

Hop report - Saaz fine aroma hops

Crop 2009 – August 2009 (Saaz region)

Weather condition – August 2009

Temperature & precipitation in August	2009	2008	30 years average
Average temperature (°C)	19,3	18,3	17,4
Total precipitation (mm)	39,2	48,8	62,0
Max. temperature (°C)	32,3 (02.08.)	33,2 (07.08.)	
Min. temperature (°C)	5,6 (30.08.)	4,8 (31.08.)	
Highest precipitation in one day (mm)	12,2 (25.08.)	15,2 (15.08.)	
Total precipitation Jan - August (mm)	312,2	383,0	263,0
Number of dry days	20	20	

The precipitations in August 2009 were very poor. They reached just 63% in comparison to the long term average. Ironically, the second highest rainfalls on 17th August 2009 have harmed the hop growers, as they were accompanied by strong wind and further 40 ha of hop gardens have fallen down (the windstorm threw down 104 ha of hop constructions in July). 29,3 ha of hop gardens crashed down in Saaz Region, out of this number 22,8 ha of Saaz Semi-early red-bine hops variety and 6,5 ha of Sládek variety. The losses in Auscha Region were 10, 7 ha of collapsed constructions of hop gardens, all of them being Saaz Semi-early red-bine hops. Besides the damages caused by the crashing of hop gardens, the windstorm brought further losses – fallen vines, broken lateral shoots and decrease of the quality of hops due to wind damage. The temperatures in August were above the long-term average as well as above the temperatures of previous year. The heats, especially when they arose around the noon, deteriorated the conditions for hop-picking.

Growth report

Climatic conditions in August were not optimal for ripening of hops. The hops were damaged by adverse climate conditions (windstorms and high temperatures). The heats and very strong habitus of hops facilitated the dissemination of downy mildew of hops (*Pseudoperonospora humuli* Miy et Takah.) and red spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae* Koch). View to the fact, that in some cases the protection of hops was very difficult, the deterioration of hops from the aspect of standard quality indicators has occurred. The harvest started in majority of cases between 18th August and 21st August 2009. The hop-picking on the crashed hop gardens started earlier – on 15th August 2009. The harvest is expected to take more time than it is usual – it will be probably 1 – 2 days longer. This situation was caused by rich habitus of vines. In order to enable quality hop-picking it is necessary to slow down the operational speed of hop-picking machines. As far as the production is concerned, the average results can be expected. As per the first laboratory analysis we can state that the content of alpha bitter substances in Saaz Semi-early red-bine hops will be very good.

Hop phytosanitary information

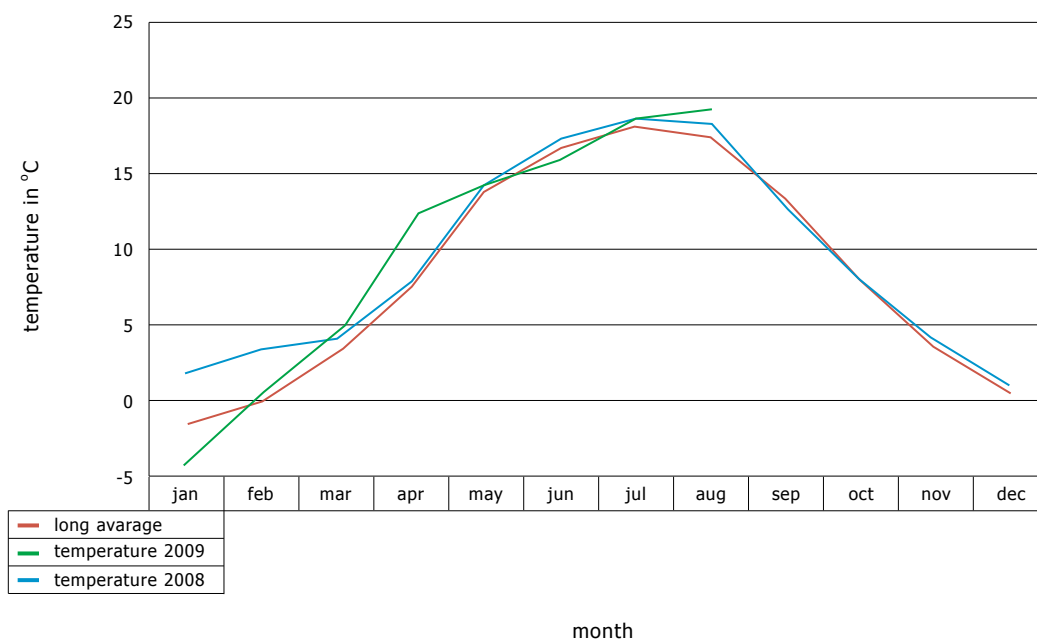
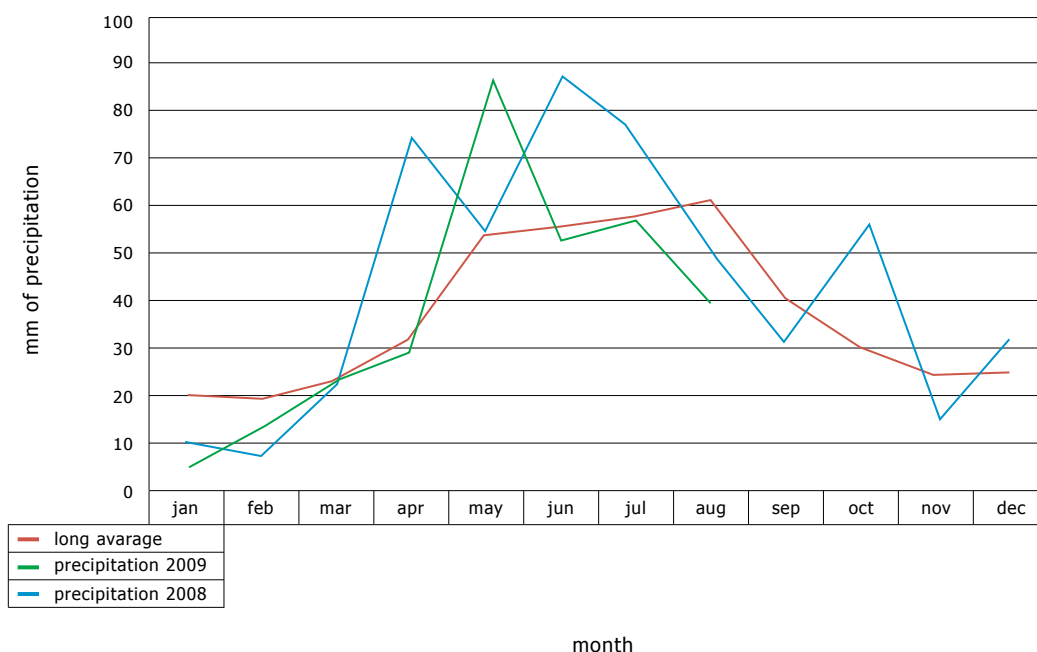
The most problematic work in August was the protection of hops. Protection against downy mildew of hops (*Pseudoperonospora humuli* Miy et Takah.) and red spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae* Koch) proved to be very difficult in passed month, and despite all measures some hops will be damaged.

Other information

The ÚKZÚZ – Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture specified the hop gardens acreage to be harvested in 2009.

THE ACREAGE OF HOP GARDENS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2009 (ÚKZÚZ 31st August 2009)

Variety	Saaz Region (ha)	Auscha Region (ha)	Trschitz Region (ha)	Czech Republic (ha)
Saaz	3 456	596	575	4 627
Agnus	58	0	0	58
Bor	6	7	0	13
Premiant	165	51	77	293
Sládek	192	10	75	277
Fuggle	0	0	5	5
Magnum	2	6	2	10
Harmonine	1	0	0	1
Rubín	1	0	0	1
Others	18	1	3	22
Total	3 899	671	737	5 307





Fallen hop garden on 17th August 2009



Healthy hop cones



St. Vavrinec, patron of hop growers, is blessing hop crop 2009

Saaz, September 1st, 2009
Jaroslav Hájek, Irena Nováková

Chmelařstvi Cooperative Žatec