DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA (DLCO-EA)
(HARGEISA OFFICE)

MIGRATORY PEST SITUATIONS IN NORTH SOMALIA

January 2015

1.0 GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE SITUATION

To begin with, the Desert Locust and other Migratory Pests situation report continued to remain calm throughout the different regions of the country.
Although, survey operations has not been carried out during the last month, however diverse communications that has been made with different stakeholders among the **C**ommunity **B**ased **D**esert **L**ocust **I**nformation **N**etwork**(CBDLIN)** among them are regional agricultural coordinators in the desert locust prone regions stipulated the absence of locust activity in their respective regions.
This is due to the extreme dry conditions that deteriorated in both the potential breeding habitats in the coastal plains and the secondary breeding habitats in the plateau and escarpment that sustained to remain dry throughout this month of January 2015.
Generally, the rainfall performance and progression in Northwestern regions greatly exacerbated and no rain has occurred except scanty negligible drizzle in two localities as recorded by both **A**utomatic and **S**ynoptic **R**ain gauge **S**tations **N**etwork **(ASRSN).**
The diverse vegetation complex is generally dry to drying except a localized green patches that was observed green in wadi areas in the plateau and escarpment.
It is noteworthy to mention, that Puntland regional state, Central and Southern regions of Somalia received no rain and remained dry yet.

2.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

The weather conditions in Northwestern regions remained largely dry during most days of the month and rains disrupted completely throughout the entire regions of the country.
Nevertheless, scanty drizzle was reportedly fallen in Boroma (09, 45N/43,10E) and Aburiin during the second decade of the month as recorded by the **A**utomatic **R**ain gauge **S**tations **N**etwork **(ARSN).**
The remaining localities in the plateau and escarpment remained dry thoroughly and the potential breeding habitats remained largely dry and currently non-conducive for any breeding and development of DL yet.
Consequently, the vegetation status in the entire Northwestern regions remained dry and unfavorable for any locust activity except localized portions in the plateau and escarpment that was reportedly green specifically areas near to wadis owing to the previous Deyr rains runoff and rivulets flooding.
On the other hand, Punt land regional state, Central and Southern regions of Somalia, the rainfall pattern drastically subsided and both Manual Rain gauges and Automatic Weather Stations recorded no rain throughout this month.

The diverse vegetation complex in the northeastern regions of Puntland, Central and Southern regions of Somalia remained dry to drying as precipitation was declining drastically for the last two months and all the weather stations recorded nil.

Rainfall (mm) at Hargeisa, Burao, Boroma and Aburiin Automatic Rain gauge Stations for January, 2015.

Date	Hargeisa	Burao	Boroma	Aburiin
12/01/2015	**0.00**	**0.00**	**1.2**	**-**
14/01/2015	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.2**	**-**
18/01/2015	**0.00**	**0.00**	**-**	**0.2**
Total	**0.00 mm**	**0.00 mm**	**1.4 mm**	**0.2 mm**

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION *(Schistocerca gregaria)*

Although survey operations were not undertaken during this month, however diverse contacts were made with local residents in the key breeding habitats, regional agricultural coordinators in the frontline regions and some members among the **C**ommunity **B**ased **D**esert **L**ocust **I**nformation **N**etwork (**CBDLIN)** stipulated that the Desert Locust and other Migratory Pests situation continued to remain calm throughout the entire regions of the country.

It is worthwhile to mention, that both subsidiary breeding habitats in the plateau and escarpment and key breeding habitats in the coast where usually solitary adults of Desert Locusts normally exist continued to remain calm and experienced extreme rainless and dry conditions entirely.

Consequently, it triggered that both weather and ecological condition became un-favorable and not conducive for any DL breeding and development for the time being.

4.0 Other Migratory Pests (Red-billed Quella birds and African Army Worm)

Reports and any other relevant information of other Migratory Pests infestations were not received so far.

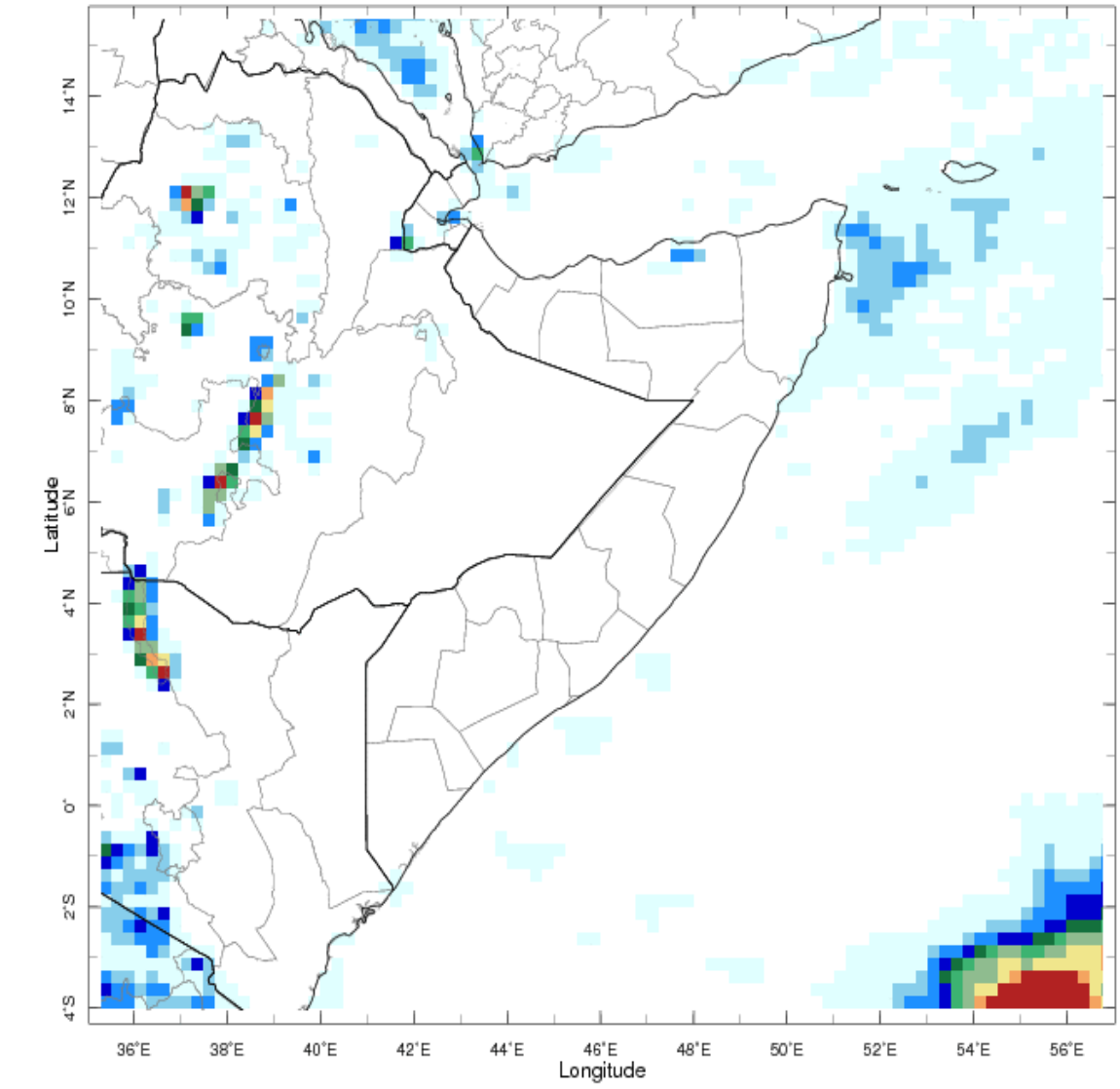
5.0 Forecast until mid-March 2015

No significant developments are likely for the time being, due to the rainless and dry conditions in both the key breeding habitats in the coast and secondary breeding habitats in the plateau and escarpment that made impossible for any breeding and development of Desert Locust during the last couple of months.

Hence, it is forecasted that calm situation to sustain unchanged during the projected period, unless and other wise expected seasonal Hays and Gu' seasons**(February-May)** commence uprubtly and thereby moisten the soil deeper and improve the vegetation complex further that could spearhead for small scale breeding thereafter.

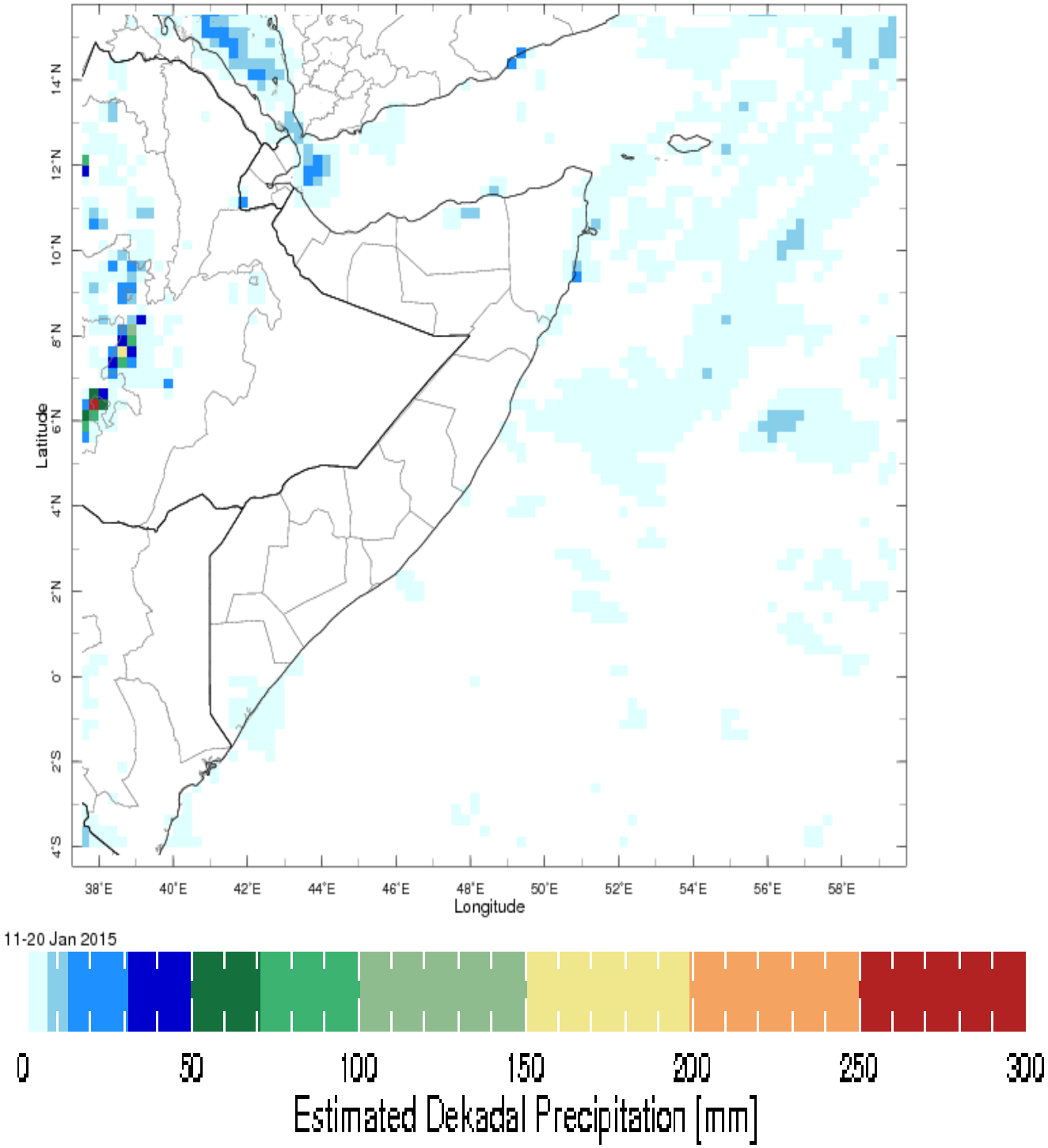
FOR DIRECTOR,

6.0 Rainfall estimates for the first dekad of January(RFE 2015)

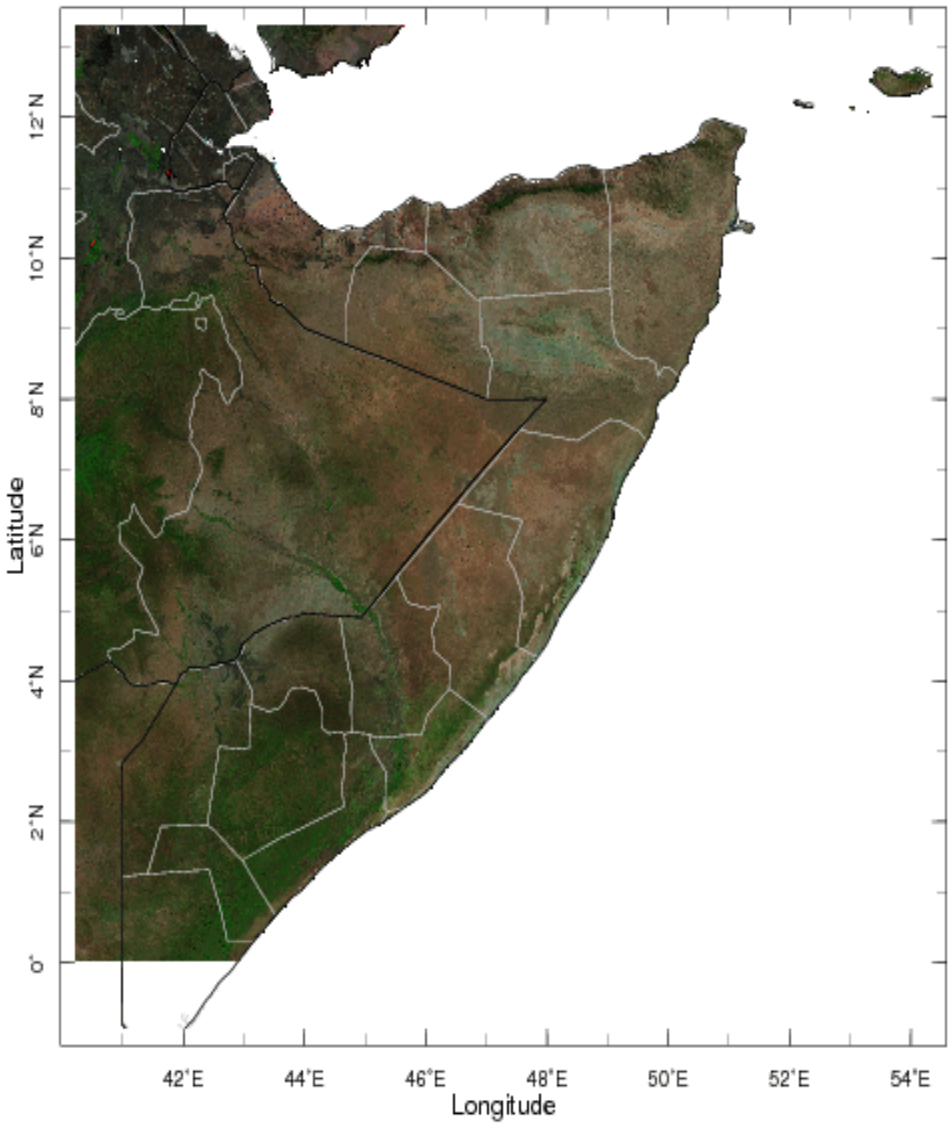


1-10 Jan 2015

6.1 Rainfall estimates for the second dekad of January (RFE 2015)



6.2 Modis image for Northern and Southern Somalia, for the second half of December 2014.



19-31 Dec 2014