

Red-Billed Quelea

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Why in news?

- Kenya's government began to kill up to 6 million red-billed quelea birds, the world's most populous bird species which are also known as 'feathered locusts'.
- The preferred method for eradicating pests in Africa has been to spray **fenthion**, which is an **organophosphate pesticide**, but scientists have noted that the substance is toxic to people and other non-target organisms.
- Fenthion has been listed in **Annex III of the Rotterdam convention** which aims to reduce risks from hazardous chemicals in agriculture.

Key facts about Red-Billed Quelea

- It is a small, short-tailed weaver with a mottled back and a yellow or reddish bill.
 - Large flocks are resident and nomadic in arid savanna, grassland, and cultivated areas.
 - **Conservation status:**
 - **IUCN: Least Concerned**
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Q1) What is Serengeti famous for?

Two million wildebeest migrate a distance of 2,900 kilometres (1,802 mi) from the Serengeti in neighbouring Tanzania to the Masai Mara in Kenya, in a constant. This Serengeti Migration of the wildebeest is listed among the Seven Natural Wonders of Africa.

Source: [6 Million Red-Billed Quelea Birds Feasting on Rice Fields Prompt for Pesticides in Kenya Farms](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/red-billed-quelea/>

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