

# Plague Locust Assessment Card

## Species information

<b>Declared pest insects:</b>
<b>CT: <i>Chortoicetes terminifera</i> Australian plague locust</b> (Red shanks on hind legs, dark spot on hind wing tip, X on top of thorax)
<b>AG: <i>Austracris guttulosa</i> Spur-throated locust</b> (Large size, long body, predominantly grey, clear hind wing, throat peg, light stripe along top of head and thorax, hind shanks pink-mauve coloured and spined)
<b>LM: <i>Locusta migratoria</i> Migratory locust</b> (Larger than plague locust, dark mouth and hairy underside of "chest", clear hind wing, hind shanks straw-wine red coloured)
<b>0 5 10 15 20 25 mm</b>  <b>0 ¼ ½ ¾ 1 Inch</b>  (approximately to scale only)

### Visual Square

Use card at arm's length, visual square equates to approx 1 metre<sup>2</sup> at a distance of 10 metres.

## Stage of development

Stage & approx size:		Wing buds
1.	1 <sup>st</sup> instar 4mm	
2.	2 <sup>nd</sup> instar 6-7mm	
3.	3 <sup>rd</sup> instar 8-11mm	Just appearing
4.	4 <sup>th</sup> instar 12-15mm	Developing
5.	5 <sup>th</sup> instar 16-22mm	Wing buds obvious
6.	Fledgling 25mm	Soft wings
7.	Adult 30mm	Hard wings
8.	Adult with fat	
9.	Adult with eggs	
10.	Laying adult	
11.	Eggbed	

## Other species (refer to the APLC Locust and Grasshopper Identification Guide)

<b>AT:</b> <i>Aiolopus thalassinus</i>	<b>BM:</b> <i>Bermius</i> species	<b>CC:</b> <i>Caledia captiva</i>
<b>OA:</b> Eastern plague grasshopper ( <i>Oedaleus</i> sp.)	<b>VS:</b> Giant (hedge) grasshopper ( <i>Valanga</i> species)	<b>HO:</b> <i>Heteropternis obscurella</i>
<b>PS:</b> <i>Peakesia</i> species	<b>AC:</b> Small plague grasshopper & other <i>Austroicetes</i> species	<b>UG:</b> <i>Urnisa guttulosa</i>
<b>GM:</b> Yellow-winged locust ( <i>Gastrimargus musicus</i> )	<b>PV:</b> Wingless grasshopper ( <i>Phaulacridium vittatum</i> )	<b>OS:</b> Other species/unknown

## Locust information

<b>Locust activity:</b>		
Hatching	Sub band	Banding
Banded, marching	Test flight (fledging)	Light flight
Flying	Swarming	Mating
Test boring	Laying	
Where appropriate, add: Damaging crops/pastures/etc		

<b>Locust Density:</b>			
Adults	Code	No/m <sup>2</sup>	No/250m <sup>**</sup>
Isolated	ISO	< 0.02	1 – 5
Scattered	SCAT	0.02 – 0.1	6 – 25
Numerous (low)	NUML	0.1 – 0.2	26 – 50
Numerous (high)	NUMH	0.2 – 0.5	51 – 125
Concentration	CONC	0.5 – 3	126 – 750
Low density swarm	LDS	4 – 10	>750
Medium density swarm	MDS	11 – 50	
High density swarm	HDS	> 50	
<b>** Determined by a 1 metre wide triangular foot traverse walking 100m out, 50m across &amp; 100m back</b>			
<b>Nymphs</b>			
	Code	No/m <sup>2</sup>	
Present	P	1 – 5	
Numerous	NUM	6 – 30	
Sub band	SB	31 – 80	
Band	B	81 – 500	
Dense band	DB	> 500	

<b>Egg Development – pull the locust apart:</b>	
Nil/Undeveloped	Impossible to see
Partly developed	1 – 3 mm long
Fully developed	4 – 5 mm long (yellow bunch of rice)

<b>Fat scoring – pull the locust apart:</b>	
S	Post fledging, body soft or semi-hard at sides
0	None – no detectable fat
1	Yellow strands on white background
2	Yellow band with white patches
3	Continuous yellow band

**Ct nymph stages 1-5 showing wing buds**  
(see Stage & approx size table)

