

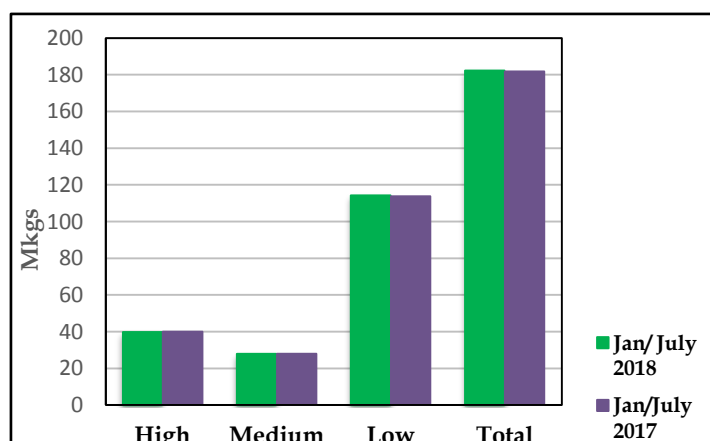
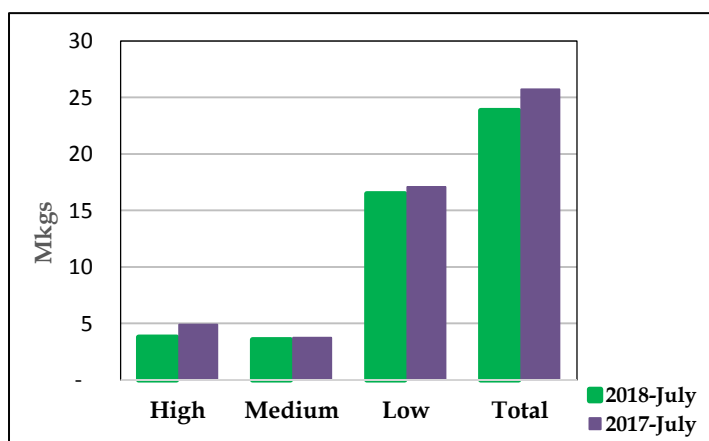
Heavy precipitation, dull and gloomy skies and no sunlight over the plantations have affected the national tea production during July, 2018. The sharpest decline is seen from the High Grown plantations with a drop of 22.6% in July when compared to the previous year whilst the Medium and Low Grown elevations recorded percentage declines of 4.10% and 3.54% respectively. The total production of 23.8 Mkgs for all elevations is a decline of 1.8 Mkgs over the corresponding month last year. During the period January to July, 2018 a total crop of 182.2Mkgs has been recorded which is only marginally higher than the crop recorded during the same period last year.

The months of April, June and July have been bad for production due to adverse weather conditions and current indications are that August is going to be even worse. Taking into account, the year-to-date production as at July, it will be quite a difficult task to surpass even the 300Mkgs crop level this year.

Given below are more comprehensive details relating to tea production.

Sri Lanka Tea Production-July 2018 vs. 2017 (In Kgs)

	2018-July	2017-July	+/-	%	Jan/ July 2018	Jan/July 2017	+/-	%
High	3,782,549	4,889,831	(1,107,282)	(22.64)	39,898,383	40,094,038	(195,656)	(0.49)
Medium	3,582,583	3,735,752	(153,169)	(4.10)	28,004,616	27,942,197	62,419	0.22
Low	16,480,892	17,084,912	(604,020)	(3.54)	114,349,709	113,798,252	551,457	0.48
Total	<u>23,846,024</u>	<u>25,710,495</u>	<u>(1,864,471)</u>	<u>(7.25)</u>	<u>182,252,707</u>	<u>181,834,487</u>	<u>418,220</u>	<u>0.23</u>



During the period January to July, 2018 the larger crop harvests have been from the following regions.

1	Ratnapura	31,414,881.00	11	Hatton/Dickoya	4,245,131.00
2	Galle	26,312,319.00	12	Agarapathana	4,007,597.00
3	Kalutara	13,356,281.00	13	Pussellawa/Hewaheta	3,732,120.00
4	Gampola/Nawalapitiya/Dolosbage	10,017,731.00	14	Upcot/Maskeliya	3,663,041.00
5	Matara	9,242,809.00	15	Kadugannawa	3,469,009.00
6	Deniyaya	8,461,137.00	16	Bogawantalawa	3,440,840.00
7	Kelani Valley	5,235,281.00	17	Morawake	3,430,525.00
8	Demodara/Haliella/Badulla	5,221,361.00	18	Kegalle	3,353,805.00
9	Nanuoya/Lindula/Talawakelle	5,208,424.00	19	Kandy/Matale/Kurunegala	2,967,361.00
10	Balangoda/Rakwana	4,742,811.00	20	Patana/Kotagala	2,800,374.00