Hop report

May 2024 (Saaz region)

1. Climatic data in May

Monitored data	2024	2023	30 years average	Difference 24–30 y. aver.
Average temperature (°C)	15,3	13,8	14	1,3
Max. temperature (°C)	(15. 5.) 25,5	27,6		
Min. temperature (°C)	(9. 5.) 2,1	-1,1		
No. of summer days (T_{max} ›= 25°C)	1	3		
No. of tropical days (T_{max} ›= 30°C)	0	0		
No. of frosty days (T_{min} ‹= 0°C)	0	2		
No. of ice-cold days (T_{max} ‹= 0°C)	0	0		
Monthly summary of precip. (mm)	98	7,2	51,9	46,1
Max. daily summary of precip. (mm)	(6. 5.) 21	2,4		
Amount of precip. since Jan 1st	187,3	96,8	135,2	52,1
No. of dry days	13	24		
Length of the sunshine	192,4	265,6		

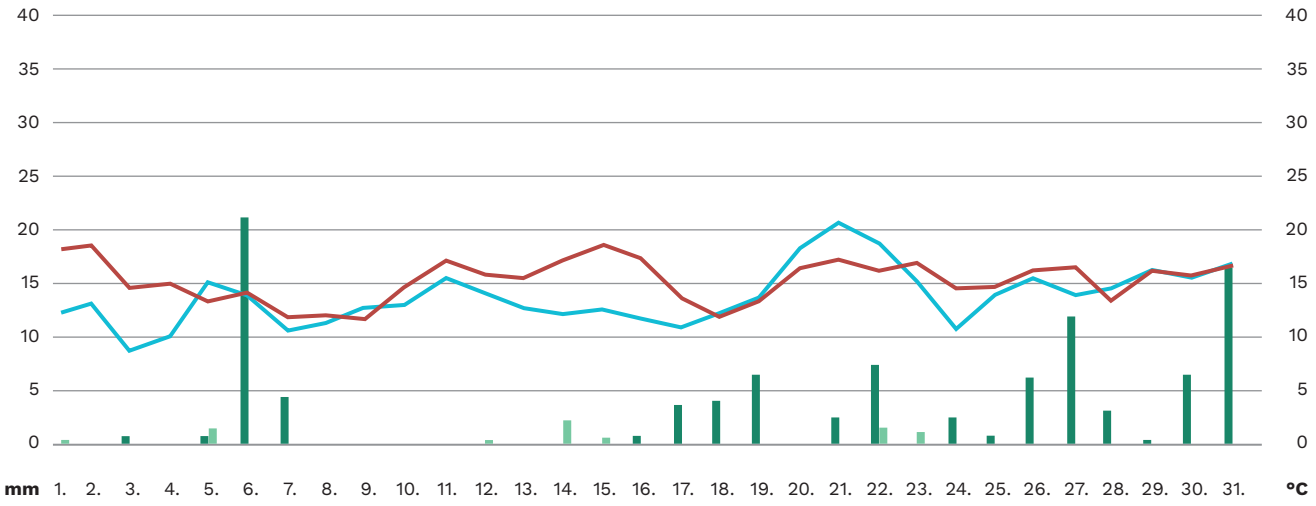
The month of May was slightly above-average as far as the temperature is concerned. The average temperature increased 1,3°C in comparison to the long-term average and it reached the difference of 1,5°C compared to previous year. The higher average temperature was influenced by maximum daily temperatures in the range of 20–25°C, which were recorded on more than half of the days (22 days in total).

Also in terms of precipitation May was above-average month compared to last year. The rainfall total of 98 mm reached almost 190% compared to the long-term average. During the third decade of the month, we recorded heavy rains associated with the hail storms in some localities. In Auscha region approx. 10 ha of hop gardens were affected, with almost 65–70% of damage and 18 ha of the gardens were damaged up to 20%.

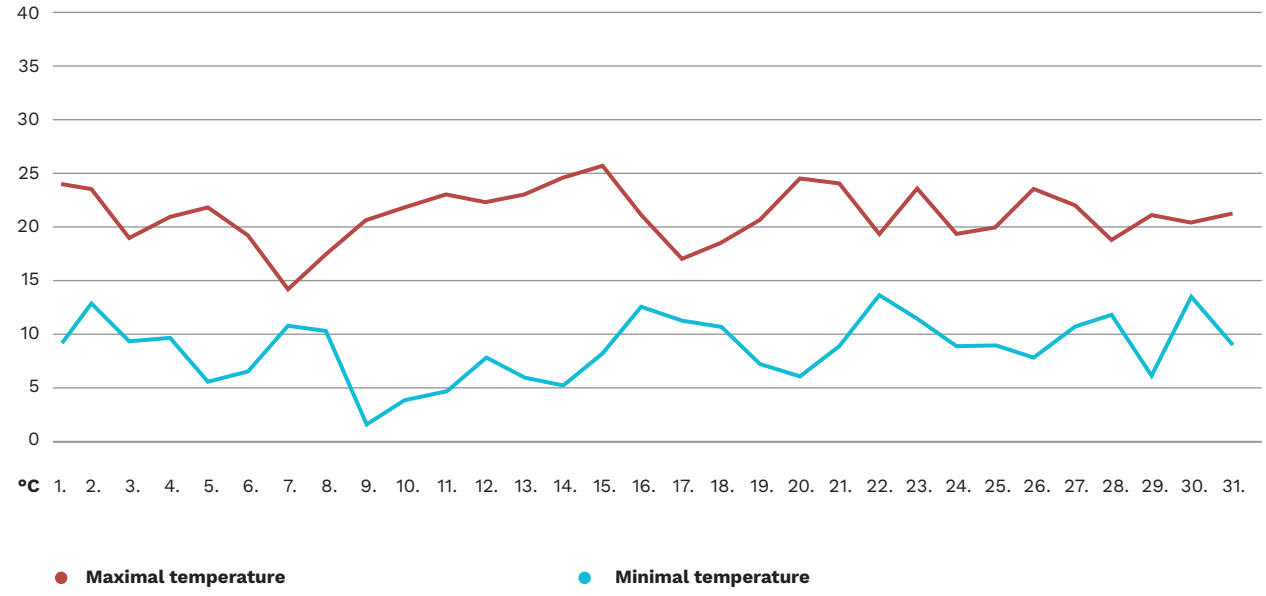
As far as the water regime is concerned, we assess the situation very good in this year.

2. Monthly charts of precipitation and temperatures

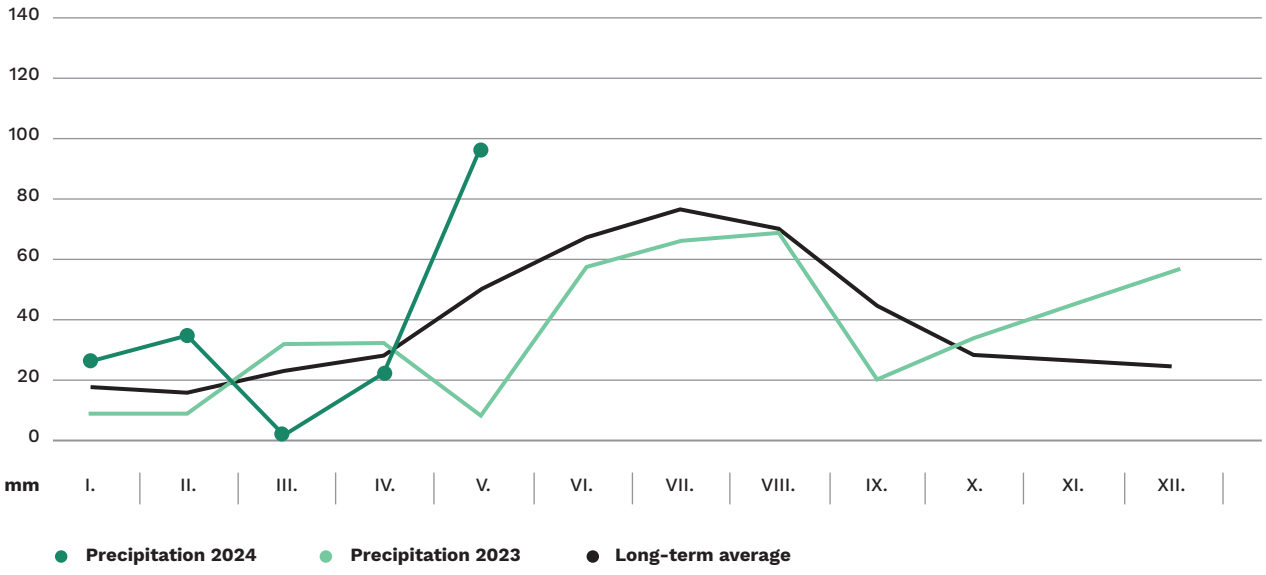
Precipitation and temperatures in May 2024 compared to 2023

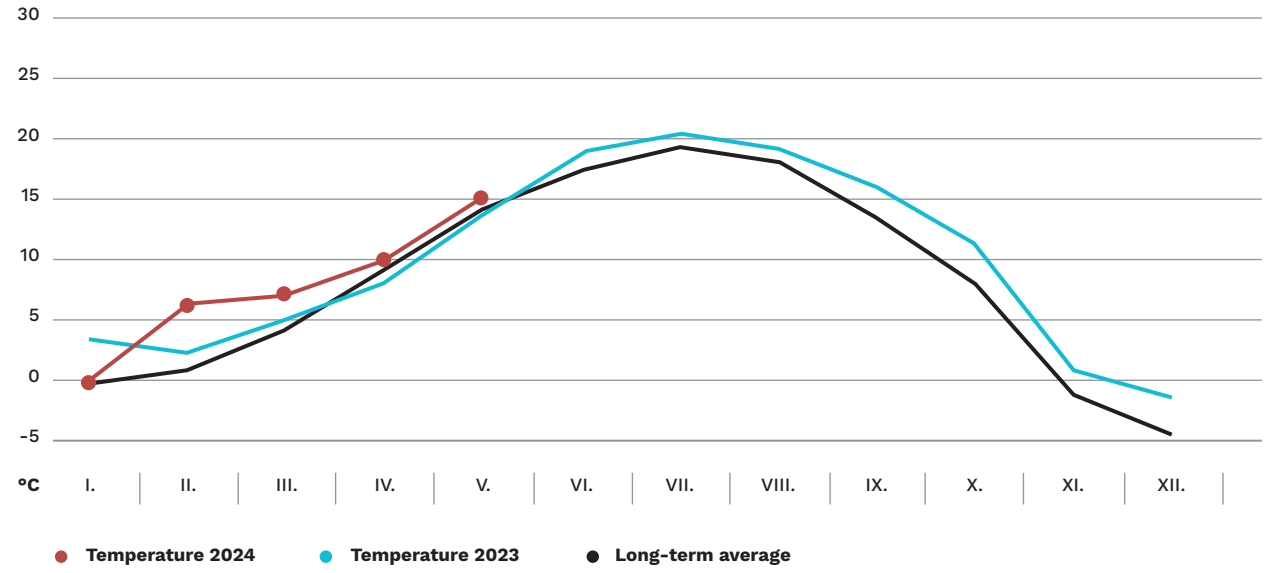


Overview of maximum and minimum ground temperatures in May



3. Annual charts of precipitation and temperatures





4. Assessment of the health condition and the vegetation

Due to the cold weather and temperature differences at the end of April and during the first decade of May the growth of hops slowed down. In some localities the growers were waiting for the optimal height of hop shoots and were thus forced to postpone the first as well as the second training of the hops. Sufficient precipitation encouraged the vegetation to grow and the training of hops was finalized in good quality before the end of month. Where the soil conditions allowed the first plough hilling took place after the training of hops.

During the month the second and the third protective spraying against downy mildew of hops (Pseudoperonospora humuli Miy et Takah.) was applied. In the second half of the month there appeared the hop aphid (Phorodon humuli Schrank) in the hop gardens and the monitoring of the occurrence of this pest was recommended. After the reaching of the critical number (50 wingless nymphs per leaf in upper leaf layers) it was suggested to carry out the treatment with recommended preparations. The rainy weather was adverse to the development of red spider mite (Tetranychus urticae Koch), however, where the occurence was recorded, the treatment by the preparation Nissorun 10 WP / Nissorun 25 SC or Ortus 5 SC were recommended.

The health condition of hops can be considered good at the end of May.

5. Photodocumentation

Hop garden after the first training of hops
at the beginning of May

Beginning of the creation of side shoots

View of the hop garden after the hilling at the end of May

Žatec, June 4, 2024, Kateřina Švecová