



***** 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 JULY 2004

Migrant pest reports for July 2004 were received from:

Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa(q), Zambia, Zimbabwe, and IRLCO-CSA.

No reports were received from: *Angola, Congo, Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa (locusts), Swaziland or Tanzania.*

ALERT (received 12th August from IRLCO-CSA): Large populations of adult red locusts were observed in the Iku-Katavi and Wembere Plains in Tanzania.

SUMMARY (Fig.1)

No outbreaks of the African armyworm were reported from the SADC Region.

Namibia reported an invasion of a locust swarm from Angola. IRLCO-CSA reported isolated red locust population concentrations in Tanzania and Mozambique (Lake Chilwa). No further reports of locusts were received from the Region.

Minimal Quelea activity was reported from Botswana, South Africa, and Tanzania. The remainder of the region remained calm.

ARMYWORM

The SADC Region remained FREE of armyworm infestations.

LOCUSTS

Namibia (G Kanguvi). A swarm of locusts was reported at Eenhana on the border between Angola and Namibia. The species was not identified and no control was undertaken.

Tanzania & Mozambique (IRLCO-CSA). Red locust (*Nomadacris septemfasciata*) population concentrations were observed in the Iku-Katavi, Wembere plains, Malagarasi Basin and Rukwa Valley (Isimba Plains). Isolated red locust populations were flushed in the Buzi-Gorongosa plains as well as the Lake Chilwa plains on both sides of the border.

The remainder of the SADC Region remained calm.

RED-BILLED QUELEA

Botswana (T Moruti). Although no Quelea problems were reported, large numbers of birds were observed overwintering at Lake Ngami. No control operations were undertaken.

South Africa (L Geertsema). Four (4) roosts were controlled in the Limpopo, Free State, and Northern Cape Provinces and three of these sites were identified as traditional Quelea sites. The two sites in the Northern Cape Province were located along the Orange River in wetland habitat (reeds). Crops at risk were wheat, manna, and sunflower, and estimated damage ranged from 0 to 10%. Sites ranged in size from 0.3 to 1ha, and the total area treated was 3ha with an estimated number of 2.95m birds present. Aerial control was undertaken by the National Department of Agriculture on one site using Falcolan® (active ingredient cyanophos 520g/l) at an application rate of 29 l/ha, while the remaining three sites were exploded with a paraffin/petrol combination. The percentage success rate ranged from 60 – 94%. Two of the sites were identified as environmentally sensitive. No non-target mortality was recorded.

Tanzania (IRLCO-CSA). Quelea birds were reported causing havoc on small grain crops in Tanzania. No further details were provided.

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

GENERAL NOTICES

1. The ICOSAMP network says goodbye to Mr Morrison Mbuli, the Swaziland collaborator, who retired from Government service during this month. Morrison has been an active collaborator on ICOSAMP since its inception in 2001, and on behalf of the 'team' I thank you Morrison for your commitment and enthusiasm. We wish you a well deserved retirement and may your "pests be few in your garden"! At the same time I welcome the new Swaziland collaborators – Mr Boniface Makhubu who will be reporting on his country's pest situation, and Mr Daniel Kumalo (currently studying at Pretoria University, South Africa).
2. ICOSAMP has noted the serious Desert Locust situation that developed over the last two months in northwestern and northern Africa, and although the situation has calmed down in this area during August, West Africa is now experiencing severe invasions. Although international aid has been donated, an estimated shortfall of up to \$50m is expected for the current campaigns. FAO has again made an urgent appeal for international assistance to supplement major efforts already undertaken. Details of the situation can be viewed at www.fao.org/news/global/locusts/locuhome.htm
3. The reporting rate for July is only 50%. 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.
4. The ICOSAMP **internet mapper** can be viewed at <http://icosamp.ecoport.org>. Click on "Interactive Mapper" in the left navigation panel.
5. 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.*

Information and Reports should be faxed or emailed to:

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ON THE WEB

This month's highlighted websites are:

General News in Africa

www.fao.org/news/global/locusts/locuhome.htm - Current DESERT LOCUST PLAGUE details
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
SADC

<http://www.sadc.int> - SADC website (recently revamped and updated)

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 and maintaining the internet mapper.

ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2004			
SADC		Additional Collaborators	
Angola:	Mr S Mateus	SADC-FANR:	Mr S de Keyser
Botswana:	Mr T Moruti	IRLCO-CSA:	Mr John Katheru
DR of Congo:	Mr M Mafutamingi	NRI (UK):	Prof Bob Cheke
Lesotho:	Mr E Tjelele / Mr P Masupha	Armyworm (RSA):	Dr Richard Bell
Malawi:	Mr T Maulana	Armyworm Forecasting	W Mushobozi
Mozambique:	Mr J Varimelo/Mr A Comes/A Ngazero	(Tanzania Min.Agric. & Food Security)	
Namibia:	Ms P Shiyelekeni		
South Africa:	Mr K Viljoen (locusts) / Mr L Geertsema (quelea)		
Swaziland:	Mr B Makhuba/Mr D Kumalo		
Tanzania:	Mr R Magoma		
Zambia:	Mr M Kanyemba		
Zimbabwe:	Mrs Isaunyama / Dr Peter Chinwada		
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Mrs Margaret Kieser, South Africa		Mrs Judith 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.

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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: July 2004

