

TOCKLAI EXPERIMENTAL STATION
TEA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
JORHAT 785 008, ASSAM

MONTHLY BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2009

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	+ 13.91	+ 5.53	156	12	32	20
Panitola	+ 10.54	+ 4.89	159	12	31	21
Tingrai	+ 14.66	+ 5.86	138	10	31	22
Doomdooma	+ 14.27	+ 2.69	149	8	32	22
Mergherita	+ 23.32	+ 11.26	130	10	32	23
Naharkatia	+ 24.40	+ 12.94	175	8	30	22
Moran	+ 25.21	+ 5.87	137	7	32	22

Remarks:

Crop during the month under review remained ahead compared to last year. In todate crop also all the sub areas remained ahead maximum being at Naharkatia. Substantially higher rainfall was received during the month by all the sub areas of the region. Temperature both maximum and minimum was also recorded higher than the corresponding period of last year. Hence, the weather for crop during the month was favourable. No major outbreak of the tea pest was reported.

Region: SOUTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Jorhat	+ 8.79	+ 0.83	72	6	34	20
Golaghat	+ 11.26	- 4.60	87	6	31	21
Sonari-Nazira	+ 36.16	+ 15.16	125	4	33	18

Remarks

All the sub areas of South Bank harvested higher crop during the month compared to last year. Highest crop gain was reported from Sonari Nazira sub area. In respect of todate crop while Jorhat and Sonari Nazira remained ahead Golaghat sub area estates remained behind. During the month rainfall was deficit in Jorhat and Golaghat sub areas but Sonari Nazira received around 38% more rainfall than corresponding period of last year. In all the sub areas maximum temperature during the month was higher than the normal however, minimum temperature was at par with normal which however was not in favour of crop. Infestation of Helopeltis and Looper was reported from some of the estates at a lower level of infestation.

Region: NORTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Nowgaon	+ 5.00	- 13.00	128	5	32	23
Tezpur	+ 4.00	- 4.00	121	6	31	22
Biswanath	+ 4.00	+ 2.00	98	5	31	23
N. Lakhimpur	+ 5.00	+ 8.00	109	6	31	21
Borsola	+ 3.00	- 14.00	153	5	31	24
Mangaldoi	+ 2.00	- 10.00	76	3	31	20
Nalbari	+ 3.00	- 4.00	65	4	32	24

Remarks:

The crop during the month remained ahead by 2-5% in different sub areas of the region but in todate crop except Biswanath and N. Lakhimpur all the sub areas remained behind maximum being recorded at Borsola sub area. Rainfall during the month in all the subareas except Nalbari remained higher compared to last year. Temperature both maximum and minimum during the month remained higher compared to last year. The weather could favourably influence crop reflected in the harvest of all the sub areas. No major pest and disease outbreak was reported.

Region: CACHAR

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Happy Valley	+ 18.30	- 2.50	219	12	34	23
Chutlabheel	+ 25.00	+ 2.30	109	10	36	25
North Cachar	+ 28.80	+ 4.20	197	11	34	24
Hailakandi	+ 29.10	- 0.40	76	10	34	26
Longai & Karimganj	+ 35.40	+ 8.60	73	10	36	19

Remarks:

Although the rainfall received during the period under review was less, the crop harvested in all the sub areas was considerably higher than the corresponding period of last season. This was due to the post harvest puja crop coupled with a favourable weather condition during the early part of the month. Thus most of the estates of the valley except in Happy Valley and Hailakandi sub areas were able to make up their losses and remained ahead in todate production. In the pest front mild to moderate level incidence of Red spider mite and Helopeltis has been reported from some sub areas. Infestation of termite has started showing up in almost all the 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	- 7.20	- 16.53	236	3	33	22
South Terai	+ 3.86	- 12.41	353	3	32	21
West Terai	- 8.55	- 18.07	298	3	33	22

Remarks:

Differential response in crop was recorded among different sub areas. South Terai recorded higher crop while North and West Terai suffered crop loss during the month

compared to harvest during corresponding period of last year. Substantially higher rainfall was received by all the sub areas during the month which was much higher than the normal. Temperature in terms of both maximum and minimum remained a couple of degree higher than normal. Over the weather can be considered as favourable for crop. As regards to insect pest, infestation of Helopeltis and Looper caterpillar was reported from a large number of gardens under all sub areas of Terai.

Region: Darjeeling

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Darjeeling West	+ 16.10	NA	98	4	31	15
Darjeeling East	+ 0.50	NA	141	4	24	15
Teesta Valley	- 1.70	NA	94	6	28	18
RungBung Valley	+ 26.10	NA	46	4	26	16
Kurseong	+ 16.45	NA	209	4	29	18
Mirik Valley	+ 17.72	NA	84	6	28	16

Remarks:

Crop in all the sub areas remained ahead except Teesta Valley. Rainfall received by all the sub areas was higher except in RungBung Valley. Temperature in terms of both Maximum and minimum remained slightly higher in all the sub areas. The weather during the month was favourable for crop. Infestation of Helopeltis and Blister blight was reported in some of the estate irrespective of sub area.

Region: Dooars

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Damdim	+ 4.90	- 8.58	316	7	35	20
Chulsa	- 5.25	- 17.45	892	6	34	21
Nagrakata	+ 4.54	- 8.14	380	6	34	19
Binnaguri	+ 15.47	+ 4.10	343	2	35	17
Dalgaon	+ 13.04	+ 8.68	380	4	34	18
Kalchini	+ 18.05	+ 10.06	339	6	35	18
Jainti	+ 14.87	- 0.92	235	6	34	17
Goalpara (Assam)	+ 15.18	+ 0.12	233	6	37	20

Remarks:

October appeared to be a month of good harvest for Dooars with a gain of 9.61% in crop compared to October 2008. This helped to reduce the overall difference in up to date crop of Dooars to (-)4.17% from (-)6.39% is compared to that of last month. All sub districts except Chulsa gained by 4.54% to 18.05% which was highest from Kalchini sub district. Goalpara too gained by 15.18%. Good rain received during early part of October and less pest activity had helped to gain crop during October. However, there was no rainfall thereafter and a dry condition is setting in Dooars gardens indicating possibility of a second consecutive drought if rainfall is not received shortly. Out of the pests, Helopeltis was reported from most of the estates and a fresh brood of Looper caterpillar. But, intensity of both the pests was at lower level.

(Issued by Chief Advisory Officer, Tocklai)