

**FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF  
ETHIOPIA**

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
Plant Health Regulatory Directorate**

**LOCUST INFORMATION OFFICE**

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**DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN MARCH 2016**

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## ***Introduction***

In March Desert Locust situation remained calm throughout Ethiopia. Communication with locust focal persons and scouts indicated the absence of locust activity in spring breeding areas of Eastern Ethiopia. Most parts of the country have received low to medium amount of rainfall during the first and second decade of the month. During the first decade of the month Low amount of rain was fallen in Eastern part of the country where spring breeding takes place. But the annual vegetations still dry and partially perennials are green, As a result the habitat had been unfavorable for locust breeding, the locust situation is generally very calm so far.

## ***Ecological conditions***

***Vegetation status*** – Generally the annual vegetation appears dry and partially perennials are green in which desert locust spring breeding is used to take place.

***Temperature*** – The temperature has increased slowly and sunny weather conditions prevailed in most part of the country including desert locust spring breeding areas.

***Rainfall*** – light rainfall was fallen in desert locust spring breeding areas during the first decade of the month.

## ***Desert Locust Situation-***

The locust situation remained calm during the month of March in spring breeding areas.

## ***Forecasting***

The desert locust status in Ethiopia expected to remain calm in April too. However, close monitoring of the situation is required in spring Breeding areas.

## **OVERVIEW OF SURVEY AND CONTROL CAPACITY IN ETHIOPIA**

**Two 4WD pickup vehicles are available for regular locust operation.**

### **Sprayers available in central store (Addis Ababa):**

- Mist blower AU 8000 - 36
- Spinning disk - 170
- Vehicle mounted sprayers - 8
- E-Pesticide loading pumps - 12

### **Pesticides available in central store (Addis Ababa)**

- ULV - 1000 lit.
- EC - 14,000 lit.

### **Pesticides available in central store (Dire Dawa and Somali Admin.Regions)**

- ULV - 120 lit.

### **Survey and Communication equipments available in locust unit (Addis Ababa):-**

- e Locust 2 - 6 – 2 of them are in the Regions.
- eLocust 3 - 5
- Tachometer - 24
- GPS - 26
- Compass - 6
- Anemometer - 6
- Stop watch - 6

### **Staff composition**

In the Plant Health Regulatory Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, the migratory pests monitoring and control section is composed of:-

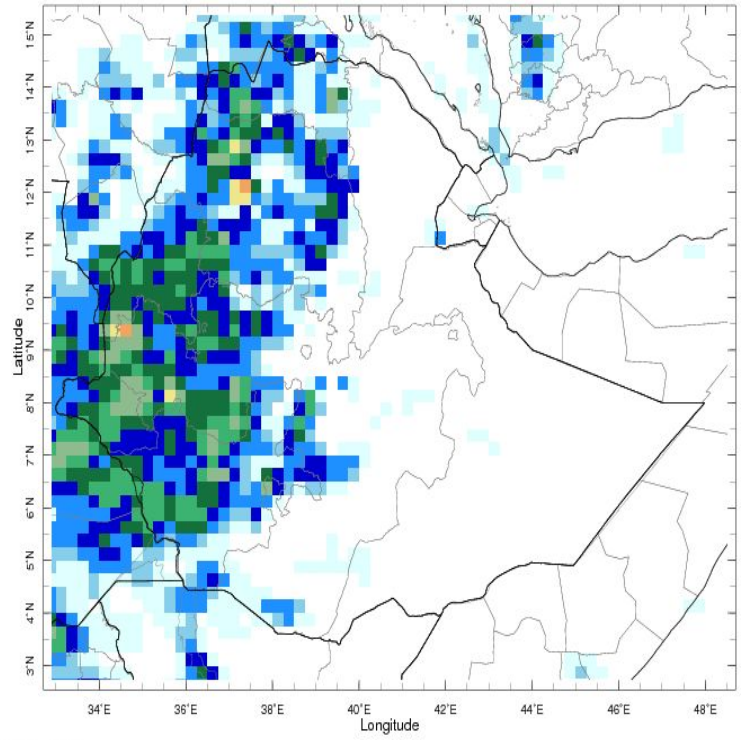
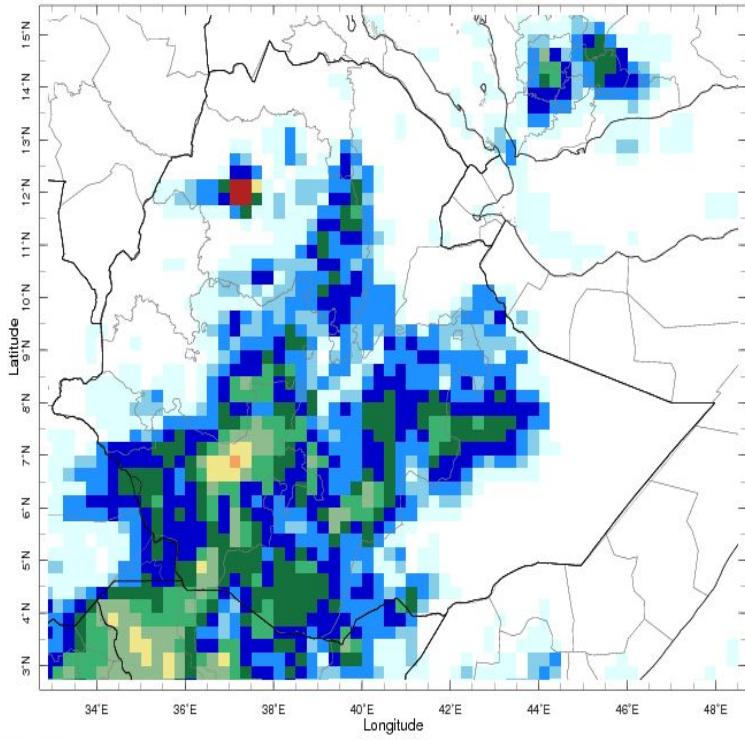
- 5 entomologists (two of them are locust officers) and 1 pesticide and sprayers use
- At Regional Administrative level
- Plant Health Clinics (16 PHCs) -15 crop protection experts among these 6 are Locust Focal Persons and 5 more technicians
- 26 Scouts (at locust prone districts)

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# Rainfall Estimates for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> decades of March 2016 in Ethiopia



1-10 Mar 2016

11-20 Mar 2016

