ICOSAMP News
Information Core for Southern African Migrant Pests

No 32 (June 2004)

********** **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 JUNE 2004

Migrant pest reports for June 2004 were received from:
Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and IRLCO-CSA.
No reports were received from: *Congo, Lesotho, or Tanzania.*
A late report was received from Angola stating no migrant pest problems during May 2004.

NB. SADC Collaborators are kindly requested to read the "General Notices" section.

SUMMARY (Fig.1)
No outbreaks of the African armyworm were reported from the SADC Region.

Namibia controlled one Red locust swarm, and residual concentrations of Red locusts were reported in Tanzania. No further reports of locusts were received from the Region.

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

ARMYWORM

The SADC Region remained FREE of armyworm infestations.

Namibia mentioned that no moth trapping is currently being undertaken in their country due to the lack of killing agent for the pheromone traps.

LOCUSTS

Botswana (T Moruti). Although no locusts were reported, the areas where locusts were controlled during April and May 2004, were regularly monitored.

Namibia (J Walubita). Seven (7) bands of 6th instar gregarious red locust hoppers and 2 adult swarms (10ha) were controlled in the Caprivi area. An estimated 90% success rate was achieved with decis. Damage to maize and sorghum was about 2%.

Tanzania (IRLCO-CSA). Several red locust (*Nomadacris septemfasciata*) concentrations as reported in May 2004, persisted in the Iku-Katavi, Rukwa, and Wembere outbreak areas. The

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seasonal grass burning that is in progress is likely to induce the locusts to gregarise further in the islands of unburnt grass.

The remainder of the SADC Region remained calm.

RED-BILLED QUELEA

Botswana. Although Botswana reported no Quelea problems, the ICOSAMP co-ordinator received a message from the Quelea email list about large numbers of birds massing at Lake Ngami. The co-ordinator discussed the alert with the Botswana collaborator who confirmed this occurrence, but stated that no control operations were underway as the Quelea were not a threat to agricultural crops. The birds were however being closely monitored.

Namibia (J Walubita). A roost was observed in the third week of June in the Caprivi area, but no controls were undertaken as the birds abandoned the site.

South Africa (L Geertsema). Three (3) roosts were controlled in the Limpopo Province, and one (1) colony in the Free State Province. Two of the sites were identified as traditional Quelea sites and all sites were located in tree habitat (thorn). Crops at risk were sorghum and wheat, and estimated damage ranged from 0 to 15%. Sites ranged in size from 1.5 to 4ha, and the total area treated was 10.5ha with an estimated number of 1,3m birds present. Aerial control was undertaken by the National Department of Agriculture on all the sites using Falcolan® (active ingredient cyanophos 520g/l) at application rates of 9 -25 l/ha. The percentage success rate ranged from 80 – 91%. None of the sites were identified as environmentally sensitive and no non-target mortality was recorded.

Tanzania (IRLCO-CSA). Quelea birds continued being a problem to rice growers in Tabora and Morogoro regions. No details on control operations were provided.

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

GENERAL NOTICES

1. As coordinator I often receive enquiries about inclusion of the Larger Grain Borer (LGB) into ICOSAMP, and, as the recent SADC Call for Consultants for the Migrant Pest Strategy Policy included the LGB, I am currently investigating this option with relevant stakeholders.
2. Please note the new symbols being used on the map. This is as a result of the specific country systems that we have recently developed, and in so doing have redefined the range of symbols.
3. The reporting rate for June is up to 78%. 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.*

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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
http://www.allafrica.com/agriculture - Agricultural news
http://www.allafrica.com/sustainable - Sustainability news
http://www.allafrica.com/environment - Environmental news
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
Research
http://www.cpp.uk.com - DFID's Crop Protection Programme
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

Angola:	Mr S Mateus
Botswana:	Mr T Moruti
DR of Congo:	Mr M Mafutamingi
Lesotho:	Mr E Tjelele / Mr P Masupha
Malawi:	Mr T Maulana
Mozambique:	Mr J Varimelo/Mr A Comes/A Ngazero
Namibia:	Ms P Shiyelekeni
South Africa:	Mr K Viljoen (locusts)
	Mr L Geertsema (quelea)
Swaziland:	Mr M Mbuli
Tanzania:	Mr R Magoma
Zambia:	Mr M Kanyemba
Zimbabwe:	Mrs Isaunyama / Dr Peter Chinwada

Additional Collaborators

SADC-FANR:	Mr S de Keyser
IRLCO-CSA:	Mr John Katheru
NRI (UK):	Prof Bob Cheke
Armyworm (RSA):	Dr Richard Bell
Armyworm Forecasting (Tanzania Min.Agric. & Food Security)	W Mushobozi

Co-ordinator
Mrs Margaret Kieser, South Africa

GIS development
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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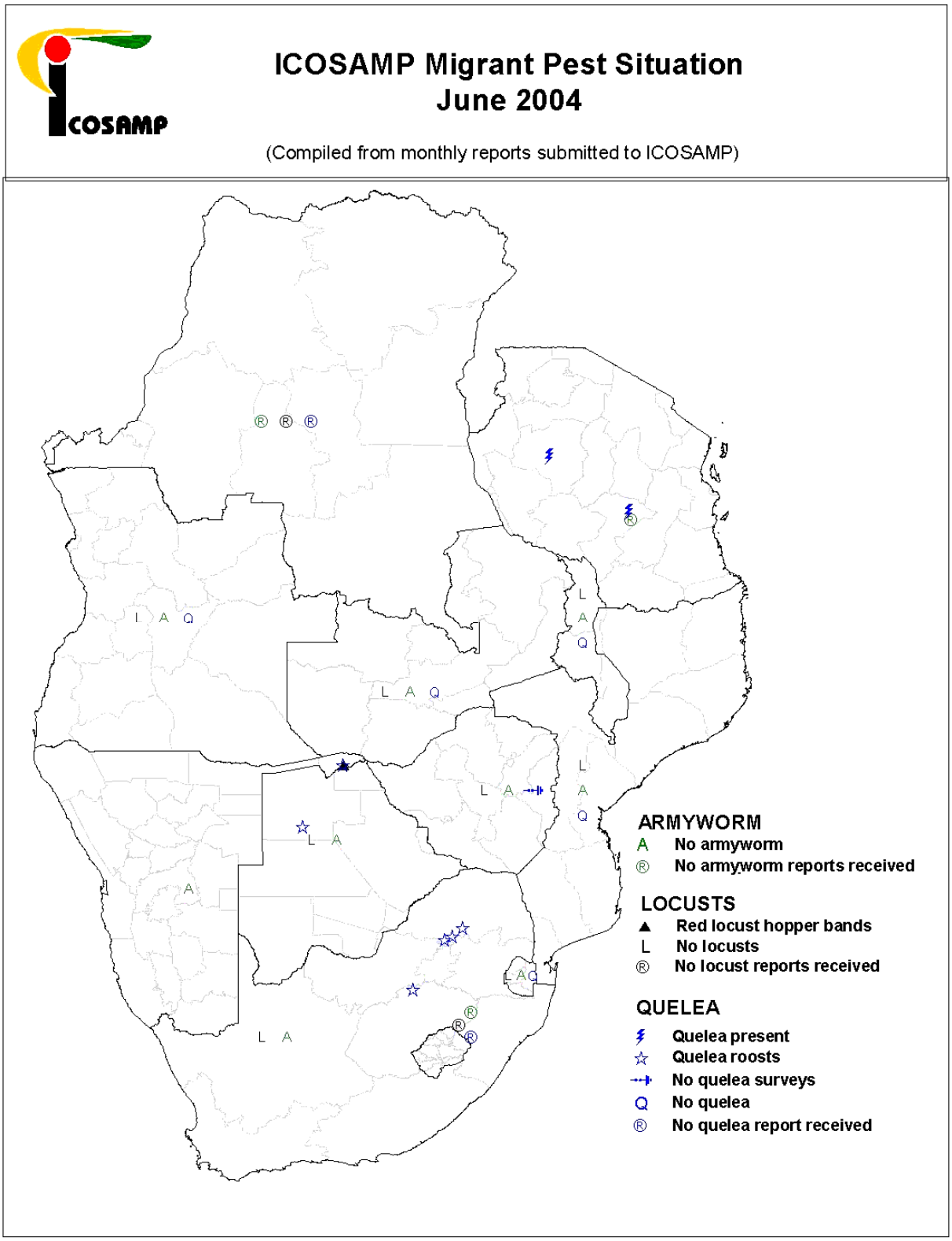
Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: June 2004



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