

**TOCKLAI EXPERIMENTAL STATION  
TEA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION  
JORHAT 785 008, ASSAM**

**MONTHLY BULLETIN**

**JUNE 2008**

The following is the summary of Crop, weather, Pest and disease in different regions of N.E. India during the month under review.

**Region: UPPER ASSAM**

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Dibrugarh	- 5.7	- 1.7	540	18	31	22
Panitola	- 8.5	+ 7.6	478	19	30	23
Tingrai	- 19.6	+ 0.2	364	25	32	25
Doomdooma	- 14.7	+ 1.0	398	26	32	25
Mergherita	- 25.1	- 4.9	451	23	30	20
Naharkatia	- 22.1	- 8.8	472	19	31	26
Moran	- 12.3	- 2.6	338	22	32	25

**Remarks:**

There was loss of crop, ranging from 5% to 25%, among the different sub areas during the month primarily due to Helopeltis attack. The highest loss to the tune of 25% was recorded in Margherita whereas lowest was in Dibrugarh sub areas. In some estates, the loss of June crop was around 50% compared with the last year. So far in todate crop, there was hardly any difference. The attack of Helopeltis started at a crucial time around mid May and reached peak in June coinciding with the time of formation of plucking table in LP/DS sections and restricted use of pesticide during 2dn flush period. The quantity and frequency of rainfall favoured the pest attack. Furthermore, poor sunshine hours with more cloudy days augmented the attack of Helopeltis. Frequent rain at the morning hours resulted rain-wash of the sprayed pesticide in most cases. The average maximum temperature was lower by around 1°C which also affected growth. There was hardly any day with typical hot and humid tea climate during the period under review.

**Region: SOUTH BANK**

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Jorhat	- 7.8	- 12.1	238	17	34	25
Golaghat	+ 5.1	- 7.3	272	20	35	25
Sonari-Nazira	- 4.0	+ 2.8	285	19	33	25

**Remarks**

The crop during the month under review remained behind in comparison to the corresponding month of the last year both in Sonari-Nazira and in Jorhat sub districts. However, in Golaghat sub district it is marginally ahead. In respect of to-date crop though Sonari-Nazira sub district is marginally ahead but both the other sub districts remained behind. During the period under review severe to moderate

level of infestation of Helopeltis in some of the estates of Sonari-Nazira as well as Jorhat sub district was one of the factors for loss of crop. Sufficient rainfall was received by estates of all the sub districts. As per record registered in Tocklai during the month 285.4mm of rainfall was received which is almost at par with the normal value. Range of monthly average maximum temperature in the entire sub district was between 33°C to 35°C and minimum temperature was at 25°C which were near to normal.

### Region: NORTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Nowgaon	- 3.0	- 4.0	492	21	34	23
Tezpur	- 2.0	At par	537	24	32	23
Biswanath	At par	+ 3.0	521	22	33	22
N. Lakhimpur	+ 3.0	+ 2.0	567	25	32	22
Borsola	+ 6.0	At par	562	24	33	22
Mangaldoi	+ 5.0	At par	536	24	33	22

#### Remarks:

The crop during the month remained almost at par to the corresponding period of last year in all the sub districts except Tezpur and Nowgaon where the crop was marginally behind. In todate crop except Nowgaon all other sub districts remained ahead. Very high quantum of rainfall was received by estates of all the sub districts which have caused flood and other associated drainage problems. Being overcast in most of days of the month the temperature remained lower which adversely affected shoot growth. Incidence of pest viz. Helopeltis, Red spider and Looper Caterpillar was recorded with variation on level of infestation from estate to estate.

### Region: CACHAR

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Happy Valley	+ 0.7	+ 10.6	351	21	32	22
Chutlabheel	+ 39.8	+ 30.8	394	21	33	24
North Cachar	+ 32.1	+ 23.7	328	14	38	29
Hailakandi	+ 16.9	+ 11.6	325	23	36	27
Longai & Karimganj	+ 5.6	+ 12.3	352	24	37	23

#### Remarks:

During the period under review the weather remained mostly favourable for good growth of shoots. Rainfall received during the period was comparatively higher than last season. The production was also higher in the all sub areas. Overall the todate production in Barak Valley remained higher by about 18% than last year. In the pest front incidence of Red spider mite, Helopeltis were reported from estates of some sub areas.

## Region: TERAI

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
North Terai	- 1.6	- 2.1	941	21	32	24
South Terai	- 3.4	+ 3.0	611	24	36	27
West Terai	+ 13.3	+ 8.4	908	24	36	24

### Remarks:

On an average West Terai gardens could harvest more crop in the month of June in comparison to the corresponding month of 2007. However, South Terai and North Terai gardens produced less. As regards to cumulative production till June 2008, South and West Terai gardens are ahead in comparison to 2007. However, North Terai gardens recorded less crop in 2008 than 2007. Quantum of rainfall and number of rainy days in June 2008 are noted to be much higher in all sub areas as compared to June 2007. As far as pest is concerned, infestation of Looper Caterpillar, Thrips, Greenfly and Red spider mite was reported from all sub areas. Out of which infestation of Looper Caterpillar is a matter of concern and the degree of infestation was reported to be moderate to severe in all sub areas.

## Region: Darjeeling

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Darjeeling West						
Darjeeling East						
Teesta Valley						
RungBung Valley						
Kurseong						
Mirik Valley						

### Remarks:

Data not received.

## Region: Dooars

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /- )		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Damdim	- 18.0	NA	979	25	32	24
Chulsa	+ 9.0	NA	1163	26	33	26
Nagrakata	+ 4.0	NA	918	29	31	24
Binnaguri	- 14.0	NA	704	27	34	22
Dalgaon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kalchini	- 3.0	NA	419	26	34	23
Jainti	- 2.8	NA	893	27	33	25
Goalpara	+ 8.7	NA	844	20	35	25

### Remarks:

The crop during the month remained behind in most of the sub districts except Chulsa, Nagrakata and Goalpara compared to crop of the corresponding period of

last year. Incessant rainfall as indicated by quantum and number of rainy days could adversely affected the shoot growth. However, average maximum and minimum temperature in the region was not much affected by higher rainfall.

**(Issued by Chief Advisory Officer, Tocklai)**