

# UPASI TEA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

## REGIONAL CENTRE

P.B.No.1, Parkglen, Gudalur – 643 212, The Nilgiris.  
Regd. Office: Glenview, Coonoor – 643 101, The Nilgiris.

Grams: UPASI, GUDALUR  
URL: [www.upasitearesearch.org](http://www.upasitearesearch.org)

Phone: 04262 – 261339  
E-mail: [gudalur@upasitearesearch.org](mailto:gudalur@upasitearesearch.org)

RC-GDR/MR/2023/62

03.04.2023

### REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023

**VISITS:** During the month 8 visits were made to the member estates in connection with Advisory, trainings and experimental purposes.

Month	Advisory	Experimental	Total
March 2023	01	07	08
B/F from January	03	12	15
To date	04	19	23

**WEATHER:** Nilgiri-Wayanad reels under harsh drought this year. Drought has taken a toll on tea & coffee, the major crops in the district. The coffee blossom opens due to the mist and most of the flowers were dried as there was no backing rain. The ponds; water bodies and most of the wells inside as well outside the plantations dried up due to the oppressive heat. The stifling heat and sizzling temperature grips Nilgiri-Wayanad this year. March has brought in to sharp focus the prevailing drought situation considered the most severe in the last two decades. During the month there were scattered localized light rain for a day on 15<sup>th</sup> March and after a break of 14 days there were scanty/meager rains on 29<sup>th</sup> of the month. The regional centre had registered rainfall on three occasions i.e.; on 15<sup>th</sup> - 4.0 mm, 29<sup>th</sup> -4.0 mm and on 30<sup>th</sup> March it was 3.0 mm. These meager rains received on 15<sup>th</sup> March increased the ground heat further and drought stress has been aggravated in the second fortnight of the month. The pattern of rain that douses now-a-days are entirely different and it's noted only in particular spots and not widely distributed. The sky was dark most of the days during last week of the month with light thundering and lightning but tailed off without rains. The minimum temperature oscillated between 10 °C to 18 °C. The maximum temperature fluctuated between 28°C to 33°C. The maximum temperature touched a whopping 33 degree Celsius, much to the dis-comfort of the peoples, reeling under severe heat wave. The lowest relative humidity was 35 per cent and the highest registered was 91 per cent during the month. The details of rainfall, temperature and relative humidity recorded for the month and decennial average in the regional centre, Gudalur are given in the following tables 1 & 2.

**Table 1 Rainfall (mm), Temperature (°C) and Relative humidity (%)**

Period	Mean Temperature (°C)		Mean Relative humidity (%)		Rainfall (mm)	
	Min	Max	0830 h	1430 h	Month	To date
March 2023	14.0	30.0	86.0	56.0	11.0	17.0
March 2022	14.6	30.0	87.0	58.0	15.0	15.0
Decennial average	15.0	30.0	88.0	55.0	10.2	

**CROP TREND:** The production and productivity details are given in table No.2.

**Table 2 Production (m.kg) and Productivity (YPH)**

Crop	Month		To date (Fin year)		To date (Cal year)		Variance in % ± over last year	
	March.'23	March.'22	Total from Apr'22	Total from Apr'21	Total from Jan'23	Total from Jan'22	Fin year	Cal year
<b>Productivity (MT/ha)</b>	149	166	2321	2146	490	498	8.15	-1.61
<b>Production (m.kg)</b>	517017	574562	8054484	7443881	1702280	1727274	8.20	-1.45

**PEST AND DISEASES:** The attack of RSM found to be mild to moderate in most of the estates during the month of March 2023. Sporadic incidences of TMB & Pink mite noticed during the month.

**MEETINGS/LECTURES/TRAINING/SEMINARS (CONDUCTED):**

Nil

**MEETINGS/LECTURES/TRAINING/SEMINARS (ATTENDED):**

Nil

**ANALYTICAL:**

Particulars	Members	Non members	Small growers	Total
pH and EC	-	-	09	09
Eelworms	-	-	-	-
Texture	-	-	-	-

**SPECIMENS:** Root disease specimens were received from two estates (six samples) and the examination reports were sent for taking appropriate control measures.

**VISITORS:** During the month 4 visitors were visited our regional centre in connection with different official matters.

**SR.ADVISORY OFFICER**

**MONTHLY REPORT FORWARDED IN THE MONTH OF APRIL 2023**  
**DETAILS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023**

01. Planting District : **NILGIRI WYNAAD**
02. Production in the month of MARCH'23 : 0.517 M.kg
03. Current month production compared to the same month of the previous year : High/Same/**Low**
04. Reasons for increase or decrease in production : Harsh drought.
05. Likely output in the current month and next two months : Apr -0.620 M.kg\*  
 May -0.750 M.kg\*  
 June -0.700 M.kg\*
06. **Actual rainfall for the month of MARCH 2023**

Date	M.M.	Date	M.M.	Date	M.M.
01	0.0	11	0.0	21	0.0
02	0.0	12	0.0	22	0.0
03	0.0	13	0.0	23	0.0
04	0.0	14	0.0	24	0.0
05	0.0	15	0.0	25	0.0
06	0.0	16	4.0	26	0.0
07	0.0	17	0.0	27	0.0
08	0.0	18	0.0	28	0.0
09	0.0	19	0.0	29	0.0
10	0.0	20	0.0	30	4.0
				31	3.0
<b>Total for the month</b>					<b>11.0</b>
<b>B/F from January</b>					<b>6.0</b>
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>					<b>17.0</b>

\*Estimated crop

07. Weather - Any special climatic features like temperature, relative humidity, sunshine hours, drought, wind, frost etc. : Nilgiri-Wayanad reels under harsh drought this year. Drought has taken a toll on tea& coffee, the major crops in the district. The ponds; water bodies and most of the wells inside as well outside the plantations dried up due to the oppressive heat. The stifling heat and sizzling temperature grips Nilgiri-Wayanad this year.

### Weather for the month of MARCH 2023 vs 2022

Period	Mean Temperature (°C)				Mean Relative Humidity (%)				Total Rainfall	
	2023		2022		2023		2022		2023	2022
	Min	Max	Min	Max	0830 h	1430 h	0830 h	1430 h	mm	mm
1 – 10	12.0	30.0	13.0	30.0	82.0	45.0	82.0	43.0	0.0	0.0
11 - 20	14.0	29.0	14.6	30.0	87.0	62.0	88.0	62.0	4.0	0.0
21 – 28	15.6	30.0	16.0	28.0	90.0	61.0	91.0	67.0	7.0	15.0

08. Incidence of pests and diseases : : The attack of RSM found to be mild to moderate in most of the estates during the month of March 2023. Sporadic incidences of TMB & Pink mite noticed during the month.
09. Meetings/Training : Nil
10. Major issues (Give details of major and significant issues) : NIL
11. Major events (Give details of sports / visitors etc.) : Tennis Meet held on 12.03.2023 at MANGORANGE CLUB.
12. Labour situation like go-slow, strike, closure etc : NIL
13. Power supply : Inadequate
14. Input availability : Shortage of Fertilizers.
15. Information on other plantation crops, if any : Areca and cardamom planting in swampy regions is in progress.

Date: 03.04.2023

SR.ADVISORY OFFICER