



\*\*\*\*\* 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 MARCH 2004

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

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

### SUMMARY (Fig.1)

Outbreaks of the African armyworm were reported from 3 countries in SADC viz. Swaziland, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The remainder of the region remained calm.

Botswana, Namibia, and Tanzania reported the presence of red locusts, and South Africa experienced an upsurge of the brown locust in the north western region. No further reports of locusts were received from SADC.

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

### ARMYWORM

Swaziland (M Mbuli). Three reports of small outbreaks of fifth instar African armyworm were received in the first week of March from the north eastern areas (Mliba, Mzimpofu, Big Bend). Some 8ha of pasture were infested with damage ranging from 5% - 30%. These infestations were not controlled.

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

3 reports of armyworm larvae infestation, and 15 records of pheromone traps were received during the first week of March 2004. More than 282ha of maize and 1ha of sorghum were infested by larvae. 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	Date: 1-7/3/2004
Babati	1
Bagamoyo	8
Dodoma	40
Hai	*
Igunga	14
Iringa	3
Kilosa	11
Mazombe	7
Mbeya	17
Moshi	0
Ngaramtoni	60
Same	8
Tengeru	146
TPRI	401

Zimbabwe (I Saunyama): Three control operations were carried out against armyworm larvae (instars I-VI) in the Bulawayo and Harare Districts. A total of 150ha of pasture were infested, with damage estimated at 70-80%. Larvae were reported to be burrowing at Chitungwiza. 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.

## LOCUSTS

Botswana (T Moruti). One report was received by the Ministry of Agriculture, of an outbreak of African migratory locusts (*Locusta migratoria*) attacking maize crops and grasslands at Mopipi extension in the Central region. An area of 2081.4ha was controlled, using 647.5 litres Alphamethrin 10%EC and 200 litres Deltamethrin 1.25% ULV. Control operations were successful and the situation was monitored.

Red locust (*Nomadacris septemfasciata*) outbreaks were reported destroying maize crops at Gumare and Tubu extension areas. 44ha were controlled with 9.4 litres Alphamethrin 10%EC. Continuous rain affected control operations in the area.

Namibia (G Kanguvi). An outbreak of red locusts was controlled in the Caprivi area where maize, sorghum and millet crops were at risk. Deltamethrin was used to control the outbreak. No further details are available.

South Africa (K Viljoen & D Steenkamp). During the last week of March, 34 bands of IV<sup>th</sup> and V<sup>th</sup> instar gregarious brown locusts were controlled in the Marydale and Kenhardt districts of the Northern Cape Province. No control details were provided.

Tanzania (R Magoma & IRLCO-CSA). Surveys for red locust hoppers were undertaken in all 5 breeding areas (Rukwa, Iku/Katavi, Malagarasi, Wembere, Bahi Swamp). High concentrations of hoppers (10 hoppers /m<sup>2</sup>) were located on 600ha in the Iku/Katavi plains. The hoppers were

sprayed using 100 litres of Fenitrothion 96%. A combination of red locust hoppers and fledglings were located in the Isimba Plains in the north Rukwa outbreak area, and were sprayed with 300 litres of Fenitrothion 96%.

The remainder of the SADC Region remained calm.

## RED-BILLED QUELEA

**Botswana** (T Moruti). 63 Quelea breeding colonies were reported and confirmed during March. Of these, 51 colonies were controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, 5 were not controlled, and birds absconded from 7 sites. Unfortunately, due to the inability of obtaining latitude and longitude coordinates for many of these remote locations, only 19 sites could be shown on the ICOSAMP map. Table 2 below provides a summary of data provided by Botswana.

**Table 2.** Summary of Quelea breeding colonies in Botswana during March 2004.

(\* = plotted on attached map)

Region	District	Location	No.Colonies	Size (ha)	Remarks
Central	Mahalapye	Shoshong W*, Shoshong E, Mookane*	10		7 colonies controlled with Fenthion
	Machaneng	Pilikwe*	2	18	Fenthion control
	Bobonong*	Semolale	1		Absconded
	Serowe*	Mmashoro*, Moralale	2		Fenthion control
	Letlhakane*	Makalamebedi*, Mmatshumo	2		Controlled
Gaborone*		Mabalane, Lenyeng, Ramotswadikgomo, Rmokokobetwane	4	126	25ha – explosives 101ha – Fenthion 64%
		Lephepe*, Botlhaptlou*	4	3 + 6 + 9 + 12	Fenthion control
Ngamiland*		Sepopa	2	8.8	Fenthion control
Francistown	Tonota*	Bokololo, Capetown, Chadibe*, Charuoteng*, Diletlane, Kgoronyane, Lebu, Lephalleng, Lonye, Maguma, Mailane, Mhaka, Moke, Monaiwa, Nyetse, Sebalola*, Tharedintle,	24	>330	17 x Fenthion control 5 x absconded 2 x not controlled
	Tutume*	Makgaba, Matsitama, Mokubilo Pan*, Nakalakolobe, Nata*, Splandraai, Tshubamba,	12	>90	7 x Fenthion control 1 x explosives 1 x absconded 3 x not controlled

**South Africa** (L Geertsema). The South African Quelea collaborator unfortunately experienced a motherboard failure on his computer, and details of the Quelea movements for March are therefore not available and could not be mapped. The situation is summarised as follows:- 30 Control operations were undertaken against breeding colonies, most of them containing free flying juveniles, while a few contained eggs. Colonies were controlled with avicide (17 x ops) and explosives (13 x ops) and the average success rate was estimated at 78%. The majority of the

colonies were situated in the northern Free State Province, with a few in the Limpopo Province (Springbok Flats). A total of 105ha and 10.3 million birds were controlled.

An interesting phenomenon was observed in the Springbok Flats area: three different stages of development (sub-adults, nestlings and eggs) occurred on the **same** site. This site was invaded by two new colonies within a few days of each other while the first colony was still present. The site therefore contained a mixture of development stages, but yet demarcated into three distinct colonies right next to each other. This unusual occurrence could be explained by the fact that this area received rains very late in the season, possibly forcing the birds to breed before migrating.

Tanzania (R Magoma). Roosts covering 144ha in the Mara region were sprayed with Fenthion and about 5.4 million birds were controlled. Subsequent invasions covering 110ha and 274ha occurred in the Igunga district (Tabora region) and Dodoma district (Dodoma region). About 15 million birds were controlled with avicide.

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

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## GENERAL NOTICES

1. The **internet interactive mapper** is now operational and can be viewed at <http://icosamp.ecoport.org>. Click on "Interactive Mapper" in the left navigation panel. Comments and/or suggestions will be welcomed and can be sent to the Co-ordinator.
2. 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.*
3. 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

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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

### *Research*

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

### *SADC*

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

## 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.

<b>ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2004</b>	
<b><u>SADC</u></b>	<b><u>Additional Collaborators</u></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><u>Co-ordinator</u></b> Mrs Margaret Kieser, South Africa	<b><u>GIS development</u></b> 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.

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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: March 2004

