

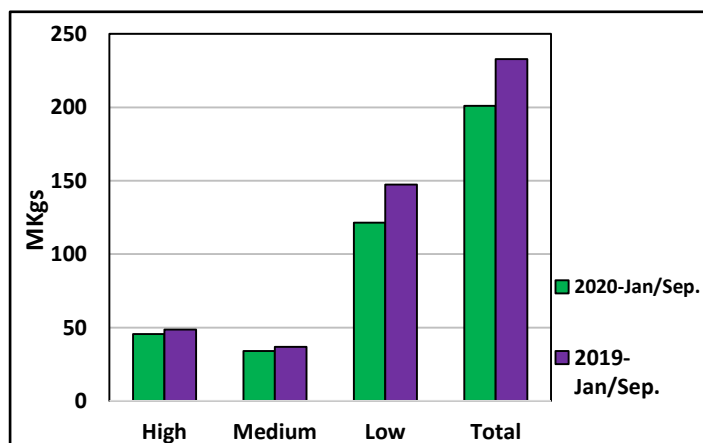
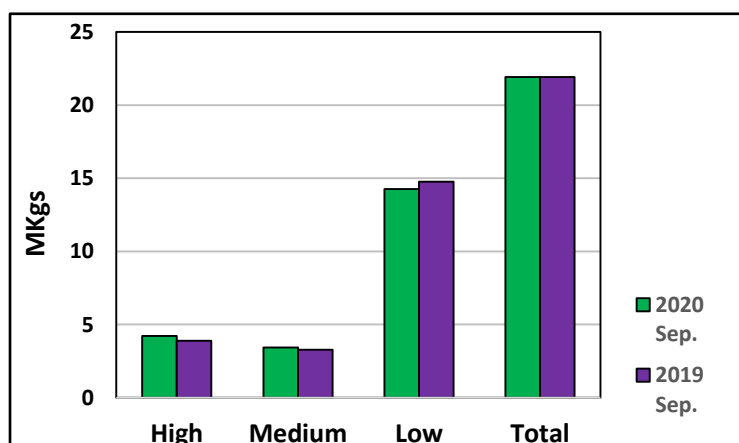
The High & Medium elevations have recorded a welcome increase in Tea Production during September 2020, which unfortunately has been negated by the massive decline in the Low Grown crop, following which the month records a *year-over-year* decline of 0.03%. During the cumulative period Jan-Sept 2020, a harvest of 201.1 Mkgs records a significant drop of 31.8 Mkgs when compared to the same period in 2019.

There are multiple factors which have contributed to the much lower crop intake recorded this year and, chiefly amongst which are the drought conditions experienced during most of the first half of the year, followed by heavy precipitation with gale force winds in the plantation areas, both of which were not conducive to growth. Additionally, the lack of fertilizer also appears to have aggravated the situation and, Sri Lanka is unlikely therefore, to bridge the deficit seen so far, by the end of the year.

Given below are more comprehensive details relating to tea production.

Sri Lanka Tea Production-September 2020 vs. 2019 (In Kgs)

	2020- September	2019- September	+/-	%	Jan/Sept. 2020	Jan/Sept. 2019	+/-	%
High	4,219,150	3,879,344	339,806	8.76	45,620,396	48,656,840	(3,036,444)	(6.24)
Medium	3,421,687	3,268,112	153,575	4.70	34,108,984	36,824,618	(2,715,634)	(7.37)
Low	14,269,690	14,770,567	(500,877)	(3.39)	121,401,522	147,455,861	(26,054,339)	(17.67)
Total	<u>21,910,527</u>	<u>21,918,023</u>	<u>(7,496)</u>	<u>(0.03)</u>	<u>201,130,902</u>	<u>232,937,319</u>	<u>(31,806,417)</u>	<u>(14.00)</u>



During the period January to September, 2020 the larger crop harvests have been from the following regions.

1	Ratnapura	34,185,220.00	11	Kelani Valley	5,251,231.00
2	Galle	26,483,799.00	12	Kegalle	4,582,273.00
3	Kalutara	13,567,908.00	13	Pussellawa/Hewaheta	4,401,239.00
4	Gampola/Nawalapitiya/Dolosbage	12,864,347.00	14	Morawake	3,988,046.00
5	Deniyaya	9,082,744.00	15	Bogawantalawa	3,983,093.00
6	Matara	8,079,308.00	16	Balangoda	3,601,234.00
7	Demodara/Haliella/Badulla	7,246,686.00	17	Upcot/Maskeliya	3,570,744.00
8	Nanuoya/Lindula/Talawakelle	5,759,061.00	18	Kadugannawa	3,539,461.00
9	Hatton/Dickoya	5,705,520.00	19	Patana/Kotagala	3,173,737.00
10	Balangoda/Rakwana	5,677,489.00	20	Agarapathana	3,154,715.00