

**FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF  
ETHIOPIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
Plant Health Regulatory Directorate  
Migratory Pest Survey and Control Case Team**

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***DESERT LOCUST BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2017***

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***Tel: 011 6461147***

***Fax: 011-6 - 4 6 11 47***

***e-mail: [zebdewosalato@yahoo.com](mailto:zebdewosalato@yahoo.com),  
[dere56mek@gmail.com](mailto:dere56mek@gmail.com)  
[solomonmirete7@gmail.com](mailto:solomonmirete7@gmail.com)***

## ***Introduction***

In February, Desert Locust situation remained calm throughout Ethiopia. Even though survey was not conducted by Desert locust information officers, communication with DL focal persons and DL scouts indicated the absence of locust activity in their respective regions. Northern and Western parts of the country were received low to moderate rainfall during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> decade of the month. During 3<sup>rd</sup> decade of the month small amount of rainfall recorded in some breeding areas in Ethiopian Somali and Afar regions. The annual vegetation where started to grow and the soil becomes moist in some areas this will create favourable habitat and condition for breeding in near future. However the locust situation was still calm throughout the month.

## ***Ecological conditions***

***Vegetation status*** – Generally the annual vegetation start greening in some areas which desert locust Spring breeding is used to take place.

***Temperature*** – The warm temperature is prevailing in desert locust Spring breeding areas.

***Rainfall*** – In some part of Ethiopian Somali and Afar regions where Desert locust Spring breeding takes place received small amount of rainfall at the end of the month.

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

The locust situation becomes calm during February in spring breeding areas.

## ***Forecasting***

The desert locust status in Ethiopia expected to remain calm in March too. However, close monitoring of the situation is required particularly in the spring Breeding areas in Ethiopian Somali & Afar regions.

## **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.
- e-Locust 3 - 6
- Tachometer - 24
- GPS - 26
- Compass - 6
- Anemometer - 6
- Stop watch - 6

### **Staff composition**

In the Plant Health Regulatory Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the migratory survey and control case team is composed of:-

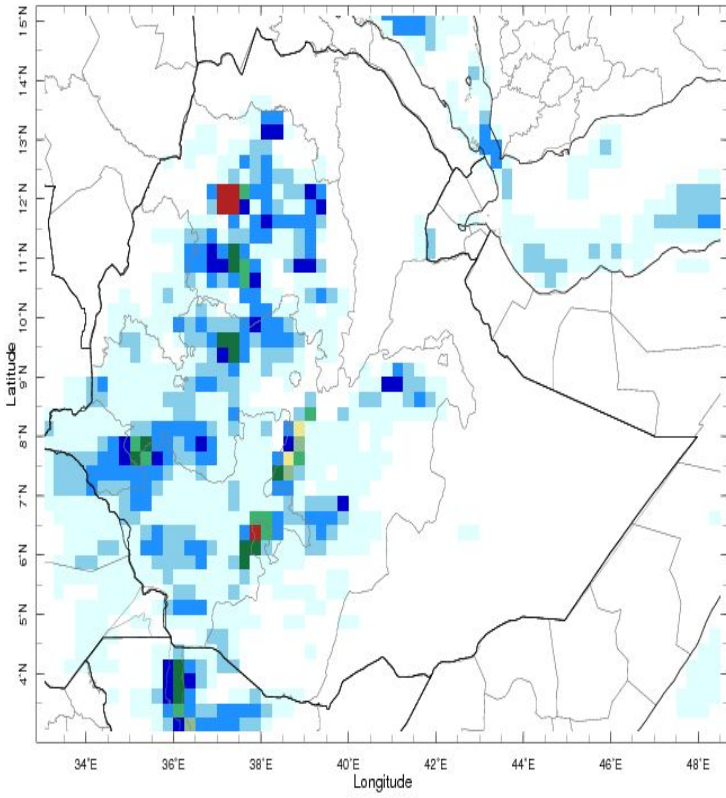
- 3 entomologists (two of them are locust officers) and 1 pesticide and sprayers use
- At Regional Administrative level
- Plant Health Clinics (16 PHCs) -15 crop protection experts among these
- 6 are Locust Focal Persons and 5 more technicians
- 26 Scouts (at locust prone districts)

### **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

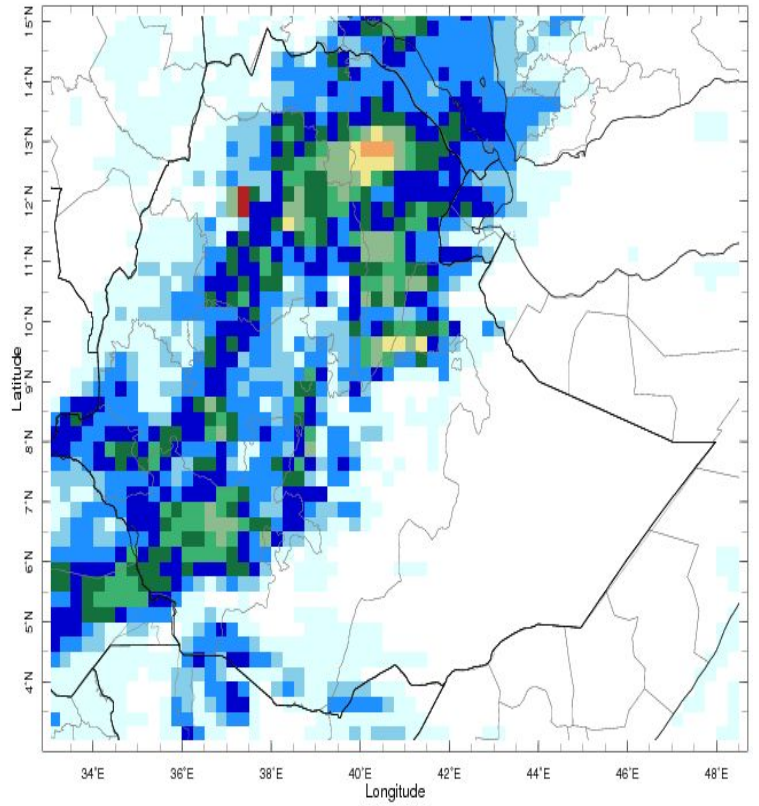
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- FAO - Ethiopia
- UNDP - Ethiopia
- USAID - Ethiopia
- USAID/OFDA – USA
- DLCO-EA

# Rainfall Estimates for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> decades of February 2017 in Ethiopia



1-10 Feb 2017



11-20 Feb 2017

