

HOP REPORT no. 5

SAAZ HOP GROWING REGION

August 2024

Precipitation and temperatures (*):

	1.8. – 31.8.2024	1.8. – 31.8.2023	30 year avg. (Aug)
Average temperature (°C)	20,7	19,7	18,4
Precipitation (mm)	112,8	78,9	71,9

Minimum temperature	6.8.2024	9,4	°C
Maximum temperature	13. a 29.8.2024	33,7	°C
Maximum precipitation	18.8.2024	28,8	mm

(*) We use meteorological data from our own meteorological station in Deštnice, near Žatec. We use 30 year average (1991-2020) by Czech Hydrometeorological Institute as our long term average reference.

Comments:

From the temperature standpoint, we can assess the weather in August as significantly warmer than the usual. Average daily temperatures were 2,3°C higher than the long term average. In second decade of August, there were 7 consecutive hot days when temperatures exceeded 30°C, which very likely negatively affected the development of aromatic compounds in hops and therefore the overall quality. The end of August, when harvest was already taking place, was unusually warmer than the long term average as well.

Precipitation in August also resulted to be way above average, however its distribution throughout the month was not optimal for the development of hop plants. After very rainy first 4 days in the beginning of the month, there were almost two weeks with elevated temperatures and no rain. Significant rains came again at the end of second decade of August, however at that time most of the farmers were already getting ready to start their harvest.

Health condition of the plants just before the harvest was good, all the farmers applied the final spraying of copper based agents to tackle downy mildew.

Hop harvest at our farms started on August 17th, the first ones were ZS Blšany and M+A+J Sedčice, the last ones to start were Petrohradská on August 21st.

According to the current results we're expecting this year's harvest to be average in terms of the yields. Saaz Fine Aroma Hops variety is expected to yield roughly 5000 tonnes, however the contents of alpha acids will most likely be the same as last year, on average 2,6%.

Photographs:

