



# Locust watch

## Desert Locust

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## Current upsurge (2019–2020)

This page presents an overview of current Desert Locust upsurge and recent photos and videos.

2018

- cyclones in May and October brought heavy rains that gave rise to favourable breeding conditions in the Empty Quarter of the southern Arabian Peninsula for at least nine months (June 2018 to March 2019), allowing three generations of breeding that was undetected and not controlled.

2019

- January: the first swarms left the Empty Quarter to **Yemen** and **Saudi Arabia**, reaching southwest **Iran** where heavy rains fell.  
 - February to June: widespread spring breeding in **Yemen, Saudi Arabia** and **Iran** caused large numbers of swarms to form. Control operations were less successful in **Iran** and **Yemen**.  
 - June to December: swarms invade the **Indo-Pakistan** border from **Iran** and up to three generations occur due to longer than normal monsoon, giving rise to large numbers of swarms; In **Yemen**, swarms form and move to N **Somalia** and **Ethiopia** where breeding occurs and more swarms form.  
 - October to December: Swarms move from **Ethiopia** and N **Somalia** to **Eritrea, Djibouti, E Ethiopia**, the Ogaden, C and S **Somalia** to reach NE **Kenya**; hopper bands and swarms form along parts of the Red Sea coastal plains in **Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Eritrea** and **Sudan**.



Upsurge overview (click for larger view)

### Documents

Warning (18/10/19)

Warning (28/10/19)

Somalia (17/12/19)

### Video

Videos (mpg)

A service provided by the Locust and Other Migratory Pests Group to monitor the world-wide locust situation and keep affected countries and donors informed of expected developments.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, Rome, Italy

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