

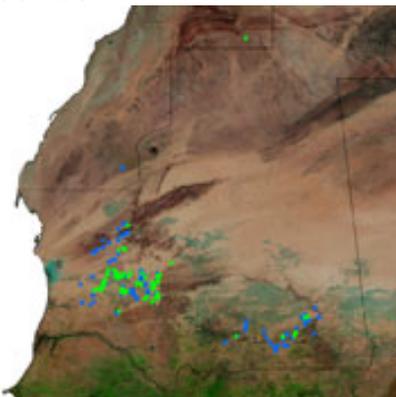
**Emergency Transboundary
Outbreak Pest (ETOP) situation
update for September with a
forecast till mid-November, 2009**

CNLA/Mauritania, PPD/India, and DLCU/Libya).

OFDA Pest & Pesticide Activities

Summary

The DL situation remained relatively calm in September. Only limited-scale breeding was reported in northern **Mauritania** where control operations treated 37 ha. Some adult locusts were present in eastern **Chad** and a similar situation may exist in northern **Mali** and **Niger**, where surveys were not possible, as well as in **Sudan** and **Eritrea**. The situation remained calm in the summer breeding areas along the **Indo-Pakistan** borders where dry conditions persisted and only a few scattered adults were detected. No locusts were reported in other countries in western, central and eastern outbreak/invasion areas during this period.



The Desert Locust situation in September
(Source: FAO-DLIS, 10/09)

Forecast: Fewer than normal locusts will migrate to spring breeding areas in northwestern **Mauritania** and winter breeding areas along the Red Sea coasts in the coming months (FAO-DLIS, DLCO-EA, AELGA, PPD/Ethiopia,

- OFDA/TAG continued its initiatives in **pesticide risk reduction** through stewardship network (PRRTSN) with overarching objectives of ensuring safety of vulnerable communities as well as protecting their assets and the environment. OFDA/TAG launched the second sub-regional PRRTSN workshop (the first for the Horn of Africa) from 23-27 August, 2009 in Adama-Nazareth, Ethiopia. More than 30 participants from Djibouti, Ethiopia and Sudan attended the workshop. Eritrea and Somalia did not participate. A similar initiative is being discussed with **Kenyan** counterparts.
- OFDA sponsored DLCO-EA's capacity strengthening activities to support emergency ETOP operations in Greater Horn of Africa.
- OFDA continues supporting capacity strengthening through FAO's EMPRES programs to prevent, mitigate and respond to DL emergencies.
- OFDA co-sponsored assessments and project development missions for locust operations in Central Asia, the Caucasus and neighboring counties (EECAC). The assessments lead to a regional workshop to be held in Kazakhstan in late October, 2009.

- Seed money OFDA provided to FAO's pesticide disposal and prevention program helped leverage more than \$2.2 million from GEF and other sources. These funds are being used to develop/implement obsolete pesticide disposal and prevention initiatives/activities in EECAC countries.
- OFDA is co-sponsoring an international workshop through the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The workshop will be conducted in Accra, Ghana from 14-18 October, 2009 and AELGA will be in attendance.

Other ETOPs

The **red locust** situation was relatively calm in September. Low density populations were detected in Kafue Flat in **Zambia** during this period. Isolated adults may be present in Buzi-Gorongosa in **Mozambique** and Lake Chilwa/Lake Chiuta plains in **Malawi** (IRLCO-CSA).

Armyworm activities were not reported in September and it will likely remain calm until sometime late October into November when the pest starts appearing in the southern outbreak areas. Operators are advised to ready their traps.

Quelea birds were reported causing damage to irrigated rice in Nyaururu District in **Kenya** and wheat in Southeast Lowveld areas in **Zimbabwe** (IRLCO-CSA).

No updates were received on other ETOPs during this period.

OFDA's Assistance for Emergency Locust and Grasshopper Abatement (AELGA) will continue monitoring the situation and issue advice. End summary

This and other SITREPS can be accessed on our website at:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/locust/

Weather and ecological conditions

During the third dekad of September, 2009, the African portion of the Intertropical Front (ITF) was located near 15.5N while the normal for this time of year is 15.9N, very close to its normal position for this time of year (see figure 1). The historical average is around 14.8N in the east, and the current position is around 14.5N and in the west it is at 16.2N, slightly south of its historical average position of 16.6N. During the second dekad, the front was located near 15.9N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 16.8N degrees (Figure 2). During the dekad from 1-10 September the Front was located near 18.1N degrees, while the normal for this time of year is 17.4N degrees (Figure 3). This is the second time since early in the season that the ITF is north of its mean position. During the past 30 days, heavy rains with severe flooding associated with the ITC were recorded in southern Mauritania, Senegal, northern Niger, as well as Western Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Gambia and Guinea and parts of Sierra Leone (NOAA, AELGA, FAO-DLIS, PPD/Addis,

UN/IRIN).

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
September 2009 Dekad 3

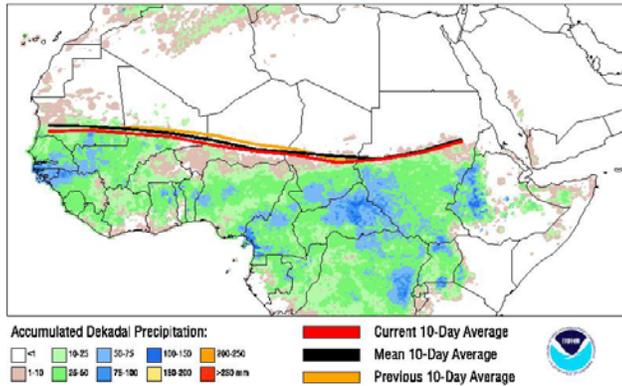


Figure 1...

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
September 2009 Dekad 2

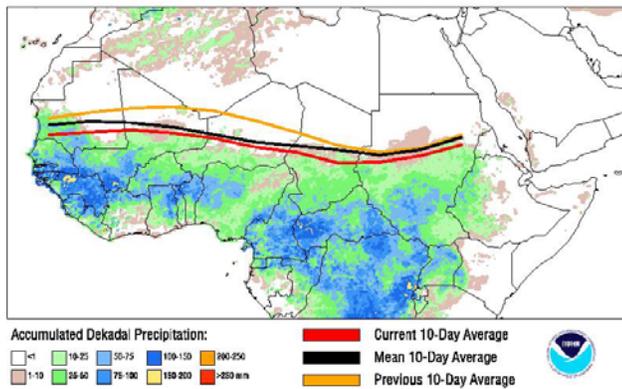


Figure 2.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITF
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
September 2009 Dekad 1

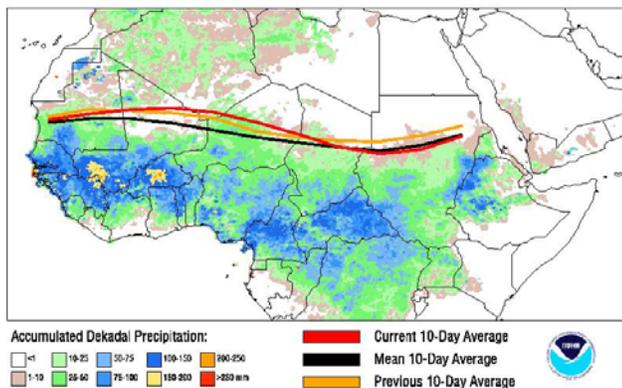


Figure 3.

Dry and hot weather prevailed in most of the red locust outbreak regions in September. Light showers were reported in parts of **Tanzania** and **Kenya** during this period. Seasonal rains that influence red locust conditions are expected to commence in October in **Tanzania** and sometime in mid-November in **Mozambique** and **Malawi**.

(Note: Changes in the weather pattern and the shift in the landscape are believed to increase the risk of pest outbreaks. Regular monitoring and reporting are essential at all times. End note).

Detailed Accounts of ETOP Situation and related Activities

DL - Western Outbreak Region

The Western outbreak region remained calm during September and only limited-scale breeding and activities were reported in northern **Mauritania** where control operations treated some 37 ha. Scattered adults were present in east **Chad** and a similar situation may exist in northern **Mali** and **Niger**. Other outbreak and invasion areas in the western region remained calm during this period.

Forecast: With vegetation continued drying up and condition changing, adult locusts are expected to migrate to spring breeding areas in northern and northwestern **Mauritania** where breeding may likely take place. Other outbreak and invasion areas in the western region are expected to remain relatively calm during this period (AELGA, FAO-DLIS, and CNLA).

DL - Central Outbreak Region

Some locusts may be present in areas of recent past rainfall in the central region in **Sudan** and **Eritrea**. The situation remained calm in **Ethiopia**, **Somalia**, **Yemen** and other outbreak/invasion

countries in the region. Swarms that were reported passing through the tri-state corridor near Zoble into Afar region in **Ethiopia** did not reappear.

Forecasting: Given the relatively low number of swarms and limited locust activities detected this year, it is likely that movement of locusts from the summer breeding areas to the winter breeding areas will be reduced. This will likely keep most of the invasion countries along the Red Sea coasts and adjacent areas relatively calm during the forecast period.

DL- Eastern Outbreak Region

Ecological conditions remained unfavorable in most of the summer breeding areas in the eastern outbreak region along the **Indo-Pakistan** border. Only a few solitary adults were detected during this period.

Forecast: Unfavorable conditions that persisted in the summer breeding areas along the **Indo-Pakistan** borders reduced locust activities this year and as a result, significant activities are not expected during the forecast period (FAO-DLIS, PPD/India).

Central Asia and the Caucasus

No reports were received on migratory pests in CAC region in September.

Forecast: ETOP activities are not expected during the forecast period.

The red locust situation remained relatively calm in September. Only low density populations (1-12 insects/m sq) were detected on some 7,000 ha during surveys carried out in Kafue Flat and a much lower density infestations were reported by IRLCO-CSA on close to 98,000 ha in **Zambia** in September, but control

was not needed during this time. Isolated adults may be present in **Mozambique** and Lake Chilwa/Lake Chiuta plains in **Malawi**. (IRLCO-CSA).



Figure 1: Active fires along Buzi River (source: IRLCO-CSA, 09.09)

Forecast: Locusts that concentrated in unburned areas and/or those that escaped spray operations in Ikuu-Katavi, Malagarasi and Rukwa Valley (**Tanzania**) and Buzi-Gorongosa and Dimba plains (**Mozambique**) and in Kafue Flats (**Zambia**) will likely begin laying sometime in October/November and may result in large-scale outbreaks the following summer following large-scale hatching and hopper development in Feb/March. IRLCO-CSA is gearing up for survey operations in October/November 2009.

The Timor and South Pacific

No update was received in September.

Australian Plague Locust

No update was received on the **Australian Plague Locust** (APL) at the time this report was compiled.

African Armyworm: Outbreak and invasion regions remained free of armyworm in September.

Forecasting: The situation will likely change following the onset of the seasonal rains in the southern outbreak and invasion areas and armyworm activities may begin appearing in the forecast period. Trap operators are advised to ready their traps, and community-based forecasters are encouraged to engage in monitoring and forecasting where applicable.

Quelea birds were reported causing damage to irrigated rice in Nyaururu District of Central Province in **Kenya** and wheat in Southeast Lowveld areas in **Zimbabwe** in September (IRLCO-CSA). No reports were received from other outbreak countries during this time.

Forecast: Quelea populations will likely increase in October in **Zimbabwe** where wheat will be harvested and in irrigated rice fields in **Kenya**. Active monitoring, reporting and interventions will be necessary (AELGA, IRLCO-CSA).

Front-line countries in ETOP outbreak zones are advised to remain vigilant. Countries in the invasion zones should continue to strengthen their capacity to avoid any unexpected surprises. DLCO-EA, IRLCO-CSA, national PPDs/DPVs and autonomous locust/ETOP units and ELOs are encouraged to continue sharing information with partners and stakeholders as often as possible.

Pesticide Stocks

Pesticide inventories remained unchanged in September in most of the outbreaks/invasion countries except in **Mauritania** where small-scale operations were carried out.

Country	Quantities in l/kg@
Algeria	1,800,000**
Chad	108,085
Eritrea	44,800

Ethiopia	22,576~++
Mali	209,000%
Mauritania	489,363
Morocco	4,105,300
Niger	69,000
Senegal	519,000
Saudi Arabia	??
Sudan	735,676
Tunisia*	167,600*
Yemen	
some of these pesticide have expired or will soon expire *Most current data not available **Most current data not available ~ this represents DL stock Mali donated 21,000 l to RL operations in Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania late last year and FAO facilitated the triangulation ++ data needs verification	

Point of Contact:

For more information please, visit us at website:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/locust/

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