

Hop report - Saaz fine aroma hops

Crop 2010 – August 2010 (Saaz region)

Weather condition – August 2010

Temperature & precipitation in August	2010	2009	30 years average
Average temperature (°C)	17,7	19,3	17,4
Total precipitation (mm)	103,4	39,2	62,0
Max. temperature (°C)	30,6	32,3 (02.08.)	
Min. temperature (°C)	6,9	5,6 (30.08.)	
Highest precipitation in one day (mm)	18,4	12,2 (25.08.)	
Total precipitation Jan - August (mm)	376,4	312,2	325,0
Number of dry days	10	20	

The temperatures in August were below long-term average, and the precipitations were very rich. In Saaz region totally 19,3 hectares of hop gardens have fallen down, from that 15,3 ha of the variety Saaz Semi-early red-bine hops and 4 ha of Sládek variety. The losses in Auscha Region were 7,5 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, big problems were caused by frequent, abundant and prolonged rains.

Growth report

Climatic conditions in August were not optimal for ripening of hops, especially for creation of alpha-bitter substances. The best condition for creating of alpha-bitter substances in that period is warm and sunny weather with minimum of rainfalls. However, August of this year was different. Continuing rainy weather strongly influenced the occurrence of downy mildew of hops (*Pseudoperonospora humuli* Miy et Takah.). Soil of many hop gardens was permanently waterlogged and that is why the protection of hops in that period was very complicated and somewhere even impossible. In such cases then occurred the damnification of the hops from the point of view of its standard quality indicators. Irregular ripening of hops caused also a wide dispersal in beginning of the harvest by individual growers. The first farmers started their hop-picking already on 16th August and the last ones on 30th August 2010. However, it is necessary to mention that majority of growers started the harvest within the period between 21st August and 25th August 2010. Also in this year the harvest will take more time, this once due to higher production of hops than we expected initially. Unfortunately, as per the first laboratory analysis we state, that the contents of alpha-bitter substances is lower than in previous year and the most probably the content of alpha-bitter substances will be also substantially lower than the long-term average (3,40% KH)

Hop phytosanitary information

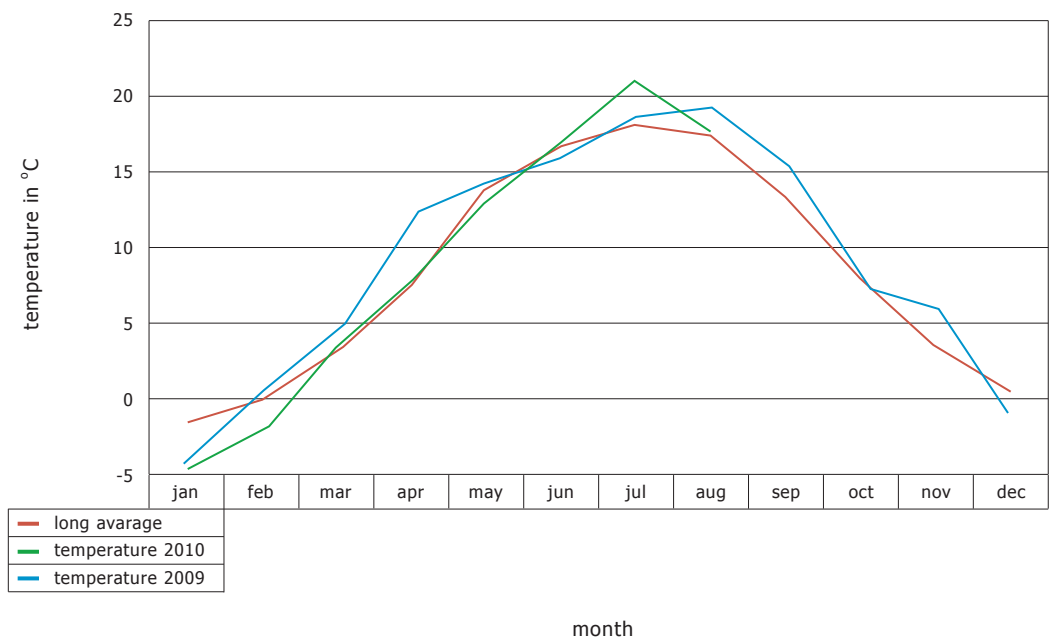
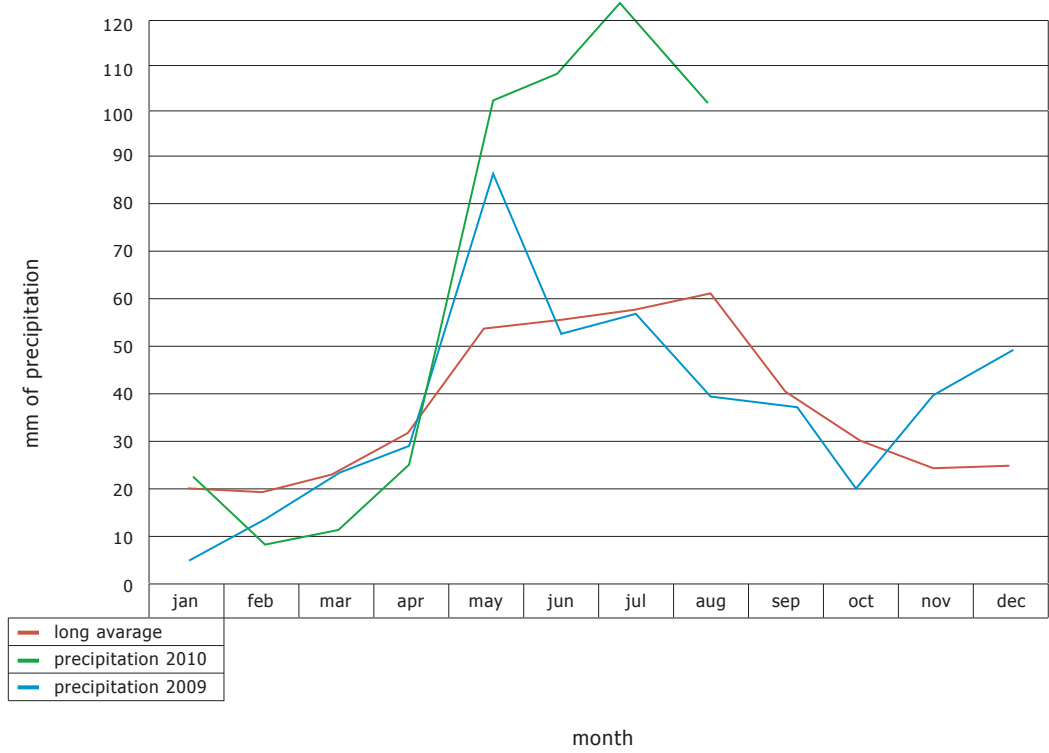
The month of August of 2010 was much more problematic than up to now the most difficult same month of previous year, view to the protection of hops. The prevention especially against downy mildew of hops was very exacting in this year, somewhere even impossible, and in spite of all measures such affected hop gardens are damaged. Otherwise the health state of the hops is good. Now everything will depend on how the growers will cope with the duration of the harvest.

Other information

The ÚKZÚZ – Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture specified the hop gardens acreage to be harvested in 2010.

THE ACREAGE OF HOP GARDENS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2010 (ÚKZÚZ 20th August 2010)

Variety	Saaz Region (ha)	Auscha Region (ha)	Trschitz Region (ha)	Czech Republic (ha)
Saaz	3 410	565	582	4 557
Agnus	58	3	0	61
Bor	4	0	0	4
Premiant	149	51	77	277
Sládek	187	15	75	277
Fuggle	0	0	5	5
Magnum	2	2	0	4
Harmonine	1	0	0	1
Rubín	1	0	0	1
Vital	1	0	0	1
Others	18	1	3	22
Total	3 831	637	742	5 210





Flooded hop gardens before the harvest



Heavy hop cones setting before the harvest

Saaz, September 1st, 2010
Jaroslav Hájek, Irena Nováková

Chmelařstvi Cooperative Žatec