



\*\*\*\*\* 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.

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**MIGRANT PEST REPORTS AND MAP FOR FEBRUARY 2004**

Migrant pest reports for February 2004 were received from: *Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe(a+l) and the Armyworm Forecasting & Control Services (Tanzania).* No reports were received from: *Angola, Botswana, Congo, Zimbabwe (quelea) or IRLCO-CSA.*

**NB. SADC Collaborators are kindly requested to read the “General Notices” section.**

**SUMMARY (Fig.1)**

Outbreaks of the African armyworm were reported from 6 countries in SADC viz. Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. The widespread infestation of the African armyworm in Tanzania is the heaviest recorded in the past 10 years (W Mushobozi), and not only caused extensive damage to crops, but became a social problem. Young school children were unable to attend classes as a result of the armyworm marching through roads and classrooms!

No reports of locust outbreaks were received and the SADC region remained calm.

Quelea activity was reported in South Africa and Swaziland, while Malawi remained free of Quelea. Unfortunately no reports were received from other collaborators and the actual Quelea situation can therefore not be accurately presented in this Bulletin.

**ARMYWORM**

Malawi (T Maulana). Three reports of armyworm outbreaks (instars II, III and IV) were reported in the first week of February from southern Malawi, and infestations were controlled with Dursban (10ml/l) applied with knapsack sprayers. Some 467ha of maize crops in Makhanga, Mbewe and Livunzu were infested, with damage estimated at 25%. 81ha of sorghum and 27ha of millet were also damaged (25%). The total area treated for armyworm in Malawi was 431ha.

Mozambique (IRLCO-CSA). Outbreaks were reported in the first week of February from the Manica, Guro and Gondola Districts of the Manica Province. A total of 150ha of maize and sorghum were infested, and 130ha were controlled with Cyfluthrin (Baythroid 2.2 ULV).



Namibia (G Kanguvi). A medium outbreak of armyworm was reported from the Omega district of the Owambo Province, where larvae were present in millet, sorghum, and pasture fields. Control was undertaken using Baythroid. No further details are available.

Tanzania. (ICOSAMP gratefully acknowledges the regular reports received from the Tanzania Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security, Armyworm Forecasting & Control Services).

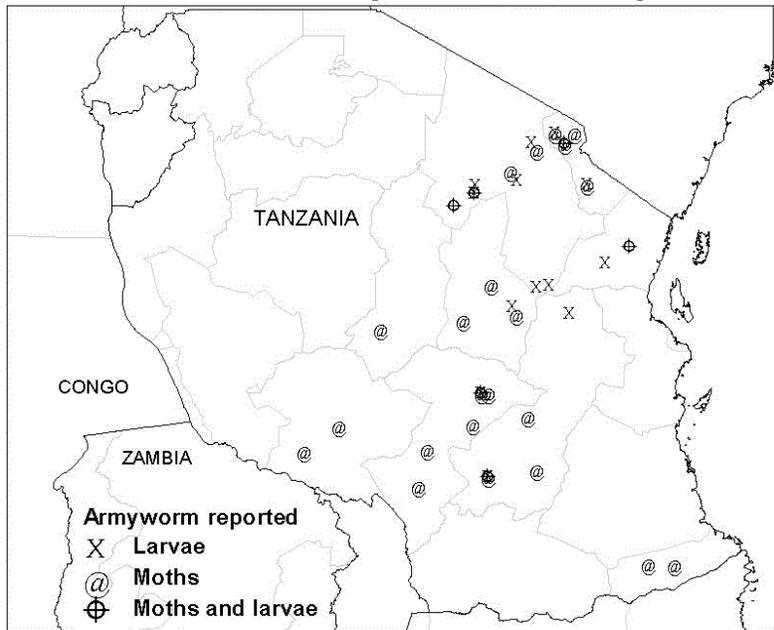
65 reports from 9 Districts were received of outbreaks of armyworm larvae (18 reports) and moths (47 reports) during February 2004. More than 16,500ha of maize, rice, sorghum and pasture were infested. Larvae infestation decreased towards the end of the month. Pheromone traps were monitored and Table 1 indicates the numbers of moths caught per trap station.

**Table 1: Moths recorded per trap per week (\* = present but numbers not available)**

Location	2-8/2/2004	9-15/2/2004	23-29/2/2004
Babati		0	351
Bagamoyo	68		8
Bihawana		860	
Dodoma	58	*	
Hai	3314		12
Hanang	*	*	1469
Ifakara		*	1
Igunga		*	26
Ilonga	770		
Iringa	*	0	
Kahama		0	
Kilosa		365	122
Korogwe	569		
Masasi	*		
Mazombe		*	
Mbeya	*	101	211
Mbozi	*	*	22
Morogoro	812		13
Moshi	*	*	46
Mpwapwa	316		
Mtwara	*	*	
Ngaramtoni	*	*	228
Njombe	*	*	25
Rombo			166
Same	474		6
Shinyanga		0	
Tengeru	2910	*	152
TPRI – Arusha	1259	173	518

The map shows where larvae and moths were reported from 2 Feb.2004 to 29 Feb.2004.

### Tanzania: Armyworm - February 2004



The Armyworm Forecasting & Control Services sent the following photos of the armyworm outbreak in Tanzania.



South Africa (M Kieser). ICOSAMP has, for the second year in succession, received reports of the African armyworm (instars V, VI) in South Africa from the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces. The Co-ordinator asked the public/farmers (via a local radio station) to phone in any reports of the presence of armyworm (kommandowurm), and 10 calls were received during February. Most of the infestations occurred in natural pastures, with a one in cultivated pasture (lucerne). Although details are not available, an estimated area of 500ha was infested, and no control was undertaken.

Zimbabwe (I Saunyama): Two control operations were carried out against armyworm larvae (instars I-VI) in the Manicaland (Odzi) and Harare (Kutsaga) Districts. A total of 90ha of maize crops and 120ha of pasture fields were infested. Larvae were reported to be burrowing at Manicaland. Estimated damage to maize ranged from 10% (Kutsaga) to 50% (Odzi) while the damage to pasture at Odzi was 90%. The Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Resettlement assisted the affected farmers in controlling the pest and provided Carbaryl 625g/100l/ha.

The remainder of the SADC region remained free of armyworm infestations.

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## LOCUSTS

No reports of locust outbreaks were reported and the SADC Region remained calm.

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## RED-BILLED QUELEA

South Africa (L Geertsema). Six (6) breeding colonies were chemically controlled in the Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces, while one roost was controlled with explosives in the Northern Cape Province. Four of these sites were identified as traditional Quelea sites. The breeding colonies (thorn tree habitat) were situated near sorghum and millet crops, and the roost (wetland habitat) was in the vicinity of a wheat field. The largest breeding colony infested an area of 48ha, with about 3,6m birds present (Roedtan). The total area treated was 107ha with an estimated number of 5,29 birds. Aerial control was undertaken by the National Department of Agriculture, using Falcolan® (active ingredient cyanophos 520g/l) at an application rate of 10 l/ha, and Queletox (7-10l/ha). The percentage success rate ranged from 75 – 95%. One site was identified as environmentally sensitive and one Shrike (Laniidae) mortality was recorded.

Swaziland (M Mbuli). A report was received of a breeding colony (8ha) near the border post between Swaziland and South Africa (Lavumisa/Golelo). No crops were in the vicinity and no control was undertaken. The information was relayed to South Africa.

Mr Dieter Oschadleus (SAFRING, ADU) sent us details of a recovery of the ringed *Quelea quelea* bird reported by Ms W Sithole (Zimbabwe). The female was ringed in South Africa on 05/02/2003 and recovered at Chipinge on 15/08/2003 (6 months and 8 days later).

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

## GENERAL NOTICES

1. Please forward ANY information you may obtain while recording control operations, of birds that have been **ringed** as this will be sent to the Avian Demography Unit in South Africa who are tracing the migration movements of Quelea. Information needed is: *Locality, date of recovery, control method, and Ring number.*
2. Collaborators are reminded that the ICOSAMP migrant pest monthly reporting forms are to be sent to the Co-Ordinator by the **end of the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the following month.** 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:

M Kieser

Fax: +27 12 356 9818 Email: [icosamp@ecoport.org](mailto:icosamp@ecoport.org)

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## ON THE WEB

This month's highlighted websites are:

### *Early Warning*

<http://www-web.gre.ac.uk/directory/NRI/pcs/MetCCD0.htm> - Armyworm forecasting

<http://www.fews.net/south> - Famine Early Warning System Network for southern Africa

<http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/rrsu/quel/map28.htm> - Week ending 14<sup>th</sup> March: Quelea breeding forecast.

### *Research*

<http://www.cpp.uk.com> - DFID's Crop Protection Programme

### *SADC*

<http://www.sadc.int> - SADC website.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Information is gratefully acknowledged from collaborators in SADC member countries, the International Red Locust Control Organisation for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCO-CSA) in Zambia, and the Armyworm Forecasting and Control Services of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security in Tanzania. Thanks to EcoPort <http://www.ecoport.org> for hosting our website.

<b>ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2004</b>			
<b>SADC</b>		<b>Additional Collaborators</b>	
<b>Angola:</b>	Mr S Mateus	SADC-FANR:	Mr S de Keyser
<b>Botswana:</b>	Mr T Moruti	IRLCO-CSA:	Mr J Katheru
<b>DR of Congo:</b>	Mr M Mafutamingi	NRI (UK):	Prof B Cheke
<b>Lesotho:</b>	Mr E Tjelele / Mr P Masupha	Armyworm (RSA):	Dr R Bell
<b>Malawi:</b>	Mr T Maulana	Armyworm Forecasting	W Mushobozi
<b>Mozambique:</b>	Mr J Varimelo/Mr A Comes/A Ngazero	Tanzania Min.Agric. & Food Security	
<b>Namibia:</b>	Ms P Shiyelekeni		
<b>South Africa:</b>	Mr K Viljoen (locusts) Mr L Geertsema (quelea)		
<b>Swaziland:</b>	Mr M Mbuli		
<b>Tanzania:</b>	Mr R Magoma		
<b>Zambia:</b>	Mr M Kanyemba		
<b>Zimbabwe:</b>	Mrs ISaunyama (locusts/armyworm) Ms W Sithole (quelea)		
<b>Co-ordinator</b>		<b>GIS development</b>	
Mrs Margaret Kieser, South Africa		Mrs J Pender, UK	

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.

Enquiries in connection with the Bulletin can be directed to:

Margaret Kieser

ARC-Plant Protection Research Institute

P/Bag X134, Pretoria 0001, South Africa

Tel: +27 12 356 9818 Fax: +27 12 329 3278

Email: [icosamp@ecoport.org](mailto:icosamp@ecoport.org)

**This Bulletin, as well as archived Bulletins, are also available on the website at**  
**<http://icosamp.ecoport.org>**

Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: February 2004

