-West, and Free State Provinces of South Africa. Wheat crops were at risk.

IRLCO-CSA: Quelea breeding is expected to take place in southern Mozambique, southern Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The birds are likely to cause damage to cereals that will be at milky stage during the later part of January. Quelea and other grain eating birds are likely to continue being a problem to farmers growing irrigated rice in Ahero and Mwea irrigation schemes in Kenya.

No reports of Quelea were received from the remaining countries reporting.

GENERAL NOTICES

Thank you to everyone who extended their condolences on the death of my husband. I appreciate your concern and best wishes. I also herewith apologise for the lateness of the December report due to these unforeseen circumstances. Margaret.

If you are able to collect samples of armyworm larvae in alcohol, please contact Dr Charles Dewhurst at cfdehurst@yahoo.com. These will be used for a project by Dr Kamal Ibrahim to study DNA and armyworm populations. Dr Chikwenhere (Malawi) has already started collecting!

Judith and I would appreciate any comments on the attached map. Do you find it easy to interpret and will it be useful to your Ministry?

Our next Workshop is due in May and I have tentatively booked the 3rd week of May for this event. Please keep your calendar free for this period!

Collaborators are kindly reminded to make sure that 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.

Reports can be faxed or emailed to:

M Kieser

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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

www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/african_desk - Climate Prediction Centre - Africa Desk. A website providing short term climate and monitoring predictions for Africa.

www.npmoc.navy.mil - Joint Typhoon Warning Centre. click on "Satellite Imagery". Scroll down to the box with the "Meteosat 7 Imagery" and click on "M7 Western Indian Ocean" for the most recent satellite image of Africa.

www.web-agri.com - Web-Agri. A useful search engine for agricultural information.

www.fao.org/news/global/locusts/locuhome.htm - FAO locust home page

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**. Email: rietmek@plant2.agric.za

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Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: December 2001



Monthly Migrant Pest Distribution Map December 2001

