Proposals to improve the preventative control of Desert locusts based on new knowledge of its ecology



Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)

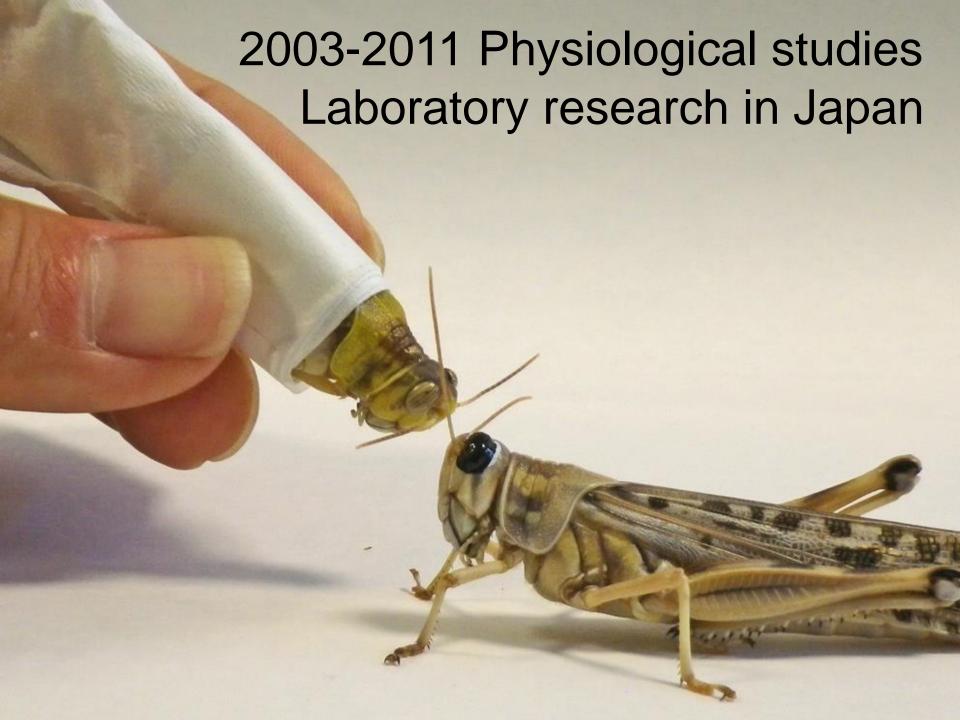
Dr. Koutaro Ould Maeno



Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences under the umbrella of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Research target: Desert locust





Serious locust problem in Africa



2011- Field research in Mauritania





Dr. Cyril visited Mauritania in 2011







Today's topics

1. Locust problem in Africa

2. How to control locusts



Desert Locust

-Devastating natural disaster-







10% of World's population





Asahi shinbun 1 Sep. 2004

Ibaraki shinbun 8 Sep 2004





Desert locust

Schistocerca gregaria





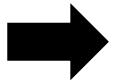
Phase polyphenism

Locusts change behavioral, morphological and physiological characteristics in response to changes in local population density

Low density

High density







Gregarious phase

Pest



Understanding of the mechanism of Phase polyphenism

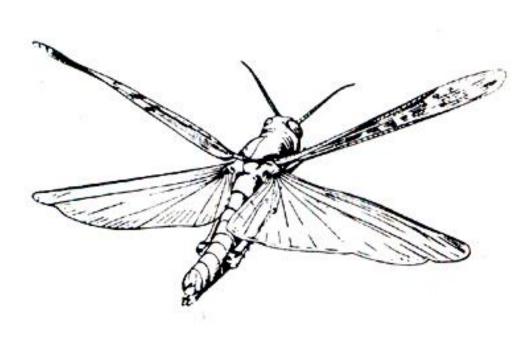




Anti-Locust Center, London, 1945-1971







The number of field researches have been decreasing



Today's topics

1. Locust problem in Africa

2. How to control locusts



West Africa/Mauritania



The Mauritanian Desert Locust Center







Adult swarm













Radio center



Control



Splaying insecticide



People vs Locusts







However...

Problems of current controls

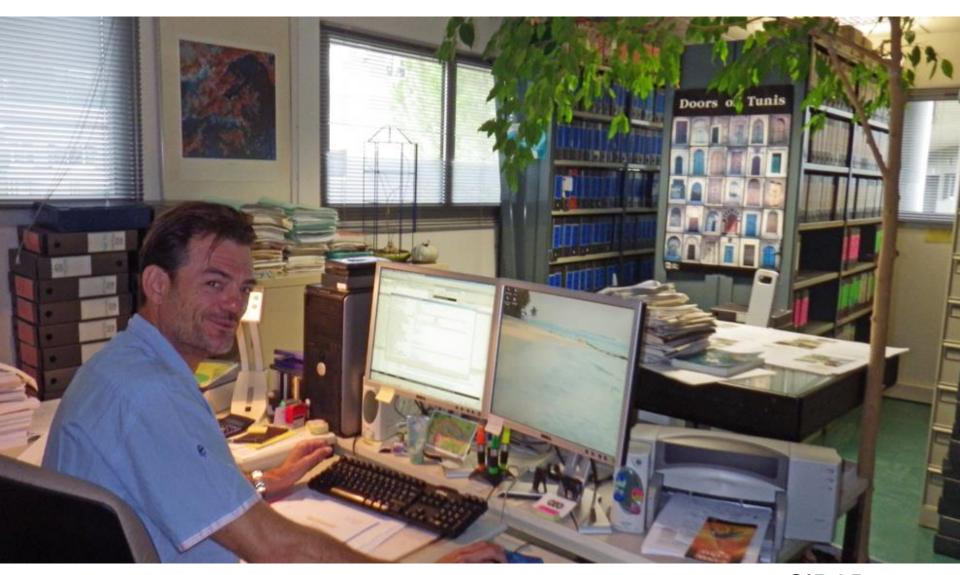


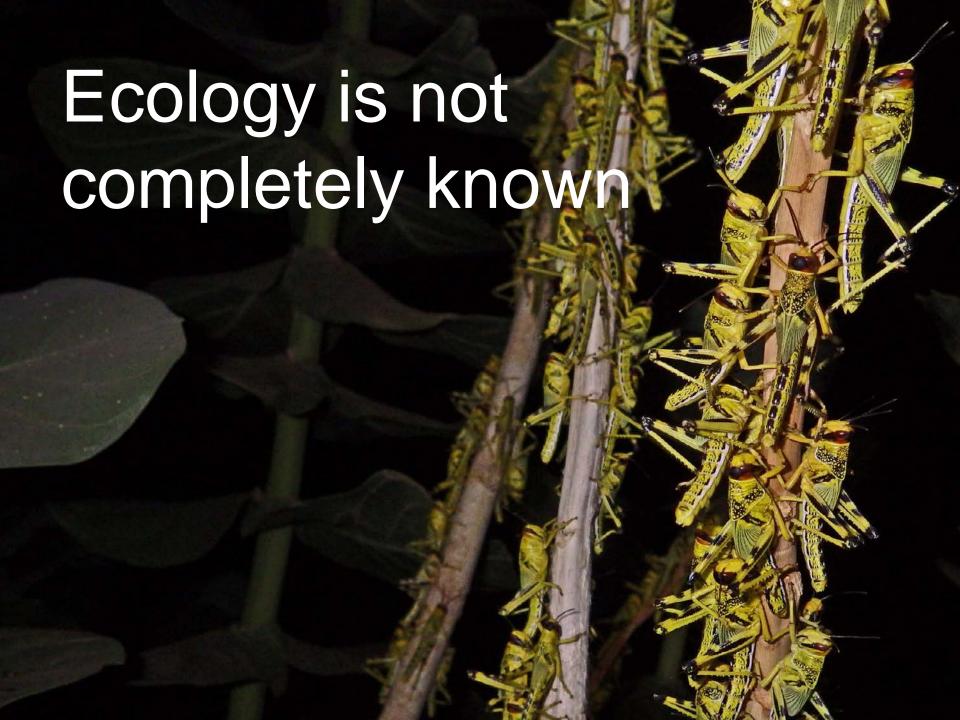
Environmental pollution



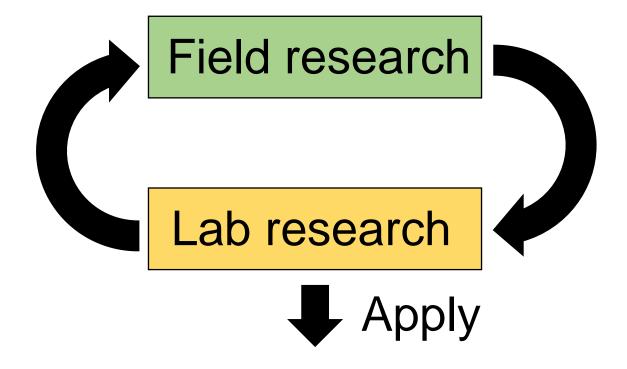


More than 10,000 publications





Our research flow



Preventative locust management





Natural habitats



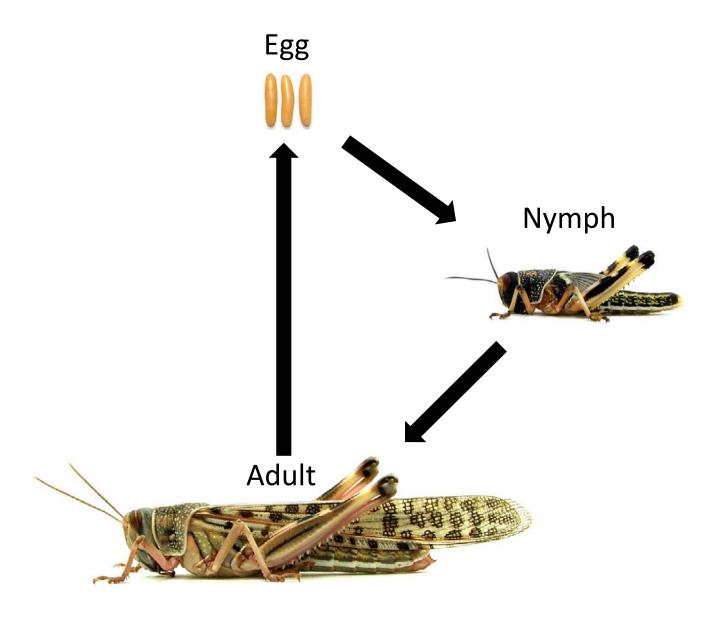








Life cycle





Marching





When & where do they aggregate?



Nymphs form dense aggregation on plants



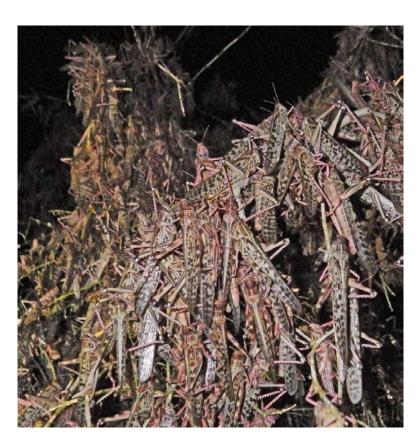


(Ellis & Ashall, 1957; Maeno et al., 2013)

Spatial- temporal aggregating patterns



(Maeno et al., 2013 J. Insect Behav.)



(Maeno et al., in prep.)



Effective control

Environment-friendly control



Locusts: Food for animals





Artificial trapping system

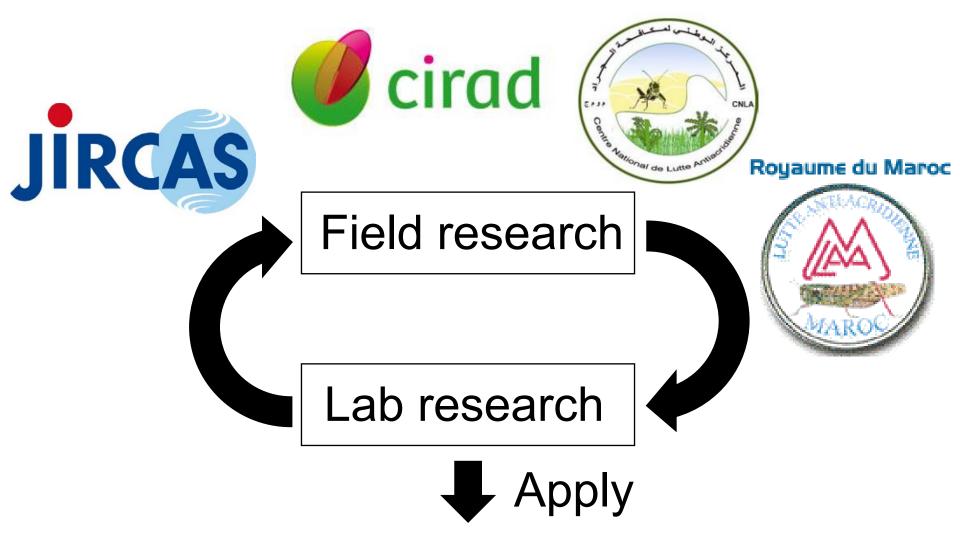


Ecology of aggregation



New techniques for control

International collaboration



Preventative locust management

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For your attention