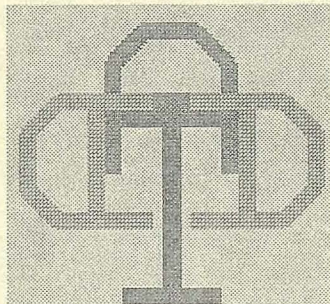


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## SOCIOPOLITICAL AND POLICY ISSUES

### **Institutional Reorganization to Facilitate Preventive Management of the Desert Locust**

**M. Lecoq**, France, CIRAD-PRIFAS, lecoq@cirad.fr

In the Western part of the distribution area of the desert locust, *Schistocerca gregaria*, the coordination of monitoring and control operations currently depends on two organizations: OCLALAV and CLCPANO. The countries directly concerned (Algeria, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Tunisia) have frequently taken the opportunity to affirm their commitment to the concept of preventive control. However, they recently recognized that the current institutional situation was unsuited to an effective application of preventive control in western Africa. As such, there are now plans to establish a new, single structure of regional cooperation. Such a structure appears necessary to allow effective and sustainable implementation of the preventive control strategy, as proposed within the framework of the EMPRES Program of FAO (Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Pests Program of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) for the western region and to support genuine, regional cooperation. The new institution may be named, "Commission FAO de lutte contre le Criquet pèlerin en région occidentale" ("FAO Commission for Desert Locust Control in the Western Area").

### **National Grasshopper Management Board of the US Identifies Critical Issues**

**J. Lockwood**, University of Wyoming, lockwood@uwyo.edu

The National Grasshopper Management Board of the United States met in January of 2000 to develop and refine policy and management recommendations that are intended to facilitate grasshopper and Mormon cricket control. The Board addressed the needs to: 1) communicate the survey results showing that the outbreak that began in 1998 expanded in 1999, and threatens to be extremely serious in the coming year, 2) increase the efficacy of the US Department of Agriculture's "crop protection" program, 3) complete the environmental documentation necessary to allow the application of diflubenzuron to public lands, and 4) restructure the federal subsidy program for grasshopper control, should congressional funding be restored.

## OPERATIONS AND LOGISTICS

### **The Locust Situation in Southern Africa: Good News and Bad News**

**R. Brown**, South Africa, Plant Protection Research Institute, rietdb@plant2.agric.za

Although the brown locust, *Locustana pardalina*, remained in recession in South Africa and Namibia, AAAI Associates Roger Price and Dick Brown continued to interface with the migratory locust (*Locusta migratoria capito*) problem in neighbouring Madagascar. During 1998, a major build-up of migratory locusts led to widespread invasion of the island by emigrant swarms. Despite strenuous intervention efforts, renewed outbreaks developed in the 1998-1999 rainy season, necessitating further emergency control measures.