



***** **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 MARCH 2002

Migrant pest reports for March 2002 were received from: *Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa (locusts + Quelea), Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe (Quelea) and IRLCO-CSA*. Two emergency reports were also received from Namibia.

SUMMARY

Apart from the control of a small infestation of armyworm larvae (instars 1-4) in Arusha, Tanzania (7ha), the situation in the region during March was quiet.

Reports of brown locust bands were received from Namibia. IRLCO-CSA carried out control operations against red locust hopper bands and fledglings in Iku-Katavi, Tanzania.

34 Control operations were undertaken in South Africa against red-billed Quelea. Tanzania reported Quelea birds attacking crops in the Tabora Region.

Armyworm (Figure 1)

Tanzania: An infestation in Arusha of 1st to 4th instar larvae, covering an area of about 7ha of maize and paddy, rice were controlled with chemical. No more details are available.

No further reports of armyworm were received from member countries.

Locusts (Figure 1)

Namibia: The presence of brown locust hoppers and adults was reported on 10 farms in Aus (south west Namibia). Bands were moving in a NE direction.

Tanzania: (IRLCO-CSA report) A widespread outbreak (±5000ha) of red locust hopper bands and fledglings were located during aerial surveys in the Iku-Katavi, Wembere and Malagarasi areas. Hopper bands ranged in size from a few square metres to several hectares. Technical problems with the IRLCO-CSA helicopter resulted in only half of the Iku-Katavi outbreak area being surveyed and controlled, and no surveys undertaken of the Wembere and Malagarasi areas.

Control in Iku-Katavi was carried out by IRLCO-CSA in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania. A total of 720 litres of Fenitrothion 96% was used to treat about 1500ha of infested area.

Some hopper bands were used as targets during field trials of *Metarhizium anasopliae* var.



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acridum (a DFID funded collaborative project between IRLCO-CSA, CABI BioScience UK, and ARC-PPRI South Africa) and Dimilin (a growth regulator).

Red-Billed Quelea (Figure 1)

South Africa. Thirty four control operations (chemical and explosion), with a total area of 104,7ha, were carried out against Quelea roosts and breeding colonies in the Free State and Northern Provinces. Five of the sites controlled are identified as traditional breeding/roost sites. Chemical control was applied at an average of 8 l/ha and the avicide used was Queletox®. All fuel explosions were executed at an average of 1450 l/ha and 90% of the fuel used was liquid paraffin.

Tanzania: Quelea birds were reported attacking sorghum, millet, and paddy rice crops in the Tabora, Dodoma and Shinyanga regions. Control operations were carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security in collaboration with DLCO-EA (Desert Locust Control Organisation for Eastern Africa).

Zimbabwe: A 5.2ha quelea roost in Goromonzi, located about 7km from sorghum crops, was controlled with Queletox® at an application rate of 18 l/ha.

GENERAL NOTICES

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:

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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: March 2002

