

TOCKLAI EXPERIMENTAL STATION
TEA RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
JORHAT 785 008, ASSAM

MONTHLY BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 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	- 3.79	+ 3.61	473	21	32	24
Panitola	+ 1.80	+ 5.82	514	20	33	24
Tingrai	- 6.04	+ 1.79	271	19	33	24
Doomdooma	- 9.29	+ 1.09	289	13	33	23
Mergherita	+ 7.15	+ 8.56	280	14	33	25
Naharkatia	+ 2.42	+10.10	289	12	32	25
Moran	- 9.56	+ 2.25	170	12	33	25

Remarks:

The crop variation during the month in different sub areas is quite conspicuous. Estates of Panitola, Margherita and Naharkatia while remained ahead, the other sub areas viz. Dibrugarh, Tingrai, Doomdooma and Moran remained behind. However, in todate crop all the sub areas remained ahead compared to last year crop harvested during the same period. Substantially higher rainfall was recorded in all the sub areas during the month and temperature remained at normal level. The weather during the month as such can be considered favourable for crop. Hence, the crop difference can be said to be due to irregularity in plucking during festival. Pests in the estates irrespective of sub areas reported to be 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	- 0.84	- 1.49	140	11	35	24
Golaghat	- 2.93	- 7.95	213	10	36	26
Sonari-Nazira	- 0.28	- 3.98	189	12	36	25

Remarks

The crop during the month as well as in todate crop remained marginally behind in all the sub areas of the region with maximum crop loss being recorded at Golaghat estates. Substantially higher rainfall (28.65%) was received during the month as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The maximum temperature recorded during the month was also higher compared to last year. The weather for crop can be considered favourable during the period under review although marginal crop loss was recorded which may be due to festival irregularity. Except sporadic infestation of Looper and Helopeltis the pest scenario in the region was not in alarming state.

Region: NORTH BANK

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Nowgaon	- 2.00	- 15.00	78	11	34	22
Tezpur	+ 4.00	- 5.00	86	14	33	20
Biswanath	At par	+ 2.00	98	8	32	21
N. Lakhimpur	+ 3.00	+ 7.00	214	14	31	20
Borsola	+ 2.00	- 16.00	76	8	33	21
Mangaldoi	+ 4.00	- 12.00	98	8	33	22
Nalbari	+ 3.00	- 5.00	103	9	32	21

Remarks:

Crop harvested during the month in all the sub areas remained ahead or at par to corresponding period of last year except in Nowgaon. However, in todate crop except Biswanath and North Lakhimpur, other sub areas estates remained behind. Rainfall received during the month except North Lakhimpur remained substantially lower. Moreover, the temperature both in terms of maximum and minimum remained lower. Therefore, the crop weather during the period remained comparatively unfavourable for which crop during the month suffered. Sporadic incidence of Looper was only reported without any major outbreak of pests in plantations.

Region: CACHAR

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Happy Valley	- 8.20	- 6.60	329	13	36	25
Chutlabheel	- 1.60	- 3.10	219	12	37	27
North Cachar	- 5.20	- 2.80	349	12	38	29
Hailakandi	- 17.50	- 5.60	216	15	35	23
Longai & Karimganj	- 12.90	+ 3.50	233	11	37	25

Remarks:

The crop during the month under review reported to be behind in all the sub areas having maximum at Hailakandi. Todate crop except Longai & Karimganj in rest of the sub areas of the region remained behind compared to crop of the corresponding period of last year. Rainfall received during the period was comparatively lower but number of rainy days in the range of 16-20 days could create an overcast condition affecting the normal growth of shoots. A higher day and night temperature was also recorded during the period which also was not in favour of shoot growth. Therefore, the crop weather during the month can be considered not very favourable which is reflected in the crop harvested. In the pest front mild to moderate incidence of Red spider, Thrips, Black rot, Helopeltis has been reported.

Region: TERAI

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
North Terai	- 26.68	- 18.06	312	9	34	25
South Terai	- 15.47	- 12.54	144	8	34	24
West Terai	- 29.53	- 20.29	200	10	33	23

Remarks:

Estates of all the sub areas in Terai harvested less crop during the month in comparison to the corresponding period of last year. This also further lowered the todate crop, maximum being in West Terai. Rainfall received during the period and also number of rainy days was substantially lower than normal. Due to less of rainfall although maximum temperature remained higher but the minimum temperature remained unaffected which made the maximum to minimum temperature difference more. Shortage of rainfall coupled with higher difference of day and night temperature affected adversely the shoot growth resulting in crop loss during the period. As regards to insect pest, infestation of Helopeltis and Looper found damaging and wide spread as reported.

Region: Darjeeling

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Darjeeling West	+ 1.00	NA	220	13	29	21
Darjeeling East	- 10.00	NA	150	12	25	16
Teesta Valley	+ 9.00	NA	180	11	30	22
RungBung Valley	- 6.00	NA	210	14	26	19
Kurseong	+ 1.00	NA	180	10	28	22
Mirik Valley	+ 10.00	NA	260	9	28	20

Remarks:

The crop during the month remained ahead in Teesta Valley, Kurseong and Mirik Valley while remained behind in Darjeeling East, Rung Bung Valley. The sub areas where crop was lower during the month experienced a higher day to night temperature difference due to drop in the minimum temperature. This might have affected the shoot growth reflected in loss of crop. Rainfall received in the sub areas was almost at the same level as was in the corresponding period of last year. Among the tea pests Helopeltis and in disease front Blister incidence was reported from estates of all the sub areas.

Region: Dooars

Sub Area	Crop position (% + /-)		Rainfall (mm)	No. of rainy days	Temperature (°C)	
	During the month	To-date			Max.	Min.
Damdin	- 18.19	- 12.81	352	11	37	25
Chulsa	- 22.78	- 12.75	370	21	36	24
Nagrakata	- 27.39	- 12.35	630	18	32	23
Binnaguri	- 21.78	- 6.29	330	19	33	23
Dalgaon	- 6.34	+ 4.78	331	19	35	23
Kalchini	- 2.37	+ 9.24	289	17	36	24
Jainti	- 3.20	- 2.50	176	11	36	23
Goalpara (Assam)	+ 7.27	+ 5.83	166	10	35	24

Remarks:

The crop for the month of September dropped from 2% to 27% in different sub areas of Dooars. Chulsa and Nagrakata sub-district harvested the lowest crop of 22% and 27% respectively. Goalpara showed an increase of 7%. To-date crop is ahead in Dalgaon and Kalchini sub-district by 4% and 9% respectively. The overall crop of Dooars is behind by around 6.39%. The reason for low harvest was inclement weather condition with less rainfall and longer Puja holidays. Pests activity remained at a lower level during the month. However, Helopeltis was reported from all sub-districts along with a brood of Looper.

(Issued by Chief Advisory Officer, Tocklai)