ICOSAMP News
Information Core for Southern African Migrant Pests

No 44 (June 2005)

********** **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 2005

Migrant pest reports for June 2005 were received from:
Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa, and IRLCO-CSA.
No reports were received from: *Botswana, Congo, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, or Zimbabwe.*

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

Locusts. The region remained calm. Red locust concentrations persisted in the outbreak areas in Tanzania.

Quelea roosts were observed in Lesotho causing damage to sorghum and maize crops, while Botswana reported Quelea flying in from South Africa and destroying sorghum. South Africa controlled 11 roosts, and Tanzania controlled 13 roosts and 2 colonies. No further reports were received.

ARMYWORM

The region remained FREE of armyworm infestations.

LOCUSTS

Tanzania (IRLCO-CSA). Several concentrations and swarms of red locust as reported in may 2005, persisted in the outbreak areas of the Iku-Katavi, Rukwa Valley, Wembere, Malagarasi Basin, and Bahi Valley. Seasonal grass burning induced the remaining locusts to gregarise in the unburnt areas.

The remainder of the SADC Region remained calm.

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RED-BILLED QUELEA

Botswana (T Moruti). Quelea birds caused a problem in the southern part of Botswana where they were reported destroying sorghum crops. However these birds were residing in South Africa and crossing into Botswana on a daily basis. Although communication between Botswana and South Africa with regard to this problem was initiated, a quick solution could not be arrived at, and a strategy will need to be developed for dealing with future similar situations.

Lesotho (P Masupha). Quelea roosts covering about 100ha were reported in Berea towards the end of June 2005. Damage to sorghum was estimated at 70% and to maize at 20%. Farmers neighbouring the affected areas were advised to harvest their crops as soon as possible. No control could be undertaken as the birds were roosting in small forests belonging to individual farmers.

South Africa (L Geertsema). Eleven (11) roosts were controlled in the North West, Free State and Limpopo Provinces, with 4 sites identified as traditional Quelea sites. All except one site (wetland) were located in savannah habitat. Damage to sorghum crops was estimated at about 5-40%, while limited damage was recorded in wheat crops. The size of the roosts ranged from 0.3 to 6ha, and the total area treated was 24.3ha with an estimated number of 5,8m birds present. The largest concentration of birds (1,2m) was at Heilbron. Seven control operations were undertaken using Falcolan® (active ingredient cyanophos 520g/l). Explosives were used in environmentally sensitive areas. Estimated percentage kill ranged from 84-100%. There were no non-target species mortalities recorded.

Tanzania (IRLCO-CSA). Quelea birds were reported being a problem to small grain cereal growers in Arusha, Dodoma, Mara, Manyara, Mbeya, and Morogoro regions. Crops attacked included rice, millet, and sorghum. Control of the birds was carried out using Queletox, by the Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security in collaboration with the DLCO-EA.

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

GENERAL NOTICES

1. The reporting rate for June is 43%. 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.

Information and Reports should be faxed or emailed to:
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ON THE WEB

This month's highlighted websites are:

Early Warning
www-web.gre.ac.uk/directory/NRI/pcs/MetCCD0.htm - Armyworm forecasting

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ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2005

SADC

Angola:	Mr S Mateus
Botswana:	Mr T Moruti
DR of Congo:	Mr M Mafutamingi
Lesotho:	Mr P Masupha
Malawi:	Mr T Maulana
Mozambique:	Mr A Ngazero
Namibia:	Mr G Kanguvi
South Africa:	Mr K Viljoen (locusts) / Mr L Geertsema (quelea)
Swaziland:	Mr B Makhuba
Tanzania:	Mr R Magoma
Zambia:	Mr M Kanyemba
Zimbabwe:	Mr P Chinwada

Additional Collaborators

SADC-FANR:	
IRLCO-CSA:	Mr John Katheru
NRI (UK):	Prof Bob Cheke
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Armyworm Forecasting (Tanzania Min.Agric. & Food Security)	W Mushobozi

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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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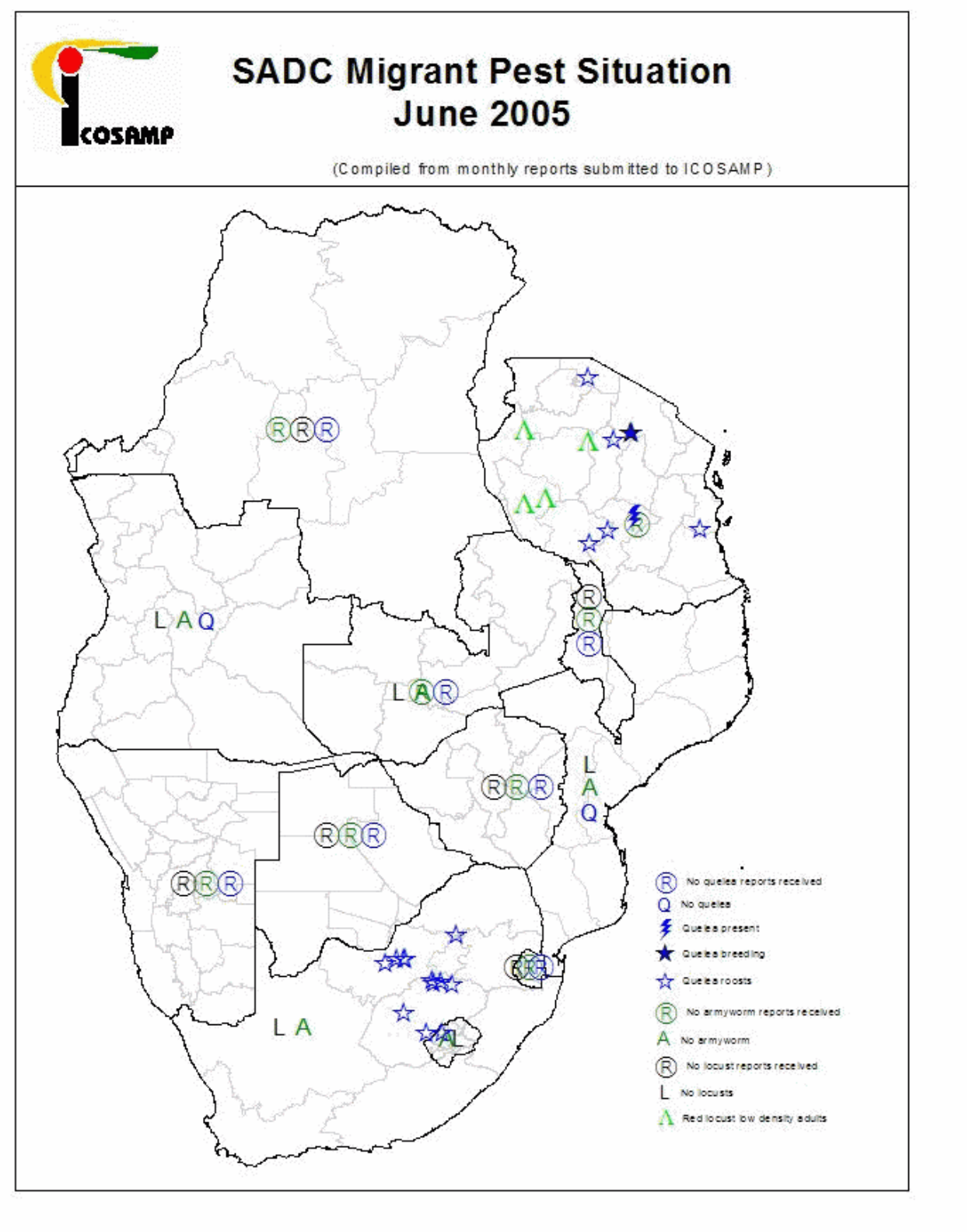
Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: June 2005



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