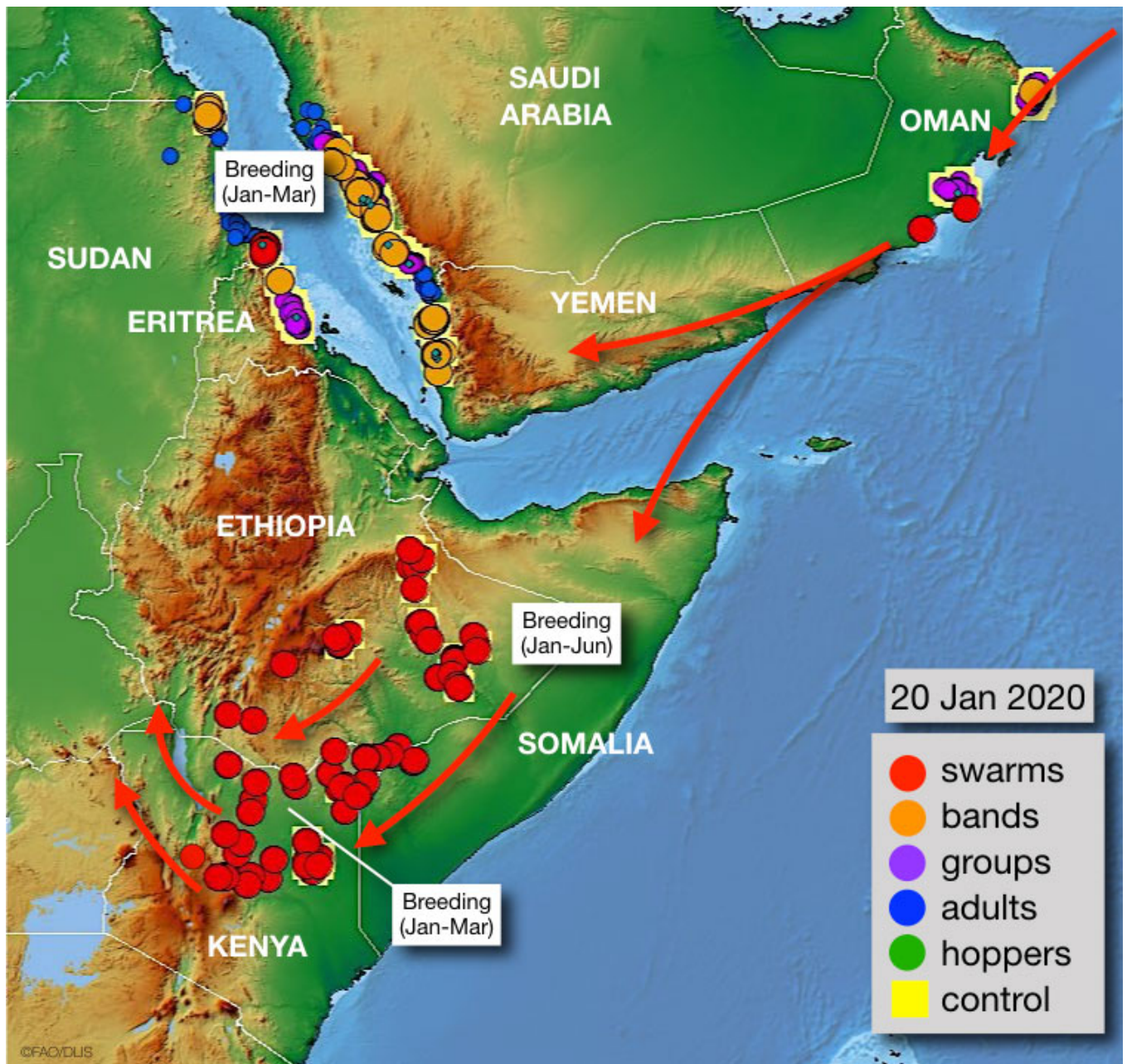

Desert Locust Invasion Update : 20 February 2020



- Over 2,000 locusts have swarmed into South Sudan. The locusts crossed into southern Magwi county, on the border with Uganda.
- Scientists have said that their deep yellow color indicate that the locusts are mature and looking for breeding grounds that would form the basis of the next major infestation.
- The soil in South Sudan’s Eastern Equatoria has a sandy nature that allows the locusts to lay eggs easily,
- South Sudan Agriculture Minister Onyoti Adigo Nyikuac said the government was training people to spray.
- During each three-month breeding cycle, a single locust can breed 20 more locusts
- Kenya has deployed aircrafts to spray pesticides in several regions and its Agriculture Minister Peter Munya said on Monday that the invasion was "under control".
- Meanwhile, Uganda has deployed soldiers to the northern regions to spray pesticides in the affected areas.
- The locust swarms entered Africa from Yemen three months ago.
- Affected Countries: Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan.

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