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Hop Report 1958/59

Independently of political tensions between East and West, the economic expansion continued in most countries, even if the rate of growth was somewhat slower. This development was favoured as the recession in the USA was overcome.

**Economical
Situation**

In Western Europe, the economy has received new impulses by the introduction of free convertibility and the start of the European Economic Community on January 1st, 1959.

A remarkably easy money situation in Western Germany resulted in a decrease of the rate of discount by the *Deutsche Bundesbank* to $2\frac{3}{4}\%$ in two stages by $\frac{1}{2}\%$ on June 27th, 1958 and $\frac{1}{4}\%$ on January 10th, 1959. The trend to a favourable balance of trade continues.

World production of beer in 1958 shows an **Increase** of about **6.8 Million bbl.** against 1957. The percentages of expansion are as follows: Western Europe + 3.2%, Eastern Europe + 2.9%, North America + 1.1%, Central and South America + 0.6%, Africa + 7.9%, Asia + 9.6%, Australia + 4.0%.

**Production of
Beer**

1 ha = 2.934 bayr. Tagwerk	1 bayr. Tagwerk = 0.341 ha
1 ha = 2.471 acres	1 acre = 0.405 ha
1 Liter = 0.2642 gall. (USA.)	1 gall. (USA.) = 3.7853 Liter
0.2201 gall. (Brit.)	1 gall. (Brit.) = 4.5435 Liter
1 hl = 100 Liter = 26.42 gall. = 0.8523 bbl. (USA.)	1 bbl. (USA.) = 31 gall. = 1.1734 hl
22.01 gall. = 0.6114 bbl. (Brit.)	1 bbl. (Brit.) = 36 gall. = 1.6356 hl
1 kg = 2.20462 lbs.	1 lb. = 0.45359 kg
1 shortton (sh) = 2000 lbs. = 907.185 kg	
1 longton (lgt) = 2240 lbs. = 1016.048 kg	
1 metr. Tonne = 20 Ztr. = 1000 kg = 1.10231 shorttons = 0.98419 longtons	
1 Ztr. = 50 kg = 110.23 lbs. = 0.984 cwt. (Brit.)	1 cwt. (Brit.) = 112 lbs. = 50.8 kg = 1.016 Ztr.
	1.102 cwt. (USA.) 1 cwt. (USA.) = 100 lbs. = 45.36 kg = 0.9072 Ztr.
1 quarter (qr) = 400 lbs. = 181.44 kg (barley)	1 Ztr. = 0.27555 qr.
48 lbs. = 21.77 kg (barley, malt)	1 Ztr. = 2.2965 bu.
1 bushel (bu) = 56 lbs. = 25.4 kg (corn, milocorn)	1 Ztr. = 1.9685 bu.
DM 1.— = US \$ —.23809 / DM 4.20 = US \$ 1.— / US \$ 2.80 = DM 11.76 = £ 1.—	
1 mm precipitations = 1 Ltr. of water per m ² , 1 mm = 0.04", 1 " = 25 mm.	

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Production of Beer 1958

Country	1000 bbl. of 31 gall. each		Country	1000 bbl. of 31 gall. each
Germany West 39,633 East 13,636*)	53,269		b. f.	127,579
England	33,541		Martinique	13
USSR *)	17,044		America	127,592
France	14,976		Belgian Congo	1,065
Belgium	11,562		Algiers	852
Czechoslovakia	10,738		Union of South Africa	678
Poland	5,201		Rhodesia	488
Austria	4,362		British East Africa	314
Denmark	3,153		Morocco	213
Ireland	2,736		Ivory Coast	187
Switzerland	2,685		French West Africa	170
Hungary	2,608		Cameroons	170
Netherlands	2,571		Nigeria	119
Spain	2,276		Senegal	102
Sweden	1,939		Egypt	97
Italy	1,691		Sudan *)	68
Roumania	1,364		Ghana	64
Saar	1,082		Angola	63
Jugoslavia	1,047		Tunis	51
Finland	861		Moçambique	50
Norway	694		South West Africa	44
Luxembourg	368		Ethiopia *)	38
Greece	318		French Equ. Africa	26
Portugal *)	273		Madagascar	13
Malta *)	27		Africa	4,872
Iceland	12		Japan	5,318
Europe	176,398	176,398	Philippine Islands	562
U.S.A.	90,120		Vietnam	511
Canada	9,070		China *)	426
Brazil	7,500		Singapore	309
Mexico	6,043		Turkey *)	273
Columbia	4,858		Israel *)	128
Argentina	3,032		Indonesia	72
Venezuela	1,790		Hongkong *)	66
Cuba	1,050		Formosa *)	65
Chile	1,010		Lebanon	62
Peru	961		India	61
Uruguay *)	511		Iran	60
Ecuador	388		Thailand *)	49
El Salvador	298		Cyprus	38
Bolivia *)	213		Ceylon	37
Panama	157		Iraq	32
Guatemala *)	128		Syria	17
Dominican Republic	117		Pakistan	14
Honduras *)	111		Asia	8,100
Costa Rica *)	64		Australia	9,038
Jamaica *)	56		New Zealand	1,739
Paraguay	38		Tahiti	10
Nicaragua	37		Australia	10,787
Trinidad *)	27		Total	327,749
c. f.	127,579	176,398	*) estimate	

Beer Output in Western Germany

Output of beer in Western Germany during the calendar year 1958 amounted to	38,311,694 bbl.
Production of beer in the Western sector of Berlin for the same period was	1,321,099 „
Total	39,632,793 bbl.

These figures include 27,494 bbl. delivered tax free to the occupation forces (1957 = 55,469 bbl.) as well as exports and other sales against foreign currency totalling 915,256 bbl. (1957 = 893,629 bbl.).

Crop 1957 (Supplement)

Complete figures of imports and exports of hops crop 1957 during the period from September 1st, 1957, to August 31st, 1958, can now be stated as follows:

	Import	Export
Germany	2,592,389 lbs.	11,884,999 lbs.
Belgium	3,154,121 "	1,120,819 "
England	583,558 "	5,253,341 "
U.S.A.	3,557,343 "	16,917,439 "

Hops of crop 1957 were quickly taken up by breweries so that no important stocks remained available during the summer of 1958. Any free lots appearing on the market mostly from breweries divesting themselves from excess inventories, changed hands easily.

Crop 1958

A severe cold wave in March 1958 with Frost and Snowfall until April hampered spring work. The first development of the plants was retarded.

**Growth of the
Hop Crop 1958
in Germany**

May 1958 started with very favourable climatic conditions. The plants developed quickly and vigorously so that the delay in starting was soon offset. Pests and Diseases were controlled by regular sprayings. By the middle of June, first Burrs appeared and this generally means the termination of growth in hop yards. Cooler weather, however, suppressed the Bloom so that the vegetative development of the plants continued. An occurrence of Leaf Distortion was noted in June 1958. This was apparently only a consequence of climatic conditions and of a certain excess of fertilization and disappeared without damage. Verticillium Wilt was somewhat more apparent than the year before.

The weather in July was very changing, whereas climatic conditions in August 1958 until picking favoured the Formation of the Cones and the Ripening. In 1958, there were damages by Storm and Hails in practically all districts of production.

The cones of the hops crop 1958 were not uniform in size. Luxuriant growth and more than ample fertilization resulted in coarse sprigs. The hops were of bright green colour but Wind Whipping was more apparent than usual. Contents of lupulin were not so high as the year before and bitter values were lower. A wider range of quality than normal appeared on the market.

Weather data from the Experimental Hop Farm Hüll/Hallertau							
1958	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.
Precipitations per month (mm)	50	87	53	148	109	87	48
Monthly average of air temperature °Celsius	-2,0	5,3	14,2	14,4	16,8	16,8	13,7
Maxima of air temperature °Celsius	15,6	18,0	27,8	27,5	31,5	32,0	27,5
Minima of air temperature °Celsius	-18,4	-6,0	-0,5	2,9	5,0	4,6	2,5
Monthly average of relative air humidity %	80	78	76	76	80	80	80
Other data:							
Snowfall	9 days	4 days	—	—	—	—	—
Rain and snow	12 "	4 "	—	—	—	—	—
Snowcover	26 "	3 "	—	—	—	—	—
Hoarfrost	7 "	8 "	1 days	—	—	—	—
Thunderstorm	—	1 "	2 "	1 days	5 days	5 days	—
Storm	—	—	—	1 "	1 "	1 "	—

Hallertau. Severe Frost in March 1958 and Snowfalls until the first week of April delayed spring work which started only during the second week of April and was finished at the beginning of May. The plants had wintered well but were off to a slow start only as a result of the weather.

Climatic conditions in May were extremely favourable for the growth. The delay in development was quickly offset. The hop yards were healthy and well tended. Preventive sprayings against pests and diseases were effected.

Acreage, Yield and Production 1957 and 1958

	Acreage 1957 Acres	Yield Pounds per acre	Production 1957 Pounds	Acreage 1958 Acres	Yield Pounds per acre	Production 1958 Pounds
Hallertau	13,215	1,788	23,625,706	14,453	1,866	26,973,061
Spalt	2,207	1,359	2,999,248	2,441	1,584	3,865,435
Hersbruck	1,527	1,173	1,791,789	1,695	1,443	2,445,563
Jura	346	1,562	540,458	452	1,413	638,783
Bavaria	17,295	1,674	28,957,201	19,041	1,782	33,922,842
Tettngang	1,764	1,434	2,530,219	1,969	1,778	3,500,354
R.H.W.	477	1,144	545,639	507	1,400	709,661
Baden	72	1,262	90,830	82	1,473	120,812
Rheinpfalz	67	1,359	91,050	74	1,573	116,403
Germany West	19,675	1,637	32,214,939	21,673	1,770	38,370,072 (**)
Germany East	2,471	625	1,543,220 *)	2,842	776	2,204,600 *)
Saaz (Zatec)	15,888	498	7,910,105	15,888		
Auscha (Ustek)	3,707	589	2,183,436	3,707		
Other Districts	667	800	533,513	667		
Czechoslovakia	20,262	524	10,627,054	20,262	713	14,440,130
Alsace	2,718	1,034	2,810,865	3,163	1,255	3,968,280
Dep. Côte d'Or	371	1,040	385,805	321	1,044	335,099
Northern France	568	1,106	628,311	467	1,286	600,754
Lorraine	62	711	44,092	62	889	55,115
France	3,719	1,040	3,869,073	4,013	1,236	4,959,248
Alost	618	1,498	925,932	791	1,650	1,305,123
Poperinghe	1,236	1,338	1,653,450	1,458	1,650	2,406,321
Vodelée	34	1,070	36,376	37	1,102	40,785
Belgium	1,888	1,385	2,615,758	2,286	1,641	3,752,229
Slovenia	4,934	1,047	5,168,685	5,918	908	5,374,815
Backa	1,137	645	733,029	1,767	730	1,289,691
Jugoslavia	6,071	972	5,901,714	7,685	867	6,664,506
Austria	141	704	99,207	230	810	186,399
Galicia	457	721	329,477	487	637	310,408
León	593	626	371,034	897	483	432,873
Asturias	106	354	37,478	138	325	44,864
Vasco Navarra	27	343	9,259	10	849	8,488
Spain	1,183	632	747,248	1,532	520	796,633
Switzerland	15	1,455	21,825	22	1,458	32,077
Roumania				1,236	713	881,840 *)
Poland	4,505	707	3,183,442	4,388	683	2,998,256
U.S.S.R	21,003	420	8,818,400 *)	29,652	446	13,227,600 *)
Continent	80,933	860	69,641,880	95,821	924	88,513,590
Kent	11,334	1,477	16,746,472	11,742	1,610	18,907,421
Hants	573	1,525	873,793	605	1,690	1,022,493
Surrey	116	1,326	153,881	121	1,615	195,438
Sussex	1,829	1,499	2,741,751	1,925	1,510	2,906,545
Hereford	4,475	1,428	6,391,466	4,596	1,599	7,347,050
Worcester	2,031	1,468	2,981,170	2,083	1,641	3,418,012
Other Counties	54	1,637	88,404	57	1,698	96,782
England	20,412	1,468	29,976,937	21,129	1,604	33,893,741
Europe	101,345	983	99,618,817	116,950	1,047	122,407,331
Washington	15,199	1,560	23,712,016	19,000	1,490	28,310,040
Oregon	4,500	1,230	5,534,979	4,999	1,080	5,399,947
California	5,599	1,220	6,831,945	5,901	1,530	9,026,955
Idaho	2,399	1,691	4,056,023	3,499	1,620	5,670,011
U.S.A.	27,697	1,449	40,134,963	33,399	1,449	48,406,953
Canada	1,008	1,173	1,182,988	1,174	1,380	1,620,050
Tasmania	1,408	1,525	2,147,501	1,488	1,882	2,799,952
Victoria	395	1,418	559,968	425	1,529	650,026
Australia	1,803	1,502	2,707,469	1,913	1,803	3,449,978
New Zealand	697	1,440	1,003,534	680	1,301	884,816
Japan	1,369	1,406	1,924,395	1,863	1,171	2,181,011
Manchuria	247	402	99,207 *)	247	402	99,207 *)
Argentina	319	599	191,249	549	482	264,552
South Africa	237	710	168,321	250	618	154,432
Total	134,722	1,091	147,030,943	157,025	1,143	179,468,330

*) Estimate

**) Official Weight June 5 th 1959

The favourable weather continued until mid-June. About this time, a **Leaf Distortion** was noted in many hop gardens which, however, disappeared soon without leaving any harm. **Hails** on June 19th caused local damage.

The hops reached the height of the trellises during the last decade of June. Hot weather resulted occasionally in first **Burrs** especially on lower laterals but colder weather intervened to stop this development. **Bloom** started at the beginning of July. The weather was changeable so that the general development was not uniform but the hop yards showed a strong growth and healthy aspect generally. A severe **Storm** on July 16th caused considerable damages in some localities.

The **Formation** of the **Cones** started at the beginning of July. Warm and sunny weather favoured the **Ripening** of the hops until **Picking** which started on August 25th, 1958.

Quality. Hallertau hops crop 1958 were not so uniform in colour and quality as the year before. Picking generally was quite clean but drying left to be desired in many instances. The lupulin was healthy, of clear colour and good aroma. The cones were of a fine green colour with **Wind Whipping** more prevalent than last year.

Spalt. Long prevailing wintry weather allowed the start of spring work only during the second half of April 1958. The plants had wintered well but the young shoots were off to a slow start under cool temperatures. The weather during May favoured development in such a way, however, that the plants could not only offset the earlier delay but even showed a better stand than at the same time the year before.

Growth was somewhat slower during the second half of June under cooler temperatures. Even so, many gardens reached the height of the trellises already and there appeared some **Overhang**. Laterals showed a healthy growth. First **Bloom** appeared sporadically already at the end of June.

The vegetative development was luxuriant in July. Bloom was plentiful but sometimes a little retarded by cool weather. Under changeable weather at the beginning of August with sometimes ample rainfalls there were local damages by **Thunderstorms** during the night of August 1st/2nd. The **Formation** of the **Cones** was not uniform as early bloom resulted in full sized cones whereas later growth was not yet fully developed. The **Ripening** of the hops generally was somewhat retarded as the weather in August was cooler with occasional rains. **Picking** started on August 25th, 1958.

Quality. According to general conditions in 1958, Spalt hops were of lighter growth than last year and the cones were partly somewhat irregular in size. Clean picking left sometimes to be desired whereas drying was quite good. The colour was green, sometimes a little on the yellowish side with occasional wind whipping. The bright yellow lupulin had a good and mild aroma.

Tettang. The unfavourable weather in the spring of 1958 retarded the **Uncovering** and **Cutting** of the hops by about a fortnight. The work was finished around the end of April.

The initial growth of the hops was slow but welcome fine weather in May resulted in a good development of the carefully tended gardens. The vines had reached from two thirds to three quarters of the height of the trellises by the beginning of June and growth continued unhampered during that month at the end of which the height of the trellises was generally attained. The plants had a healthy aspect and showed numerous laterals. First **Burrs** appeared on early varieties.

The weather turned more humid and cooler by the end of June/beginning of July whereas warm and sunshiny weather would have been preferable as all yards were in full **Bloom**. In early locations, first signs of the formation of the cones were to be noted. Laterals were plentiful everywhere while the overhang sometimes left a little to be desired.

July brought welcome warmer weather which favoured the **Formation** of the **Cones**. Local damages were caused by **Hails** on July 20th. Early varieties produced full-sized cones during the first decade of August, whereas the sizing of the cones on late varieties set in about that time. **Picking** started sporadically in mid-August and was in full swing by August 25th, 1958.

Quality. Tettang hops crop 1958 were favoured by fine climatic conditions and showed a generally good quality and relatively even-sized cones. Clean picking was satisfactory on the average and drying improved against former years. Cones showed a uniform colour and according to the year's growth somewhat less lupulin of bright colour and fine aroma.

Wurtemberg. In March 1958 much snow was still to be found on higher levels. **Uncovering** and **Cutting** started only during the second half of April. The first shoots developed only haltingly under cold weather but welcome rains and warmer weather improved the development in May. Many gardens had reached half the height of the trellises at the beginning of June. Preventive sprayings against **Downy Mildew** were effected. The general stand of the gardens was better than the year before.

Warm weather and sufficient humidity in June benefited the plants. The gardens showed a good aspect and the vines had in part reached the height of the trellises. Laterals were plentiful.

Early varieties showed first **Burrs** at the beginning of July under cool and rainy weather which soon became more favourable. Early hops were in full **Bloom** by the end of July and late varieties were in burr which appeared somewhat more plentiful than on early hops. Local damages by heavy **Storms** occurred on August 11th and 19th. The **Ripening** of the hops progressed satisfactorily and **Picking** started in early gardens during the last week of August.

Quality. Wurttemberg hops crop 1958 were of uniform growth and good colour. Clean picking was evident. The cones had an ample content of lupulin of light colour.

Hersbrucker Gebirge. Cold weather in April retarded the **Uncovering** and **Cutting** of the hops which started sporadically during the first week of that month and was finished by the end of April.

Occasional **Night Frosts** occurred still in May 1958. Generally, however, the weather was warm so that the plants could well develop and even offset the earlier delay in growth. The general aspect of the hop gardens by the end of May was better than the year before. This favourable development continued during June. In mid-June the plants had reached two thirds and three quarters of the height of the trellises and showed a good growth of laterals. Preventive sprayings against **Downy Mildew** were effected, whereas there appeared scarcely any **Pests**. On the average, gardens reached the height of the trellises by the end of June and showed a very pleasant aspect.

Early varieties showed first **Burrs** at the beginning of July and were in full **Bloom** by the second half of that month, whereas late varieties were in burrs. **Hails** caused damages on July 20th. Fine summer weather with high temperatures in August benefited the development. The **Formation** of the **Cones** started on early hops during the first half of August while late varieties were in full bloom. **Storms** in August did some damage and heavy squalls on August 16th overturned a number of gardens while **Hails** did additional damage. **Picking** was general on August 25th, 1958.

Quality. Hersbruck hops crop 1958 showed cones of uneven size. Picking was not especially clean but drying had improved against 1957. The hops were of dark green colour which was not always quite uniform. The lupulin was of bright yellow colour and good aroma.

The annual crop estimate was terminated by the end of August 1958 and fell short of the yield by only about 5%.

Crop Estimate 1958

	Yield estimated lbs.	Yield harvested lbs.
Hallertau	26,180,000	26,973,061
Spalt	3,520,000	3,865,435
Tettwang	2,970,000	3,500,354
Hersbrucker Gebirge	2,310,000	2,445,563
Wurttemberg	660,000	709,661
Jura	660,000	638,783
Baden	110,000	120,812
Rheinpfalz	110,000	116,403
Total	36,520,000	38,370,072

Bitter Values of Crop 1958

Origin	Total resin content anhydric	Soft resins		Humu- ion		Lupulon + Eraction of soft resin		Hard resins		Bitter value Wöllmer
		%	%	%	%	%	%			
Hallertau	16.5	14.4	87.27	6.2	37.58	8.2	49.69	2.1	12.73	7.1
Hallertau/Au	16.1	14.1	87.58	6.2	38.51	7.9	49.07	2.0	12.42	7.1
Hallertau/Mainburg	16.5	14.4	87.27	6.3	38.18	8.1	49.09	2.1	12.73	7.2
Hallertau/Wolnzach	16.2	14.2	87.65	6.2	38.27	8.0	49.38	2.0	12.35	7.1
Spalt	16.8	14.8	88.09	6.3	37.50	8.5	50.59	2.0	11.91	7.3
Tettwang	17.5	15.2	86.87	6.8	38.87	8.4	48.00	2.3	13.13	7.7
Wurttemberg	16.8	14.9	88.70	6.7	39.89	8.2	48.81	1.9	11.30	7.6
Hersbruck	16.9	14.9	88.16	6.5	38.46	8.4	49.70	2.0	11.84	7.4
Rheinpfalz	16.3	14.0	85.89	6.3	38.65	7.7	47.24	2.3	14.11	7.1
Jura	17.0	14.9	87.64	6.6	38.82	8.3	48.82	2.1	12.36	7.5
Eastern Germany	15.7	14.2	90.44	5.3	33.75	8.9	56.69	1.5	9.56	6.3
Alsace	18.0	15.9	88.33	6.7	37.22	9.2	51.11	2.1	11.67	7.7
Dep. Côte d'Or	17.7	14.7	83.05	6.8	38.41	7.9	44.64	3.0	16.95	7.7
Belgium	16.3	14.1	86.51	5.6	34.96	8.5	52.15	2.2	13.49	6.5
Saaz	15.7	13.9	88.54	5.8	36.95	8.1	51.59	1.8	11.46	6.7
Styria	14.1	11.8	83.69	6.3	44.68	5.5	39.01	2.3	16.31	6.9
Backa	14.7	12.7	86.39	5.7	38.77	7.0	47.62	2.0	13.61	6.5
Japan	18.9	14.3	75.66	5.8	30.69	8.5	44.97	4.6	24.34	6.7
U.S. Seedless	15.1	13.4	88.10	5.6	36.70	7.8	51.40	1.7	11.90	6.5

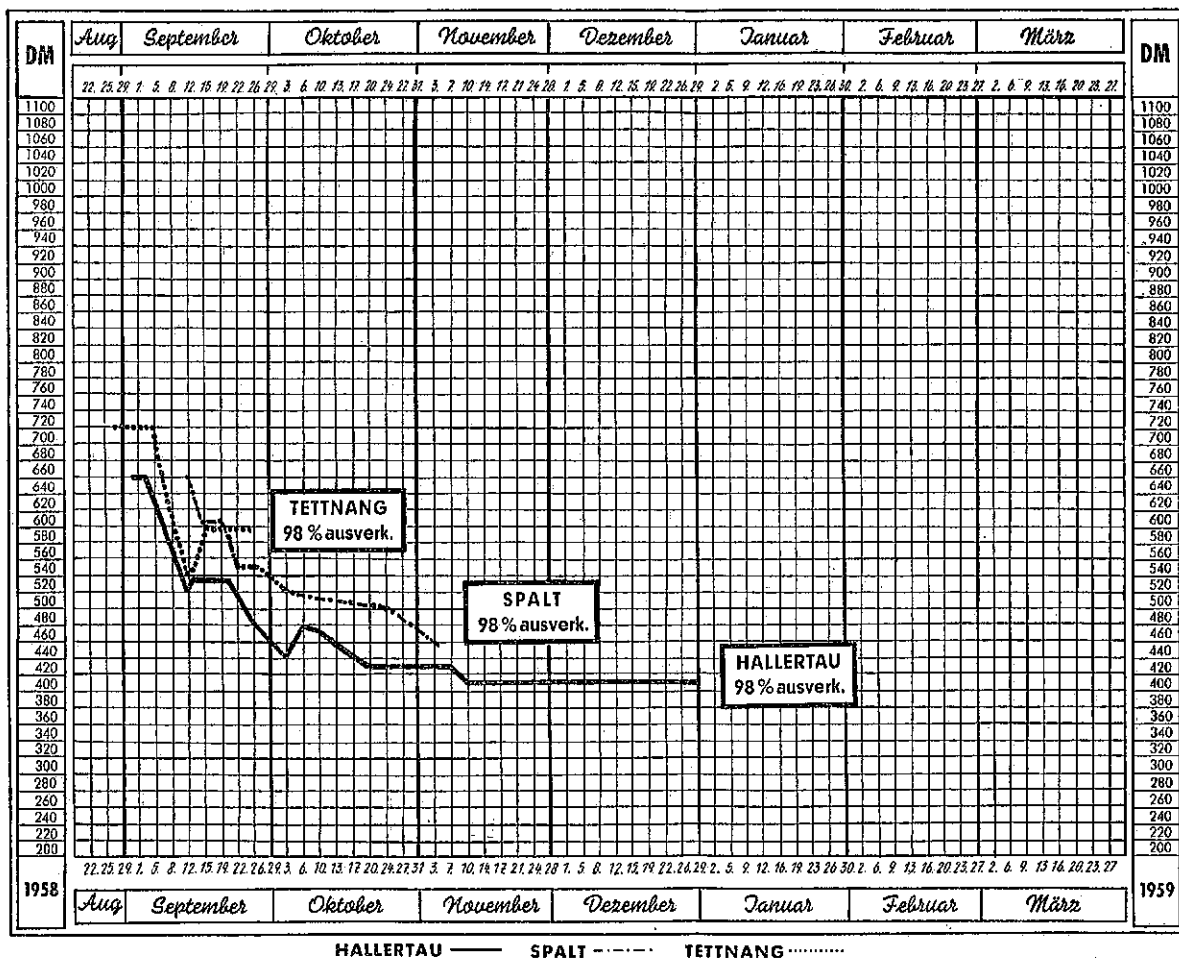
Reports about increased hop acreages and a favourable growing season 1958 resulted in a re-orientation throughout the brewing industry which made itself felt already in July/August 1958. A pronounced calm regarding purchases of hops crop 1958 was to be noted so that early hasty purchases were avoided which in the beginning of the season always contribute to an upswing in prices.

Hop Purchase Crop 1958 in Germany

On the other hand, producers who had been accustomed to high prices, remained reluctant so that the market developed only sluggishly. In this connection, farmers in the district of Spalt were an especially outstanding example.

Trading increased in the Hallertau by the end of the first week in September 1958, when already about two thirds of the crop had been gathered into the barns. The very existence of such a quantity of readily available hops increased the farmers' willingness to sell. Prices, therefore, remained on the downgrade until mid-September in spite of regular market activity. Further increased demand at that time led to a passing increase of quotations which, however, was of no duration. Demand slowed down once again and the underlying weak tendency of the market prevailed once more. This situation remained until the districts of production were sold out. The pricing situation in the Hallertau was as usual the barometer for the entire German market. Purchasing according to grades of quality resumed its importance as a factor in pricing and buying.

Development of Quotations Crop 1958



Hallertau. At the harvest's beginning, mostly contract hops were handled. First small transactions on the basis of DM 600.— occurred at the beginning of September. Farmers were reluctant sellers, however, and expected higher prices. Brewers as well as the trade remained quiet and the producers finally became more amenable to the market's situation. About September 8th some greater quantities were traded at DM 600.— but sufficient supply resulted in quotations of DM 520.—/500.— during the following days. The market became very active on this basis which led to an increase of prices up to DM 540.— under brisk trading. About two thirds of the crop had passed into second and third hands by September 22nd. The market calmed perceptibly about this time so that prices slumped to DM 440.—.

Demand picked up about October 3rd but a reaction set in immediately when prices began to increase. Trading became quiet and the remainder of the supply was sold under steady but small activity at somewhat declining quotations. About 98% of the Hallertau hops were sold by the end of December 1958. Prices at that time were around DM 410.—.

At the beginning of 1959 there were still about 5,000 cwts. of hops unsold in farmers' hands who refused bids. These hops, too, were disposed of until mid-April 1959.

Spalt. Whereas in other districts trading had started already at the beginning of September, farmers in Spalt were entirely opposed to selling at prevailing bids. For this reason during the first half of September supplies were available only through the cooperative which accumulated considerable quantities of Spalt hops and was able to dispose of an important percentage of same.

Farmers realized only too late that a single district of production cannot change developments on the world market. Small quantities had been sold at DM 660.— but more important trading started as late as September 19th on a basis of DM 550.—. A considerable proportion of demand, however, had in the meantime shifted to Tettngang and other districts so that trading remained intermittent. Further decreases in quotations were inevitable. Prices went down to DM 500.— by the end of September/beginning of October and to DM 450.— at the beginning of November 1958.

About that time, an estimated 10 percent of the crop were still in first hands, when the Producers' Cooperative decided to handle this supply so that the problem of stocks on farms was taken care of.

Tettngang. First purchases at DM 720.— were effected during the last days of August. This basis began soon to crumble although a constant demand was in effect. The low point of DM 540.—/520.— was reached on September 12th. Increased demand on this basis resulted in an upswing of prices by leaps and bounds and DM 600.—/620.— was paid again on September 15th. The supply had already been sold to a considerable extent and a basis of DM 600.—, therefore, could be maintained with occasional oscillations until the district was sold out completely by the end of September 1958.

It must be noted especially that the rapid sale of Tettngang hops was stimulated by the fact that farmers in Spalt were unwilling to sell.

Hersbrucker Gebirge. Trading in this district started at the beginning of September. Initial quotations stood at DM 560.—/580.— but were reduced to DM 530.—/520.— within one week as a consequence of the general trend. A low point with DM 420.—/400.— occurred on September 11th after which the general market situation was reflected in demands up to DM 450.—. Slower trading during the second half of September made prices decrease to DM 420.— again and final lots changed hands until about mid-October at DM 380.—/400.—.

Hersbruck hops were rather attractively priced in relation to other hops and sold without difficulties under constant normal trading.

Wurtemberg. The market for the late varieties from this district opened about September 20th. First lots were handled at about DM 440.—/450.— but prices decreased soon to DM 420.—/400.—. The Producers' Cooperative accepted regular quantities and the district was sold out rapidly.

Nürnberg Market

Activities on the Nürnberg Market continue to be hampered by an adverse decision regarding the turnover tax. It would be to the interest of the entire hop economy if brokers at the Nürnberg Market would continue to be favoured by the provision of § 53 of the Tax Law (Turnover Tax) as has been the case since 1921. Market activities were limited furthermore by the constantly bearish tendency. This left no room for inter-trade activities which come into effect mostly to equalize prices as sudden turns occur in the market.

At the beginning of September trading was mostly in Spalt, Tettngang and Hersbruck hops whereas the supply of Hallertau hops on farms appeared more attractive. Market quotations had to be lowered constantly in accordance with the general tendency.

Demand on the Nürnberg Market picked up at the beginning of 1959 when stocks on farms had been mostly exhausted. Until February Hallertau hops were traded at about DM 400.—/425.— while Spalt hops cost DM 460.—/480.— and Tettngang hops were quoted nominally at DM 490.—/500.—.

Trading was very limited always and stagnated completely at times. Hallertau hops went down to DM 380.— in March, DM 300.— in April and about DM 280.— in May 1959. Prices for Spalt hops conformed practically to the same basis as Hallertau hops in contrast to Tettngang hops which decreased only until DM 340.— in May on the basis of limited supply (all quotations based on prices for interim packed hops).

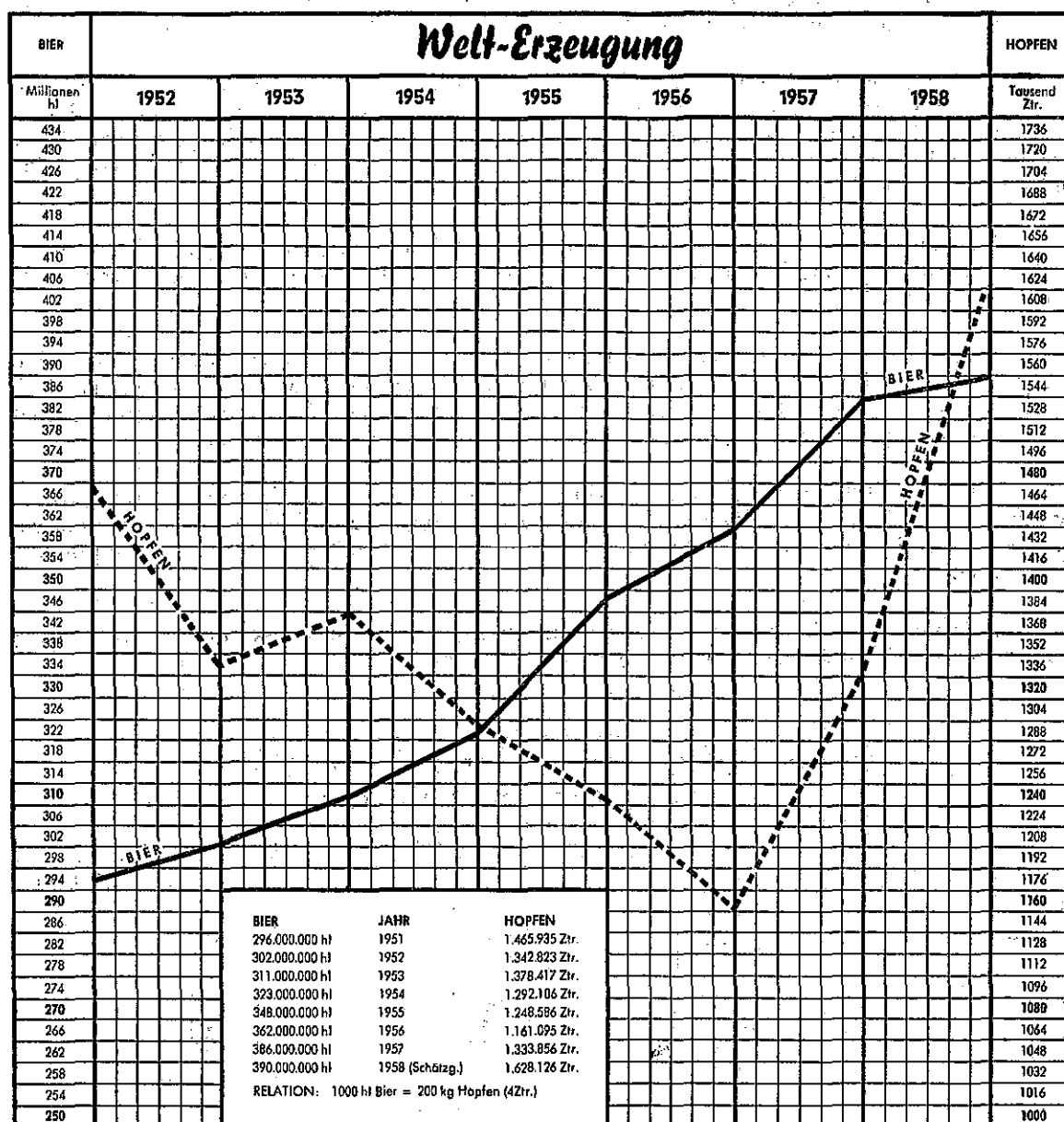
Export Embargo

During the discussions in the autumn of 1957 between the *Bundesministerium fuer Landwirtschaft* and the Hop Industry further talks regarding the embargo for hops were scheduled if and when the appointed acreage of 21,745 acres for 1958 should be attained. This has been realized but all applications for a removal of hops from the embargo list have been denied. The authorities seem to be under the apprehension that considerable legal doubts would arise in connection with the European Common Market if hops on a later occasion should be put once more on the embargo list.

In the meantime, the market development for crop 1958 made any dirigism superfluous. As the world market was amply supplied with hops, the *Aussenhandelsstelle fuer Erzeugnisse der Ernaehrung und Landwirtschaft* was instructed to grant all applications for the export of German hops.

Practically, however, authorities can intervene in the exports of hops at any moment as shipments continue to depend upon licences. Compared with the discontinuation of official allotments of the hop acreage it appears illogical that hops are maintained on the embargo list. This ought to be amended without undue delay.

World Production of Beer and Hops



After the stormy hop season 1957/58 some anxiety reigned in all circles concerned regarding the coming crop 1958. The world market's underlying firm tendency, however, gradually disappeared until the autumn 1958 as several factors emerged to indicate a possible easier market situation. These were:

Market Survey

a considerable increase of hop acreages in the spring of 1958 in all hop producing countries,

decreased hopping rates as a result of high bitter values for crop 1957 resulting in reduced hop usage,

a smaller increase in beer sales as against rapid developments of beer output during the preceding years,

favourable development of the hops in 1958.

All these factors together provided the psychological basis for a waiting attitude of the brewers in the beginning of the season 1958.

Hop prices in the USA remained relatively unchanged until October 1958 as practically the entire crop had been under contract. The German market, however, under the impression of a big crop set the pace for the weak tendency. All other European proveniences followed and the overages of the USA crop 1958 finally followed as well.

The hop market's development in 1958 has shown once again that even small disparities either of supply or demand suffice to set the general trend for the pricing situation.

Official Crop Statistics

It seems appropriate to note that official figures of hops weighed in Germany which in their total are quite correct, do not always conform to the day by day progress of purchasing. It appears that field offices, especially in the districts of Spalt and Wurttemberg, are sometimes swamped with work and figures published are then a summary of proceedings for a longer period instead of daily totals.

Verticillium Wilt

Whereas this disease was less to be noted in 1957, it appeared stronger in 1958. In the Hallertau a total of about 200 to 220 acres has been infected. This area is distributed among 120 farms in 41 villages.

The crop result in total is not influenced as yet. Infections vary in extent from hop yard to hop yard. Authorities up to now had no occasion to order the ploughing out of hop yards which is mandatory only if more than 50 percent of the vines are infected. No acreage has come to that stage as farmers prefer to plough out voluntarily if the disease begins to spread.

Verticillium Wilt continues to be a serious menace. Authorities endeavour to apply protective measures. Cooperation from farmers, however, is somewhat lacking as many have not yet realized the seriousness of the situation and do not give the necessary notice of new outbreaks of infection.

Machine Picking

Additional hop picking machines went into use. There were 33 machines at work during the harvest of 1958 which took care of about 4% of the crop.

German Hop Exports 1958

Export of German Hops Crop 1958					
September 1st, 1958 — March 31st, 1959					
Country	lbs.	lbs.	Country	lbs.	lbs.
Belgium	613,981		b. f.	129,190	10,349,278
Denmark	567,244		French Equat. Africa	2,646	
Finland	130,512		French West Africa	33,069	
France	1,496,042		Ghana	9,921	
Greece	11,023		Canary Islands	22,266	
Great Britain	210,980		Kenya-Uganda	22,046	
Italy	762,351		Libya	11,243	
Luxembourg	131,615		Madagascar	2,866	
Malta	23,810		Morocco	91,050	
Netherlands	430,999		Nigeria	16,535	
Norway	173,502		Port. East Africa	7,937	
Austria	902,563		Rhodesia	80,909	
Portugal	268,741		Ruanda-Urundi	9,259	
Saar	128,969		Span. North Africa	6,614	
Spain	3,307		Sudan	7,937	
Sweden	556,882		Union of South Africa	152,117	
Switzerland	624,784		South West Africa	10,582	
Europe		7,037,305	Africa		616,187
Argentina	109,128		Cyprus	4,630	
Bolivia	1,984		Hongkong	13,007	
Brazil	238,979		India	11,023	
Brit. West Indies	4,630		Indonesia	42,990	
Canada	30,644		Iraq	4,409	
Chile	1,323		Iran	15,432	
Colombia	118,167		Japan	498,681	
Costa Rica	3,307		Lebanon	4,409	
Mexico	2,205		Malaya	22,046	
Panama-Canal-Zone	3,307		Pakistan	1,102	
Peru	3,307		Philippine Isl.	66,579	
Uruguay	18,298		Singapore	11,023	
U.S.A.	2,548,959		Syria	9,700	
Venezuela	227,735		Thailand	33,069	
America		3,311,973	Asia		738,100
Ethiopia	8,818		Australia	8,818	
Algiers	61,288		French Pacific Isl.	7,055	
Angola	20,944		Australia		15,873
Belgian Congo	38,140		Total		11,719,438
c. f.	129,190	10,349,278			

The following lots of hops were imported from September 1st, 1958, to March 31st, 1959.

German Hop Imports 1958

Belgium	119,048 lbs.	b. f.	253,088 lbs.
France	441 "	Austria	441 "
Great Britain	5,732 "	Czechoslovakia	238,097 "
Jugoslavia	125,442 "	Hungary	14,109 "
Netherlands	2,425 "	U.S.A.	1,690,267 "
c. f.	253,088 lbs.	Total	<u>2,196,002 lbs.</u>

Verification of the hop acreage in Germany during 1958 resulted in the following figures:

Hop Acreage 1958

Districts	1939 Acreage acres	1958		
		Existing acreage acres	Additional acreage acres	Total acres
Hallertau	11,317	13,215	1,238	14,453
Spalt	2,276	2,207	235	2,442
Hersbruck	2,118	1,530	166	1,696
Jura	200	347	107	454
Tettngang*)	—	27	7	34
Aischgrund/other distr.	200	17	—	17
Bavaria	16,111	17,343	1,753	19,096
Wurttemberg/RHW.	1,223	477	30	507
Tettngang**)	1,636	1,737	198	1,935
Baden	440	72	10	82
Baden-Wurttemberg	3,299	2,286	238	2,524
Pfalz	151	67	7	74
Rheinland-Pfalz	151	67	7	74
Germany	19,561	19,696	1,998	21,694

*) areas in Bavaria **) except areas in Bavaria

The *Bundesministerium fuer Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Forsten* on October 24th, 1957, allotted a total hop acreage in Germany to the extent of 8800 ha (abt. 21,750 acres) for 1958. Actual plantings have reached this figure. In Bavaria the allotted acreage has even been somewhat exceeded whereas the expansion of hop yards in Baden-Wurttemberg and in Rheinland-Pfalz was not quite up to the allotment.

Newspapers reported in 1958 about a legal decision according to which official allotments of acreage for vineyards had no basis in law and were null and void. Private legal proceedings at the *Landgericht München II* led to the same decision regarding the planting of hops (I Qs 245/58). The *Bundesministerium fuer Landwirtschaft und Forsten* issued a communication (II A 4 - 2232.1 - 529/58) on December 2nd, 1958, according to which the legal basis for acreage allotments is now under examination. Allotments will be discontinued until further notice.

Hop Acreage 1959

Hops, therefore, can now be planted anywhere in Germany. Against an uncontrolled expansion of acreage, however, stands the fact that new hop yards are expensive whereas prices show a downward trend.

The *Bayerische Staatsministerium fuer Landwirtschaft und Forsten* in the meantime continues the annual survey of hop acreage which took place from May 19th/May 31st, 1959. The acreage figures thus obtained are an indispensable basis for reliable estimates of the growing crop.

In estimating the efforts for increased hop production, the hop acreage alone is not a sufficient indicator. The development of yields per acre, too, would have to be taken into consideration as careful tending of the gardens and intensive cultivation have resulted in remarkable improvements against former times.

Acreage and Production

The development of hop production in Germany is shown in the following table:

Hop Production in Germany			
Year	Acreage acres	Yield Pounds per acre	Production Pounds
1936	24,495	904	22,151,270
1937	21,453	1,095	23,493,099
1938	20,492	1,073	21,982,728
1939	19,560	1,250	24,450,337
1949	13,882	922	12,793,073
1950	16,855	1,260	21,235,038
1951	18,021	1,571	28,313,347
1952	18,609	1,233	22,949,776
1953	21,008	1,875	39,398,407
1954	19,882	1,596	31,723,092
1955	19,187	1,478	28,350,164
1956	19,222	1,614	31,027,430
1957	19,674	1,637	32,214,938
1958	21,673*)	1,770	38,370,071

*) includes about 2000 acres new gardens

Even if hop production in Germany after the war has been hampered by acreage allotments, improved cultivation and fertilization has resulted in increased production. On a smaller acreage than before the war (the acreage in 1958 includes about 2,000 acres new gardens) from 1950 onwards constantly bigger harvests were produced than before the war which contributed to an increased supply on the hop world market.

Inter-German Trade (I.D.H.)

The *Deutsche Demokratische Republik (D. D. R.)* produced about 2.2 million lbs. of hops in 1958. This harvest contributed to the fact that purchases of hops in Western Germany were smaller than the year before. During the season 1958/1959 the following amounts were at disposal of the D. D. R.:

Treaty 1958	
number A. 3824 of Sept. 13th, 1958	DM 3,600,000.—
Treaty 1959	
number A. 4829 of Dec. 24th, 1958	DM 8,000,000.—

Delivery of hops crop 1958 from Western Germany may be estimated at 11,200 cwts. About 7,600 cwts. were delivered almost exclusively by the Producers' Cooperative in December 1958 ex treaty 1958. A considerable quantity of hops seems to have been ordered from Czechoslovakia. As late as April/May 1959 an additional purchase of about 3,600 cwts. only ex treaty 1959 was effected in Western Germany, this time mostly from dealers.

Deutsche Demokratische Republik (D. D. R.)

1958 was a fine hop year, even if a storm on August 1st destroyed the trellises on about 180 acres and caused further damages in hop yards. There were scarcely any pests or diseases with the exception of *Aphids* which appeared strongly just about picking time. Sprayings were not admissible thus late in the season and damages resulted on those hops which were picked last during the harvest. Precipitations were as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
44.2	49.6	44.6	43.3	103.7	102.9	55.6	57.6	39.1 mm

The plants were off to a slow start after a relatively mild winter but growth improved considerably during the humid early summer. Fine sunny weather in August benefited the gardens. The vines reached the height of the trellises at the beginning of July. Bloom started during the last decade of July. The plants showed a vigorous aspect and had a good overhang. A considerable growth of leaves, however, excluded sunshine and resulted in not completely closed cones on the lower third of the vines.

Picking started generally on August 25th, 1958, and was finished under fine weather by September 10th. There were sufficient pickers available. One picking machine of English construction was in operation.

Bitter values of hops in the D.D.R., too, were lower than the year before. The colour suffered from an infestation of aphids especially in late harvested lots. The whole crop was handled at official prices (Dmark East) and graded as follows:

11.—% Grade I DM 1,000.— per 50 kilos 2.5% Grade IV DM 700.— per 50 kilos
 69.—% " II " 900.— " 50 " 2.5% " V " 600.— " 50 "
 15.—% " III " 800.— " 50 "

The efforts to develop the cultivation of hops within the D.D.R. have led to a remarkable success. Further expansions of hop acreage may be expected.

In 1958 the weather was favourable for hops. Precipitations were distributed as follows:

Poland

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
35.9	35.7	53.2	52.6	37.3	57.3	6.07	13.75	16.2 mm

Pests and diseases were rarely to be noted and held in check by preventive sprayings. The plants reached the height of the trellises by mid-June. **Bloom** started sporadically at the beginning of June. Favourable weather until mid-August benefited the **Ripening** of the hops.

Picking started already on August 16th and was finished under dry weather conditions on September 8th, 1958. There was no lack of pickers.

The **Quality** of crop 1958 was judged not quite so good as last year. The grading was 23% choice, 70% medium and 7% offgrade. Payments to farmers are made according to official rates. All hops went into consumption.

Unfavourable weather during the spring of 1958 delayed the **Uncovering** and **Cutting** of the hops. There were ample precipitations by the end of March/beginning of April, sometimes still intermingled with **Snowfalls**.

Czechoslovakia

	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Saaz	19.4	66.8	59.7	136.6	64.2	50.5 mm
Auscha	19.8	89.5	103.4	116.2	52.7	40.3 mm

Warmer weather in May benefited growth. During the following months, too, the hops were favoured by warm weather and showed a good development in spite of occasional cool nights. The plants attained the height of the trellises by the end of June. **Downy Mildew** was a consequence of strong rains especially in July but was controlled by sprayings. **Bloom** started at the beginning of July.

Generally, the hops showed a good overhang. A heavy **Storm** on August 1st, 1958, caused considerable damages on about 1,400 acres of hop gardens.

Picking started on August 25th and was finished on September 18th under fine weather. 72 picking machines are in operation and harvest about 30% of the crop.

Saaz hops crop 1958 were of good **Quality** and fine green colour and had the wellknown aroma. The cones were uniformly sized but somewhat bigger than last year. The crop was graded as two thirds choice and one third medium. There were scarcely any offgrade lots.

The entire crop had been delivered until November 30th to the state centers which paid the official prices to farmers. The sale of hops abroad did not go so smoothly as in former years, a consequence of the big world crop. Prices were reduced later in the season.

In the **Santhal (Slovenia)** the hops showed a fine development under warmer weather in May 1958 after ample rainfalls during the preceding winter and spring.

Jugoslavia

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
112.7	100.0	71.5	76.8	40.7	162.3	98.6	90.5	117.1 mm

The hot and dry weather continued until mid-June so that early cut gardens started **Premature Blooming** and were in full **Bloom** at that time. Cooler and rainy weather during the second half of June benefited late gardens which continued growing. The height of the trellises was attained at the beginning of July. Generally, however, the stand of the gardens was under average and the vines remained pointed. The set was sparse and irregular. **Cones** developed to exceptional size especially at the top of the plants and did not ripen entirely on the lower third of the vines.

Picking started in early gardens already during the second half of July, was in full swing on August 10th and finished under good weather conditions on August 25th. There was no scarcity of labour.

The hops crop 1958 showed more irregularly sized cones than normal. The hops were of good colour and the **Quality** was graded as follows: 90% choice, 6.5% medium and 3.5% offgrade. Prices to farmers were as follows:

Grade I Dinar 28,500.— per 50 kilos Grade III Dinar 21,000.— per 50 kilos
 Grade II " 27,500.— " 50 " Grade IV " 12,500.— " 50 "

Hop prices had to be increased as against the preceding year as fertilizer and picking expenses rose. Farmers received a premium in produce for delivery of hops grade I and II consisting of 1.5 kilos of straw and —.5 kilos of corn on the cob per kilo of hops.

The sale of Styrian hops crop 1958 was effected as usual within a few days.

Exports of crop 1958 may be estimated at about 36,700 cwts. There seems to have remained a small lot of unsold hops on stock.

The acreage 1958 included about 1,900 acres of new plantings which produced a partial crop and in this way contributed to the total harvest result.

Backa. The plants developed vigorously under fine spring weather and attained the height of the trellises during the first half of June 1958. The weather was almost constantly warm with little rains from the beginning of July until mid-September. The gardens were in full **Bloom** about the end of July. The plants remained mostly pointed but the cones on the lower third of the vines ripened well.

Picking started on August 25th and was finished under dry weather on September 10th. There were sufficient pickers available. The entire crop is picked by hand.

The hops were of fine green colour and very good **Quality**. The cones were of normal size. The crop was graded as follows: 91% choice, 7% medium, 2% offgrade.

The Backa was sold out until October 15th, 1958. Official prices are paid to farmers. The acreage of about 1,850 acres included about 625 acres new gardens.

Hungary

Hop yards suffered in growth under a dry summer in 1958. Preventive sprayings against pests and diseases were effected every two or three weeks so that no damages resulted. Especial dryness reigned during the month of May with temperatures up to 25/28° C. Total precipitations from January 1st to September 30th, 1958, were only from 357 to 418 mm.

The plants reached the height of the trellises in mid-June. Early varieties remained pointed whereas late varieties showed a good overhang. **Bloom** was in July.

Picking started on August 10th and was finished under dry weather conditions on September 20th. The hops were well ripened under the influence of dry weather and the colour was yellowish green. The **Qualities** were graded as follows: 43% choice, 52% medium, 5% offgrade. The total acreage in Hungary was about 400 acres of which about 30 acres new gardens. It is intended to increase the acreage.

Belgium

In the district of **Alost** there were no frost damages as a consequence of the mild winter 1957/58. A late spring brought good growing conditions for the hops only after mid-April. Precipitations were as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
67.8	112.5	24.7	39.1	54.2	56.2	121.8	66.2	60.8 mm

The delay in growth was offset in May under warm and favourable weather coupled with ample rainfalls. These good conditions continued through June and the hops attained the height of the trellises at the beginning of July. **Bloom** started around July 20th. The general aspect of the gardens was good and healthy but the plants had remained relatively pointed.

Picking started sporadically on August 20th, was general by the end of that month and finished under good weather about September 20th. There was no lack of labour. Nine picking machines are in operation.

Quality and colour of the crop 1958 was judged equal to the year before with the exception of somewhat bigger sized cones. The crop was graded as follows: 60% choice, 15% medium, 25% offgrade.

Only small lots were traded at the beginning of the season when farmers demanded bfrs. 6,000.—. Until mid-September, prices were reduced to bfrs. 5,500.—/5,000.— but the downward trend soon became stronger and quotations stood at bfrs. 4,000.— at the beginning of October, only to reach bfrs. 3,500.— in mid-October. At the end of October beginning of November a basis of bfrs. 3,200.—/3,000.— was attained. Last available lots were handled somewhat lower still until the crop was sold out by the end of the year 1958.

In **Poperinge** good weather conditions prevailed for the growth of crop 1958. The weather benefited the plants especially in May and ample rainfalls in June were welcome.

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
59.5	98.7	31.4	30.6	56.8	70.0	83.3	79.9	44.7 mm

Downy Mildew appeared sporadically but could be held in check by customary sprayings. A **Thunderstorm** on July 13th caused local damages and about 30/40 acres hop yards were pushed over at the end of August.

The vines reached the height of the trellises during the first decade of July and blooming started about July 5th. The gardens were in full Bloom in mid-July. The plants showed a good development and luxuriant overhang. Cones on the lower parts of the vine ripened.

Picking of early varieties started on August 28th/29th, was general on September 1st and finished about September 15th. The weather during harvest was fine and sunny. There were sufficient pickers available. 15 picking machines, which harvest about 10 % of the crop are in operation.

The hops were better in Quality and colour than the year before although Wind Whipping and occasional seeded lots were to be noted. The crop was graded as follows: 60 % choice, 20 % medium, 20 % offgrade.

There was only sporadic trading at the beginning of the season as all circles were waiting for developments of prices on the world market. Prices of advance contracts for Hallertau variety hops crop 1958 had increased from bfrs. 6,000.— in October 1957 to bfrs. 8,000.— by the middle of August 1958.

Quotations started in mid-September 1958 on a basis of bfrs. 5,000.— and fell to bfrs. 4,000.— at the beginning of October to reach bfrs. 3,500.— at the beginning of November. Special varieties commanded a somewhat higher price. The crop was not completely sold out. There remained about 1,500 cwts. unsold on farms at the beginning of March 1959.

The following quantities of hops crop 1958 have been imported from September 1st, 1958, until January 31st, 1959:

	lbs.		lbs.
Western Germany	680,780	b. f.	1,080,033
U.S.A.	390,876	England	197,312
France	4,850	Czechoslovakia	841,716
Netherlands	3,527	Jugoslavia	181,218
c. f.	1,080,033	Total	2,300,279

Exports of Belgian hops from September 1st, 1958, until January 31st, 1959, are shown as follows:

	lbs.		lbs.
Belgian Congo	12,787	b. f.	623,240
Ruanda-Urundi	4,409	Malta	661
Western Germany	99,648	Mozambique	1,543
Austria	126,544	Norway	22,266
Brazil	7,937	Netherlands	63,052
Denmark	150,354	Roumania	41,887
U.S.A.	183,202	England	44,974
Malaya	220	Singapore	6,614
Finland	8,818	Sudan	2,866
France	21,164	Sweden	28,219
India	4,189	Switzerland	24,471
Ireland	3,748	Union of South Africa	882
Kenya-Uganda	220	Total	860,675
c. f.	623,240		

Precipitations in France were distributed as follows:

France

	Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Alsace	66.1	130.1	14.1	28.5	86.1	79.7	87.4	109.9	65.5 mm
North				12.9	43.1	82.6	71.0	83.3	49.0 mm

In the **Alsace** there occurred no frost damage during the winter 1957/58. Weather conditions in general were favourable for the development of hops. Growth was somewhat hampered in April 1958 by the late winter and cool spring but the plants were benefited by sunshiny warm weather in May and timely rains in June. The height of the trellises was attained at the beginning of July. The plants showed a good overhang and Bloom which started around July 10th was favoured by warm weather. The Formation of the Cones, too, benefited by the weather and the cones on the lower third of the vines ripened.

A very heavy Thunderstorm with extremely strong Hails on August 11th resulted in extensive damages especially in the districts of Wantzenau and Ackerland. High winds were experienced several times during the season. The Alsace hops, crop 1958, therefore, showed Wind Whipping on a more extensive scale.

Picking started on September 4th/5th and was finished under sunny weather conditions within three weeks although pickers were scarce. 36 picking machines are in operation. The Alsace hops showed a nice content of lupulin and uniformly coloured cones. The Quality was graded as follows: 92 % choice, 6 % medium, 2 % offgrade.

Prices to farmers resulted from a retainer of ffrs. 35,000.— per cwt. and two subsequent instalments and resulted in a total price from ffrs. 40,000.— to ffrs. 46,000.— according to quality. Alsace hops changed quickly into second hands as especially the French brewing industry was apprehensive of the possibility of limited import licences for hops.

In **Flandres** a mild winter of long duration was followed by a dry spring. **Pests and Diseases** were held in check by sprayings which were effected up to 20 times. The plants attained the height of the trellises at the beginning of July and were in full **Bloom** by the end of that month. The vines were well developed and showed a normal overhang. On the average, growth was not so luxuriant as in former years but there were scarcely any pointed stands. The hops ripened well under favourable weather conditions and especially in August the **Formation** of the **Cones** and the **Ripening** benefited from favourable weather.

Picking started on September 1st and was finished under excellent weather by the end of that month. There were sufficient pickers available. Four picking machines are in operation which harvest about 12% of the crop. The yield was about 10% greater than in 1957.

Cones were normally sized and of uniform colour. The **Quality** of the crop was graded as follows: 30% choice, 50% medium, 20% offgrade. Initial quotations at the start of September were ffrs. 60,000.—. These prices, however, could not be maintained and sank to ffrs. 45,000.— in mid-September. Quotations were ffrs. 40,000.— at the beginning of October and receded further until ffrs. 35,000.— during the season. Sales were somewhat sluggish. There remained about 1,500 cwts. unsold on farms at the beginning of the year 1959 which only slowly and in small lots passed into consumption.

French hop imports for the calendar year 1958 were as follows:

Countries	Jan.—June lbs.	July—Dec. lbs.	1958 Total lbs.
Belgium-Luxembourg	77,161	34,612	111,773
Western Germany	1,537,047	88,404	1,625,451
England	184,084	183,202	367,286
Jugoslavia	36,817	150,795	187,612
Czechoslovakia	425,267	158,070	583,337
USSR.	2,646	—	2,646
Total	2,263,022	615,083	2,878,105

Exports of French hops in 1958 were as follows:

Destination	Jan.—June lbs.	July—Dec. lbs.	1958 Total lbs.
Algiers	70,547	162,920	233,467
Belgium-Luxembourg	1,102	—	1,102
Cameroons	11,023	—	11,023
Madagascar	441	—	441
Martinique	441	—	441
New Caledonia	2,205	—	2,205
Netherlands	—	220	220
Norway	—	661	661
Switzerland	—	4,850	4,850
Spain	—	22,928	22,928
Vietnam	130,733	—	130,733
Total	216,492	191,579	408,071

Austria

In **Styria** the hops could develop normally during the spring of 1958 under cool weather. A very intense dry spell set in at the beginning of May which led to **Premature Blooming** in early cut gardens. Welcome rains in June benefited the plants but overhang developed only sporadically. The plants were in full **Bloom** about the end of June and the **Cones** developed under fine weather conditions during July and August with occasional showers. Cones on the lower third of the vines ripened. **Picking** was effected under good weather conditions from August 16th until September 15th.

The **Quality** of the crop was 50% choice, 25% medium and 25% offgrade. Bitter values were quite good. A crop of 1,067 cwts. was harvested from an area of about 120 acres (of which about 38 acres new gardens).

In the district of **Muehlviertel** there were **Snowfalls** and **Frost** until March 1958 and April was cooler than normal. The hops progressed in May under warm and humid weather but suffered locally from **Hails**. Later on, weather conditions were favourable for the development. Sprayings against pests and diseases were effected up to eight and ten times. The plants reached the height of the trellises at the beginning of July and showed a strong overhang. **Heavy Storms** at the beginning of August caused local damages. **Picking** started on August 25th and was finished under good weather conditions about September 14th. There was no scarcity of labour. The hops crop 1958 were somewhat better in colour and **Quality** than the year before and were graded as follows: 62% choice, 31% medium, 7% offgrade.

A normal spring 1958 was followed by distinctly fine and warm summer weather with sufficient rains so that the gardens showed a very good development. Precipitations were as follows:

Switzerland

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
79	120	28	71	84	121	90	122	55	75	49	78 mm

On the average, eight to ten sprayings were effected against pests and diseases. The hops were at the height of the trellises by the end of June and **Bloom** started during the first decade of July. The plants showed a strong overhang but the cones on the lower third of the vines ripened only sporadically.

Picking was favoured by good weather and lasted from August 23rd to September 10th. About two thirds of the total crop are harvested by one picking machine. About 292 cwts. were produced from about 22 acres (of which about 3.6 acres new gardens). The entire crop goes to sponsoring breweries. Prices to farmers were sfrs. 650.— for 95% grade I, sfrs. 620.— for 4% grade II and sfrs. 600.— for the remainder of one percent grade III.

Trial plantings of hops in Lower California which were started in 1956 have given good results. Yields of crop 1958 were about 9,400 lbs. per acre.

Mexico

No success resulted from trial plantings of hops with root stock from South Africa. It is supposed that the limited hours of daylight under the Equator are insufficient for the vegetative development of the hop plant.

British East Africa

Hops were cultivated in the North of this country before the war. According to information now in hand, a crop of about 740 cwts. has been harvested in 1958 in the province of Rjanggando. The acreage is not known. It seems, however, that an expansion is planned as a crop of 2,200 cwts. is expected in 1959.

Korea

The weather in 1958 was not especially favourable for hops. Growth was subjected to varied influences under changeable weather conditions until July. Local damages were caused by **Thunderstorms** and **Squalls**. Preventive sprayings were effected against **Downy Mildew** and an attack of **Red Spider** could be controlled in good time.

Spain

Hop cultivation is still confined to the traditional four districts. No expansion into other zones has been effected. Acreages in 1958 increased as follows:

Galicia	30.5	acres
León	304.-	"
Asturias	32.4	"
Total	366.9	acres
Less decrease in Vasco-Navarra	16.4	"
Total increase	350.5	acres

The harvest was not up to the expected result of 8,000 cwts. The **Quality** was graded as follows: 55.8% choice, 42.9% medium, 1.3% offgrade. The crop was distributed as follows:

Galicia	2,816	cwts.
León	3,927	"
Asturias	407	"
Vasco-Navarra	77	"
Total	7,227	cwts.

Spring Work in the hop yards benefited from favourable weather conditions during the spring of 1958. After that, however, the year brought a remarkable lack of sunshine together with extremely strong **Rainfalls**. In Mid-Kent, especially, **Thunderstorms** and heavy rains resulted in damages. Spraying against pests and diseases had to be effected most carefully under such trying circumstances. It can be noted that good results generally were due to farmers' efforts in tending the hops.

Picking started on August 26th/27th and was finished according to districts around October 7th/8th. Favourable weather in the beginning of the harvest was followed later on by heavy rains and storms.

The **Quality** of crop 1958 was better than expected. Golding varieties especially suffered less from the wet season than originally anticipated. Fuggles hops which comprise more than two thirds of the crop showed a wider range of qualities but were judged generally better in aroma and lupulin than in 1957. Wind whipping was more prevalent than usual. The long harvest resulted in over-ripened hops towards the close of the picking. The crop was graded as follows: 40% choice, 50% medium, 10% offgrade.

The total crop attained to 116% of the basic quota. Machine picking is expanding and it can be said that about two thirds of the acreage are mechanically harvested.

All contracted hops were delivered. Owing to the favourable quantitative result of the harvest, the average price to farmers could be reduced to £ 27.5.6 per cwt.

Exports of English Hops Crop 1958			
September 1st, 1958 — March 31 st, 1959			
Country	cwts.	Country	cwts.
Australia	8,261	b. f.	43,642
Belgium	2,742	Channel Islands	188
Belgian Congo	8	Kenya	139
Burma	63	Malta and Gozo	263
Canada	958	Mauritius	1
Ceylon	90	Netherlands	353
Denmark	409	Norway	39
Germany-East	1,993	Pacific Islands	4
Germany-West	132	Portugal	118
Fiji-Islands	9	Rhodesia and Nyassa	510
Finland	326	Singapore	648
France	179	Union of South Africa	1,277
Ghana	5	South West Africa	6
Hongkong	20	Sweden	202
India	17	Switzerland	39
Iraq	51	West-Samoa and Ross	6
Ireland	28,376	Total	47,435
Jamaica	3		
c. f.	43,642	1 cwt. = 50,8 kilos	

U.S.A.

California. The hops had wintered well in the **Coastal Counties**. There appeared some **Downy Mildew** in 1958 which could be held in check under the warm and dry weather during the summer. Rainfalls were distributed as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
7.18	11.94	6.87	5.43	— .45	— .44	— .01	— .01	— .03 inch.

The weather in 1958 was more favourable than during the preceding years. Higher temperatures resulted in a better development of the hops. The plants reached the height of the trellises about the end of June/beginning of July. **Bloom** started in mid-July. On the average, the vines remained pointed and showed little overhang.

Picking started sporadically on August 18th, was general by August 25th and finished under good weather within three weeks.

The hops were not of especially good colour but the well developed cones had an excellent content of lupulin. The crop was graded as follows: 50% medium, 50% offgrade.

In the district of **Sacramento**, the hops were off to a slow start after an extremely humid winter. **Spring Work** started at the end of March 1958. Rainfalls were as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
5.38	9.13	— .72	—	—	— .27	—	—	— inch.

The weather turned more favourable during the year's progress. One dusting only against **Red Spider** was required. The plants attained the height of the trellises by the end of June and developed an excellent overhang. **Ripening** of the hops was retarded.

Picking was in full swing on August 10th and progressed under warm weather conditions.

The **Quality** of the crop was markedly better than in former years: 65% choice, 30% medium, 5% offgrade.

Western Oregon. In 1958, a normal spring was followed by a relatively warm summer with lower precipitations than normal:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
8.80	7.04	2.50	3.71	1.38	2.53	—	— .03	1.00 inch.

Hops developed very well under these climatic conditions with the exception, however, of Fuggles hops for which the weather was not favourable. Spraying against Pests were effected two times on the average and preventive sprayings against Downy Mildew five to six times.

The plants reached the height of the trellises during the first decade of June. Bloom started in mid-June. Hop yards showed a good aspect with considerable overhang.

Picking of Fuggles hops started on August 5th, was general on August 10th and finished until August 25th. The harvest of other varieties started on September 4th, was in full swing on September 8th and terminated on September 21st. The weather during the harvest was good with the exception of occasional light showers.

The Fuggles hops were of average Quality whereas other varieties were judged to be above average. The crop was graded as 45% choice, 45% medium, 10% offgrade.

Eastern Oregon and Idaho. The weather in 1958 was favourable for the hops even if temperatures during May rose above normal and high temperatures were experienced in July and August as well. This resulted in Premature Bloom on the variety „Early Clusters“ and a consequently reduced yield. Wind Whipping appeared more than usual, a result of the earlier than normal started Formation of the Cones. Control of Downy Mildew which appeared sporadically was necessary. Aphids and Red Spider, too, had to be kept in check locally. In some parts, up to six sprayings were effected. Precipitations were distributed as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
1.61	2.41	— .55	1.44	1.64	1.29	— .14	— .17	— .12 inch.

The height of the trellises was reached during the last decade of June. Early Clusters developed premature bloom already about mid-June whereas late varieties came into Bloom about mid-July. Hop yards showed a good aspect and a fine overhang. According to conditions of growth, cones on early varieties ripened irregularly whereas on late varieties the Ripening was quite regular. Picking started on August 18th and was finished by September 23rd under warm and favourable weather. The hops showed more Wind Whipping than the year before whereas contents of lupulin and size of the cones were about the same as last year. The Quality was graded as 45% choice, 45% medium, 10% offgrade.

Washington. Exceptional climatic conditions reigned in the district of Yakima throughout 1958. The winter was warmer than normal and precipitations were lower:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
1.37	1.84	— .81	— .82	— .59	— .21	— .22	— .16	— .05 inch.

Spring Work was done very early in the season. Growth of the hops started about three weeks earlier than normal. The weather in March, April and May was favourable for the hops with scarcely any rains. Exceptionally warm weather set in during the second half of June so that continuous artificial irrigation of the hop yards was a necessity. This hot weather persisted until the harvest. Pests could develop and had to be controlled with one spraying against Aphids and two against Red Spider. The exceptionally hot weather was the reason why the Yakima crop did not attain the initial yield estimates.

The plants reached the height of the trellises during the last decade of June. Early varieties started Bloom during the first half of July and late varieties during the second half of that month. There was scarcely any overhang visible and in some gardens the vines reached scarcely the height of the trellises. Picking started on August 23rd and was finished under extremely hot and dry weather.

Yakima hops of crop 1958 were of usual Quality in colour and lupulin but in size somewhat smaller than normal. The crop was graded as 35% choice, 45% medium, 20% offgrade.

The American crop 1957 had been completely taken over by breweries. Any lots, even of older vintage, which became available were sold rapidly during the summer of 1958. Demand was mostly for advance contracts of future crops while the estimated crop 1958 was already completely under contract very early in 1958.

Encouraging news regarding the growing new crop 1958 led to a more calmer market situation without, however, influencing noticeably the price basis of 80/85 cents per lb. Prices remained unchanged even with the realization that the yield in 1958 would be 20% over that of crop 1957.

Market
development
U. S. A.

After the harvest, however, greater unsold supplies pressed upon the market. Quotations had receded to 65 cents by mid-October and stood at this basis until the middle of November. About the turn of the year 1958/1959 prices had gone down to 55 cents and in February 1959 only 45 cents were asked for American hops crop 1958. From time to time occasional lots were available at an even lower price.

The underlying weakness of the market could not fail to influence quotations for the coming crops 1959 to 1962. In January 1959, a price of 55 cents was asked uniformly for the next four crop years. This basis remained unaltered for crop 1962, whereas quotations for crop 1960 and 1961 receded to 53 cents in February and in March 1959 a price of 51 cents was in effect for crop 1959. At that time it was estimated that the following quantities for the several crop years were already under contract:

Crop 1959	85 %
„ 1960	70 %
„ 1961	35 %

Prices for hops have reached a low point which is very close to if not already under cost of production to farmers so that a decrease of acreage must be anticipated.

**Hop Exports
U.S.A.**

Exports of US-Hops Crop 1958					
September 1st, 1958 — February 28th, 1959					
Country	lbs.	Ztr. je 50 kilos	Country	lbs.	Ztr. je 50 kilos
Ethiopia	11,023	100	b. f.	9,793,640	88,847
Angola	5,173	47	Jamaica	46,067	418
Argentine	154,285	1,400	Korea	15,432	140
Belgium-Luxembourg	575,687	5,223	Mexico	2,321,199	21,058
Belgian Congo	4,784	43	Moçambique	25,136	228
Bolivia	73,346	665	Nicaragua	13,228	120
Brazil	1,199,226	10,879	Netherlands	237,038	2,150
Canada	2,249,847	20,410	Norway	85,445	775
Ceylon	25,950	235	Austria	157,199	1,426
Chile	239,861	2,176	Pakistan	1,000	9
Colombia	1,775,426	16,107	Panama	60,000	544
Costa Rica	26,314	239	Paraguay	22,046	200
Cuba	383,091	3,475	Peru	289,327	2,625
Denmark	286,600	2,600	Philippine Isl.	89,792	815
Germany-West	1,917,094	17,392	Portugal	1,522	14
Dominican Republic.	20,324	184	El Salvador	26,590	241
Ecuador	63,497	576	Union of South Africa	60,500	549
Formosa	4,405	40	Sweden	109,724	995
Greece	132,512	1,202	Switzerland	299,959	2,721
Great Britain	26,458	240	Trinidad	5,512	50
Guatemala	67,535	613	Uruguay	96,125	872
Honduras	50,010	454	Venezuela	457,706	4,152
Hongkong	1,250	11	Other Countries	48,652	441
Ireland	427,245	3,876	Total	14,262,839	129,390
Israel	52,905	480			
Italy	19,792	180			
c. f.	9,793,640	88,847			

**Hop Imports
U.S.A.**

Hop Imports U.S.A. Crop 1958		
September 1st, 1958 — February 28th, 1959		
Country	lbs.	Ztr. je 50 kg
Belgium-Luxembourg	160,124	1,453
Germany-West	1,749,912	15,875
Jugoslavia	1,603,858	14,550
Other Countries	33,595	305
Total	3,547,489	32,183

The hops were off to an early start under mild weather during the spring of 1958. Growing conditions were favourable throughout the year even if the weather was quite warm and dry at times. Pests appeared locally and had to be controlled. Four sprayings were effected on the average while in exceptional cases up to fifteen sprayings were necessary. Rains were as follows:

	Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Kamloops	1.24	— .89	— .67	— .45	— .14	1.10	— .49	— .29	— .65	— .69	— .80	— .77 inch.
Fraser Valley	10.90	7.19	2.08	4.53	1.53	— .81	— .02	1.73	3.05	7.26	8.80	8.35 inch.

The vines reached the height of the trellises during the second half of June and developed a good overhang. **Bloom** set in at the beginning of August. **Picking** started during the last week of August and lasted four weeks under good weather conditions. There was no lack of pickers. In the district of Kamloops there are two picking machines in operation. The hops were better in colour than the year before but contents of lupulin were not so high. The crop was graded as 95% choice, 5% offgrade.

In the district of **Nagano** growth of the hops started somewhat earlier than normal. Precipitations during the rainy season were insufficient. New gardens suffered from lack of moisture. The rains were distributed as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
83.5	60.0	37.5	86.4	32.8	129.1	155.0	104.6	272.4 mm

Bloom started in mid-June but was not so rich as usual. The **Formation** of the **Cones**, however, could develop well under benefiting rains and favourable temperatures. Hop yards on higher locations generally developed under more favourable conditions.

The vines attained the height of the trellises during the last decade of June and formed a good overhang.

In the district of Nagano, there are about 100 hop picking machines of Japanese construction in operation which render about 25—30 kilos per hour and harvested about 3% of the crop. **Picking** started on August 5th, was in full swing on August 10th and finished under good weather about the end of the month.

In the district of **Hokkaido** the young shoots started not earlier than the beginning of May after a retarded thaw of the snow cover. Cool weather during May hampered the development but the plants could grow normally under warm weather later in the season. Rains were distributed as follows:

Jan.	Febr.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
188.9	144.9	78.2	34.0	24.5	59.9	164.4	112.0	122.5 mm

Lack of moisture during the beginning of June was relieved by welcome rainfalls and the vines developed well under favourable temperatures.

The hops reached the height of the trellises at the end of June. **Bloom** started in mid-June. The hop yards showed a good overhang. **Picking** started during the second half of August and was finished at the beginning of September. The weather during harvest was good.

The hops of crop 1958 were judged to be of better **Quality** than the year before and were graded as follows: 78.7% choice, 10.8% medium and 10.5% offgrade. The entire crop was taken over by sponsoring breweries. Prices were unchanged against the year before.

Crop 1959

The following informations have been received up to now from the Southern Hemisphere, where hops are picked in March of each year:

Ample rainfalls during the season 1958/1959 were somewhat less only in November:

1958					1959		
Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Febr.	March
3.40	1.19	2.50	1.45	3.15	4.16	2.16	4.28 inch.

Generally, the season was very favourable for the vegetative development of the hops. An attack of **Caterpillars** in December 1958 was held in check. There was only one isolated infestation of **Red Spider** at the end of the season.

The hops reached the height of the trellises about December 10th. **Bloom** started on December 30th, 1958. The plants developed a good overhang and the cones on the lower third of the vines ripened. **Picking** started on February 9th and was finished on March 16th, 1959. There were sufficient pickers available. Only one picking machine is in operation which harvests about 45% of the crop. The **Quality** of the hops crop 1959 was distinctly better than the year before and the hops were graded as 30% choice, 50% medium, 20% offgrade.

Prices were lower than during the preceding year. The crop was sold out until the end of March 1959 with the exception of a remainder of about 200 cwts.

A mild winter 1958/59 which replenished **Subsoil Moisture** only insufficiently was followed by an early warm and dry spring.

Spring Work was finished in good time under favourable weather. The hops developed well in spite of a lack of rains. The almost too luxuriant growth was restrained by cooler weather in April whereas warmer temperatures in May 1959 benefited the vegetative development of the plants.

The generally too dry weather has not yet adversely influenced the deeply rooted hop plants. A possibility of premature blooming was headed off by a drop in temperatures in mid-June.

Hallertau. Spring work started already at the end of February/beginning of March and was finished early under dry conditions. There were occasional **Night Frosts** in April. In mid-June 1959, the plants had reached three quarters of the height of the trellises and full height was occasionally to be noted. Laterals were plentiful.

Until that time, up to seven and eight sprayings against pests and diseases were effected.

Spalt. Spring work was done during April 1959. The general dryness in this district was relieved by welcome rains by the end of May and the hops showed a good development in June under warm weather. The general aspect of the crop is not quite uniform. Generally, half the height of the trellises is attained but there are gardens which show three quarters and even full height depending of the time of the uncovering in the spring. Preventive sprayings were effected up to three times.

Hersbruck. Spring work was finished early. In the course of a spell of cooler weather **Night Frosts** were experienced in this district about April 20th which caused damages especially in well developed gardens. Some hop yards had already reached the height of the trellises by the middle of June 1959. Rainfalls were urgently needed at that time.

Tettang. Dry and warm weather in March 1959 benefited spring work which was finished at the beginning of April. The eager growth of the hops was slowed by a cold wave about April 20th/22nd. On the average, the hops had reached the height of the trellises in mid-June in spite of the fact that the weather at the end of May/beginning of June 1959 was too cold and too dry for the season. Welcome rains in mid-June favoured the development. Sporadic premature blooming was to be noted in early uncovered hop yards. Up to five sprayings had been effected.

The general stand of the hop yards at the end of June 1959 can be indicated as very satisfactory. Plentiful warm rains after thunderstorms on June 22nd/23rd brought urgently necessary humidity for the plants. Farmers are tending the hop gardens with great care and attention in spite of a not too favourable outlook regarding prices.

JOH. BARTH & SOHN

The compilation of this report has been made possible in many instances by data supplied from observers in many countries, which is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

Hops within the European Economic Community

On March 25th, 1957, there was signed in Rome a basic agreement to create a common market for the countries Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Italy and Germany.

This agreement came into effect on January 1st, 1958, and provides for a gradual decrease of custom duties within a period of from 12 to 15 years in stages of four years each. Under certain conditions, however, this time schedule may be subject to adjustments.

The six participating countries have agreed to reduce by 10%, effective on January 1st, 1959, all custom duties as applied on January 1st, 1957. A further gradual elimination of custom duties is to be effected until total abolition of same on January 1st, 1970, or January 1st, 1973, at the latest.

Hops are included in the list of victuals. All circles concerned are agreed that the integration of agriculture with its complicated and varied structure poses a very difficult problem indeed. This delicate question has led to numerous exceptional as well as protective clauses which does not exactly facilitate the road to a common market.

A common customs tariff for the six countries is to be realized in three stages beginning on January 1st, 1962. This common tariff is scheduled to be completely in force not later than January 1st, 1970. Hops are included in list F of articles with a rate of 12% ad valorem.

Among themselves, the participating countries apply now the following rates for hops:

	Rate on Jan. 1st, 1957	Rate on Jan. 1st, 1959
Benelux	8 %	7.2 %
France	12.4 %	10.8 %
Italy	4 %	3.6 %
Germany	15 %	13.5 %

In addition to custom duties, all countries levy sometimes considerable turnover taxes and other excises which result in the following total rates on the import of hops:

Belgium	17.92 %
Netherlands	12.56 %
Luxembourg	17.92 %
France	23.72 %
Italy	7.22 %
Germany	18.04 %

Regarding the output of beer and production as well as consumption of hops the following figures apply for year 1958:

	Output of beer 1958	Usage of hops	Production of hops 1958
Belgium	11,562 bbl.	54,000 cwts.	33,500 cwts.
Netherlands	2,571 „	12,000 „	—
Luxembourg	368 „	1,700 „	—
France	14,976 „	62,000 „	44,280 „
Italy	1,691 „	7,900 „	—
Germany	39,633 „	200,000 „	342,590 „

The six countries comprise about 160 million inhabitants which results in a yearly consumption of 51.8 Liters per head without taking into consideration the marked variations among the several countries.

Among the six countries, only Germany produces more hops than required by the home industry. The elimination of inter-state custom duties will result in a more easy exchange of goods. This pre-supposes, however, that trading in hops among the six countries will be freed from other economical ties. Up to now, this has been the case in the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italy and Germany. France liberated hop imports as of January 1st, 1959. It remains only to be hoped, therefore, that Belgium will follow the example at an early date.

