



TOCKLAI EXPERIMENTAL STATION
TEA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
JORHAT 785 008, ASSAM

MONTHLY BULLETIN

MAY 2010

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	- 25.05	- 0.80	575	20	28	20
Panitola	- 14.90	- 7.75	461	19	30	22
Tingrai	- 20.42	- 6.54	417	20	28	21
Doomdooma	- 22.06	- 13.62	552	19	29	21
Mergherita	- 40.85	- 25.77	369	20	28	21
Naharkatia	- 0.03	+ 5.54	331	20	30	22
Moran	- 20.62	- 3.24	297	21	30	22

Remarks:

Crop during the month under review remained behind in all the sub areas of the region as compared to the last year. In todate crop except Naharkatia sub area the estates of other sub areas remained behind at varying magnitude maximum being recorded at Margherita sub area. Unusually higher rainfall with more number of cloudy days has affected productivity besides encouraging build up of crop damaging pest like Helopeltis. Infestation of Helopeltis has been the major cause of concern in the pest front in all the sub areas of the region while other tea pests could be kept under control.

Region: SOUTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Jorhat	+ 6.28	+ 14.83	400	19	31	19
Golaghat	- 12.15	+ 9.66	318	17	32	20
Sonari-Nazira	+ 3.90	+ 17.94	438	20	32	22

Remarks

Crop during the month in Jorhat and Sonari Nazira sub areas of the region was ahead by average 5% while in Golaghat sub area it was considerably behind. In todate crop all the sub areas remained ahead. Rainfall received during the month was almost 45% higher than the normal. The maximum temperature was slightly higher than the normal in contrary to the minimum temperature. Incidence of Helopeltis was reported from the estates with varying intensity. Incidence of Red spider, Looper and Greenfly was also reported from some of the estates of the region.

Region: NORTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + / -)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Nowgaon	- 17.00	+ 21.00	213	21	30	26
Tezpur	- 14.00	+ 25.00	255	22	31	25
Biswanath	- 12.00	+ 27.00	234	23	31	24
N. Lakhimpur	- 7.00	+ 26.00	287	22	30	25
Borsola	- 15.00	+ 18.00	198	20	32	26
Mangaldoi	- 11.00	+ 27.00	208	21	33	25
Nalbari	- 9.00	+ 28.00	215	19	31	25

Remarks:

The crop recorded during the month under review was behind compared to the corresponding period of last year. However, in todate crop all the sub areas of the region remained ahead. Although quantum of rainfall received during the period remained near to normal number of rainy days were more for which sunshine hours was less which might have adversely affected the harvest. Temperature in terms of both maximum and minimum was near to normal. Among the tea pest *Helopeltis* remained active in the estates of all the sub areas during the month.

Region: CACHAR

Sub Area	Crop position (% + / -)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Happy Valley	+ 3.50	+ 15.30	788	28	32	23
Chutlabheel	- 0.40	+ 0.70	560	24	35	26
North Cachar	- 18.90	- 5.40	778	26	31	21
Hailakandi	- 17.70	- 18.10	555	25	35	20
Longai & Karimganj	- 10.30	- 12.60	483	26	34	23

Remarks:

During the period under review the weather condition remained mostly wet and all the sub areas received higher rainfall as compared to the corresponding period of the last season. Due to the incessant rainfall average maximum temperature, minimum temperature and sunshine hours were lower than the corresponding period of last year. This has affected the normal flush behaviour to a great extent and except Happy Valley all other sub areas witnessed a drop in production as compared to the last seasons. In the pest front sporadic infestation of *Helopeltis*, Red spider mites and sucking pest have been reported from some estates.

Region: TERAI

Sub Area	Crop position (% + / -)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
North Terai	+ 2.20	+ 7.93	454	17	32	25
South Terai	+ 55.96	+ 29.11	363	13	32	24
West Terai	+ 17.01	+ 23.30	371	13	33	23

Remarks:

During the month all the sub areas produced more crops in comparison to the corresponding month of the last year. Todate crop remained ahead in all the sub areas. Substantial rainfall during the month was reached which was about 100mm more than normal. Temperature in terms of both maximum and minimum remained near to normal. The overall weather was favourable for crop. As regards to insect pest, infestation of Looper caterpillar was widespread and severe while Red spider mite, Thrips & Greenfly was also reported from large number of gardens.

Region: Darjeeling

Sub area	Weather			Crop position Ahead (+)/ Behind(-) in %	Pest & disease
	Particulars	This year for the month	Last year for the month		
Darjeeling West	Rainfall (cm)	12.45	47.46	- 21.97	Thrips, Greenfly, Red spider, Red spider, Helopeltis
	No. of Rainy days	9	13		
	Temperature (°C) Max/Min	27/18	27/15		
Darjeeling East	Rainfall (cm)	27.48	49.71	- 24.25	Thrips, Greenfly, Red spider
	No. of Rainy days	13	13		
	Temperature (°C) Max/Min	25/17	24/14		
Teesta Valley	Rainfall (cm)	16.26	42.66	- 13.30	Thrips, Greenfly, Res spider, Helopeltis
	No. of Rainy days	12	11		
	Temperature (°C) Max/Min	26/20	26/20		
Rung Bung Valley	Rainfall (cm)	19.95	33.68	+ 14.29	Thrips, Greenfly, Res spider
	No. of Rainy days	16	16		
	Temperature (°C) Max/Min	24/17	23/16		
Kurseong	Rainfall (cm)	23.92	43.58	+ 7.86	Thrips, Greenfly, Res spider, Helopeltis
	No. of Rainy days	12	15		
	Temperature (°C) Max/Min	27/17	26/17		
Mirik Valley	Rainfall (cm)	23.20	48.54	- 20.39	Thrips, Greenfly, Res spider, Helopeltis
	No. of Rainy days	14	14		
	Temperature (°C) Max/Min	26/17	26/18		

Remarks:

Crop during the month remained behind in different sub areas of the region except Rung bung Valley and Kurseong sub division where about 14% crop remained ahead of last year. The rainfall received in the region during the month although was only 50% of the corresponding period of last year but much higher than the normal. Temperature in terms of maximum and minimum remained near normal. Sporadic incidence of Thrips, Greenfly, Helopeltis and Red spider was observed.

Region: Dooars

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Damdin	- 12.83	+ 4.40	463	18	31	21
Chulsa	- 15.58	+ 6.91	513	21	31	22
Nagrakata	- 18.38	+ 4.46	691	16	31	22
Binnaguri	+ 18.21	+ 39.63	432	17	32	22
Dalgaon	- 15.25	+ 21.00	365	12	35	22
Kalchini	+ 11.37	+ 8.57	497	21	31	22
Jainti	- 16.12	+ 14.30	454	22	31	21
Goalpara (Assam)	+ 23.88	+ 48.40	687	26	30	21

Remarks:

There was large variation in crop harvested by the estates of different sub-districts of Dooars during the month of May 2010. Most of the sub-districts were behind in crop during May 2010 ranging from 12 to 18% than that of same month of last year. Only Binnaguri and Kalchini sub-districts have gained in crop by 18.21% and 11.37% respectively. Differences in drought effect and level of pest infestation, mainly Looper caterpillars during last year as well as this year are the main factors responsible for this variation. Drought was prolonged in sub-districts like Dam Dim and Chulsa affecting the crop adversely. The overall crop during the month of May in Dooars is behind by around 3.78% than the corresponding period of last year. However, up to date crop in Dooars is ahead by 14.72% as compared to same period of last year. Goalpara sub-district had a gain on 23.88% during the month with a lead of 48.40% in up to date crop. Overall weather conditions were satisfactory during the month under review with intermittent sunshine and rainfall. Looper, Helopeltis and Red spider mite were active at moderate level during the month. Management of Looper caterpillar was better than the preceding season and crop loss due to the pests was not significant.

(Issued by Chief Advisory Officer, Tocklai)