



***** **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 OCTOBER 2003

Migrant pest reports for October 2003 were received from:
Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa (Quelea), Zambia, Zimbabwe, and IRLCO-CSA.

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

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

SUMMARY (Fig.1)

No reports of outbreaks of the African armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta*) were received from the region.

No reports of locust outbreaks were received from the region. Isolated to scattered adult red locusts were observed in Zambia.

Quelea control operations were carried out against 9 roosts in South Africa, and 2 roosts in Zimbabwe. One (1) additional roosts was observed in Zimbabwe but was not controlled.

No further reports of Quelea activity were received from the region.

ARMYWORM

The region remained free of armyworm infestations.

Botswana (T Moruti). Pheromone traps were serviced and no moths were caught.

LOCUSTS

No locust outbreaks were reported from the region.

Malawi (T Maulana). Although no surveys were undertaken, low density red locust populations are expected to be present at Lake Chilwa.

Zambia (IRLCO-CSA). Isolated to scattered adult red locusts (*Nomadacris septemfasciata*) were



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flushed in the Kafue Flats outbreak area during aerial surveys conducted in late October.

RED-BILLED QUELEA

South Africa (L Geertsema). Two (2) aerial chemical control operations - using Falcolan® (active ingredient cyanophos 520g/l) at an application rate of 10 l/ha - were undertaken against roosts in traditional sites near sorghum crops in the Limpopo Province. The total area of these two roosts was 14ha with an estimated number of 470,000 birds. Kill achieved ranged from 70 – 91%. Although one of these sites was identified as wetland habitat, neither of them were classified as environmentally sensitive, and no non-target mortality was recorded.

Seven (7) roosts totaling 6.2ha (2.3m birds) were controlled with explosives in the North West, Free State, and Northern Cape Provinces in the vicinity of sorghum fields. Four sites were located in wetland habitat and identified as traditional Quelea sites, but not as environmentally sensitive. The fuel used was paraffin and petrol at application rates of 2080 - 3300 l/ha. The average percentage success rate was 77%. Non-target mortality was recorded at Biesiesvlei (North West province) – 1 x Feral Cat and 1 x Mongoose.

The number of reports may increase in November as more crops become vulnerable.

Zimbabwe (W Sithole). To date, three (3) reports of Quelea roosts were received from the Mashonaland East and West Provinces, and Matabeleland North, all near wheat fields. Only two (2) of these roosts were controlled. The larger of the two roosts (400ha, 7m birds) was controlled on the farm Highbury in Mhangura. The roosts were located in orange trees and after application with Queletox 3.5 l/ha, a 98% kill was achieved. The smaller roost (13ha, 11,000 birds) in Goromonzi was sprayed with Queletox at an application rate of 1.9l/ha, with a success rate of 85%.

Quelea were also reported roosting in Eucalyptus trees near wheat fields at Bubi, but no details are available.

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

GENERAL NOTICES

1. 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.*
2. Samples of armyworm larvae are still needed for research purposes. Please contact the ICOSAMP Co-ordinator for further details.
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 1st week of the following month**. Reports should be sent even if there were **NO** migrant pest outbreaks, or **NO** surveys were conducted.

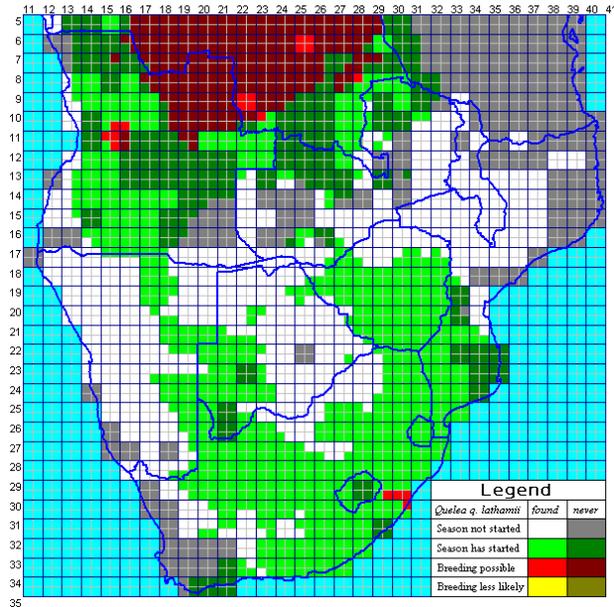


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Information and Reports should be faxed or emailed to:
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ON THE WEB



The image on the left shows the results of the forecast from the SADC Quelea Breeding Forecast website for the week ending 2nd November 2003. The bright red blocks show the areas where breeding is expected.

For further information visit the website at :
www-web.gre.ac.uk/directory/NRI/quel/index.htm

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> - Famine Early Warning System Network

Research

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

Agriculture

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Information is gratefully acknowledged from collaborators in SADC member countries, and the International Red Locust Control Organisation for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCO-CSA) in Zambia. Thanks to EcoPort for hosting our website.

ICOSAMP COLLABORATORS - 2003			
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Lesotho:	Mr E Tjelele / Mr P Masupha	Armyworm (RSA):	Dr R Bell
Malawi:	Mr T Maulana		
Mozambique:	Mr J Varimelo/Mr A Comes/A Ngazero		
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Swaziland:	Mr M Mbuli		
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Zimbabwe:	Mrs ISaunyama (locusts/armyworm) Ms W Sithole (quelea)		
Co-ordinator	Mrs Margaret Kieser, South Africa	GIS development	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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Figure 1. Migrant Pest Situation Map for SADC Region: October 2003

