

Hop report - Saaz fine aroma hops

Crop 2011 – July 2011 (Saaz region)

Weather condition – July 2011

Temperature & precipitation in July	2011	2010	30 years average
Average temperature (°C)	17,2	20,7	18,0
Total precipitation in July (mm)	194,2	122,4	59,0
Max. temperature (°C)	29,7 (9.7.)	35,0 (12.7.)	
Min. temperature (°C)	5,9 (1.7.)	8,5 (8.7.)	
Highest precipitation in one day (mm)	58,2 (30.7.)	42,2 (22.7.)	
Total precipitation Jan - July (mm)	406,1	398,2	263,0
Number of dry days	14	12	

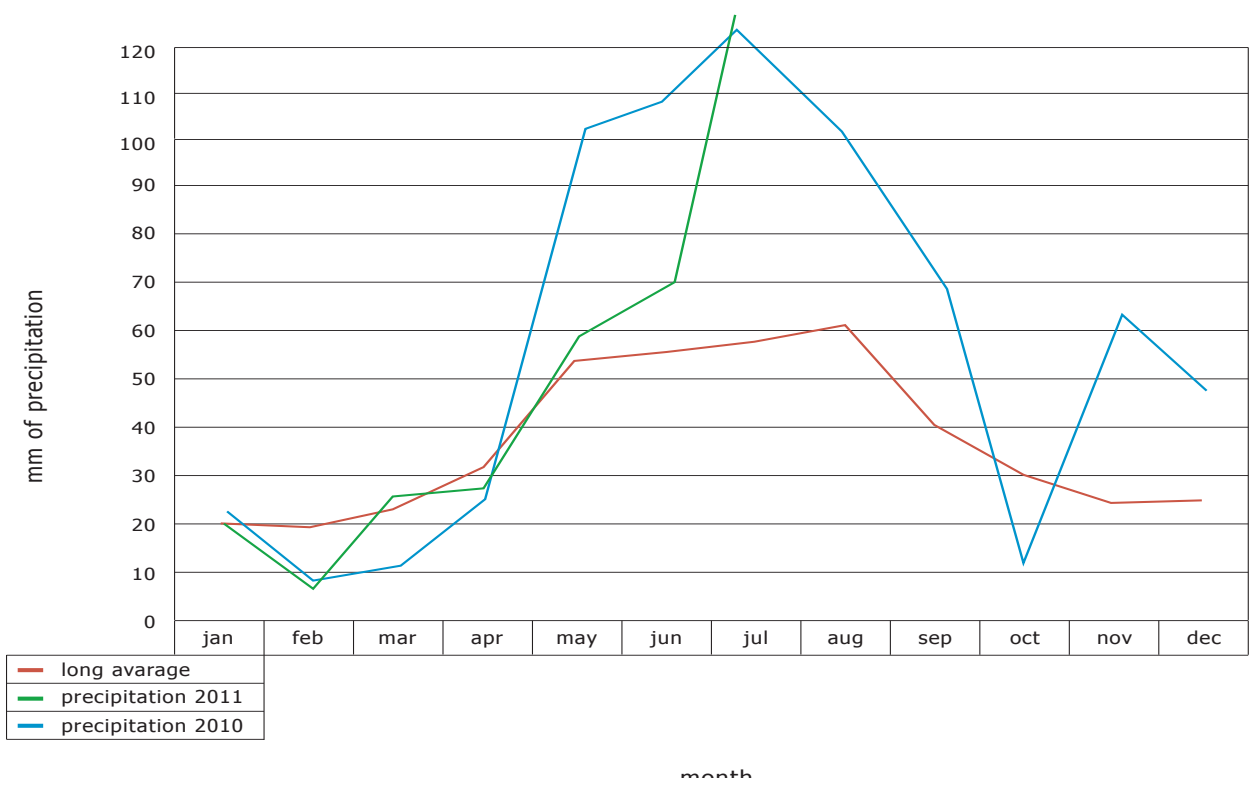
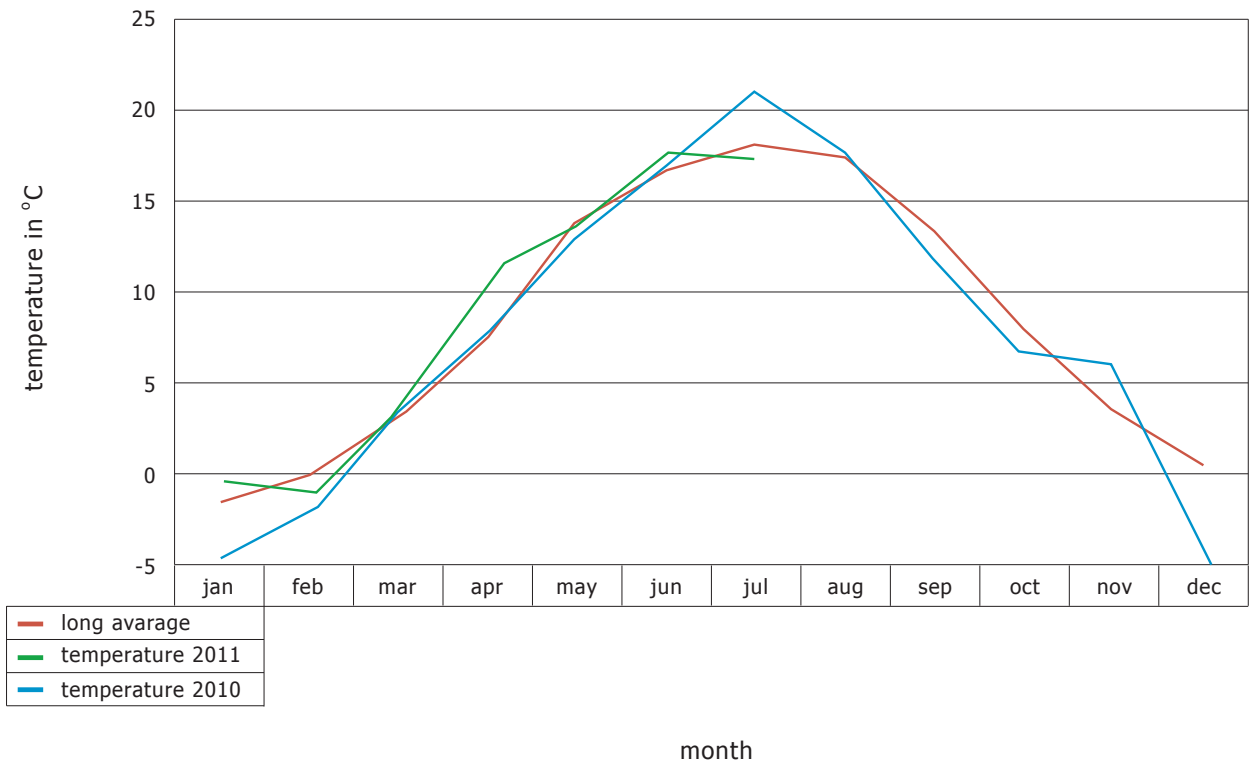
Above mentioned survey of temperatures and precipitations makes noticeable that July was subnormal month as far as the temperature is concerned (the difference amounts even 3,5°C in comparison to July 2010). The precipitations, on the other side, highly exceeded both the long-term average (by 135,2 mm) and relatively rainy July 2010 (by 71,8 mm). The rainfalls reached 329,2% of long-term average. Majority of rains fall in 30th and 31st of July, when 58,2 mm and 17,6 mm of downfalls were registered, respectively.

Growth report

The lead of the hop vines development, advised in our previous report of June, has been lost in July – nowadays we estimate that it has been reduced to 4 to 5 days, instead of original 10 – 12 days. We therefore predict, that majority of the growers will start the harvest within the period between 16th and 20th August 2011. The difference between the old and new cultures will be clearly perceptible in the yields. The old gardens (15 years and older) which have been cut as first, got older very soon, the lateral sprouts are not expressive and also the creation of cones is not optimal. On the other side, young hop gardens give very good impression. As we mentioned in our previous report, the hops started to blossom very early in this year. Around the 20th of July the hops initiated the second blossoming on majority of gardens. It was again more expressive in case of young gardens, where a good harvest can be expected.

Hop phytosanitary information

After the treatment of the hop cultures in the third decade of June by aphicide preparations (Confidor 70 WG, Teppeki, Chess 50 WG and Movento 150 OD) the hop aphid (*Phorodon humuli* Schrank) was eradicated basically in all hop gardens. View to already finished transfer of the hop aphid in this year (the third decade of June) this pest should not cause any economical losses on hop cones. In spite of cold and rainy weather it was necessary to take care of the presence of red spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae* Koch). In majority of cases the preparation Ortus 5SP has been used. If higher occurrence of red spider mite in some gardens will be registered, the application of the preparation Omite 30 W is recommended. Also in July an inflectional tendency of downy mildew of hops (*Pseudoperonospora humuli* Miy et Takah.) was rather strong. The cultures were treated by preparations Ridomil Gold Combi Pepite, Aliette Bordeaux and Ortiva. By the end of July it was also possible to apply the cupric preparations as Cuproxat SC or Kuprikol 250 SC. Although this year the protection of hops was not easy, we state, that the health condition of hops in all hop gardens is satisfactory.





Hop heading at the end of July



overview at the hop garden at the end of July

Saaz, August 1, 2011
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Chmelařstvi Cooperative Žatec