



LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD
TEA MARKET REPORT

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SALE NO.13 OF 26TH & 27TH MARCH, 2019
COMMENTS

This week sale number 13 marked the final auction for the first quarter of 2019, which by and large has been disappointing for the producers of liquoring teas as well as CTC descriptions, barring the select best teas which has always commanded a premium. The weight of 6.5 Mkgs on offer this week comprised of 1.8 Mkgs Leafy teas and 1.1 Mkgs Tippy/ Small leaf teas. Low Grown quality was fully maintained. High Grown teas in the Ex Estate catalogue once again had 1 Mkgs, but a noticeable feature was the general decline in quality for both Rotorvane and CTC manufacture teas.

Leafy Low Grows continued to attract demand from a wide cross-section of buyers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, and the U. A. E. and Turkey. Russia and the C. I. S. too showed a keen interest in clean and well-made leafy teas whilst there was sustained interest from Libya and Iraq for secondary types. Tippy / Small Leaf teas met with fair demand. The better made teas commanded firm prices. Below best and bottom level teas too were firm. Iran was selective. There was fair interest from all other buyers of tippy teas.

With “key drivers” *in absentia*, there was less demand for Ex Estate teas which resulted in a further lowering of prices. A large multinational buyer operating in the liquoring segment together with at least two more important buyers were inactive this week which brought about easier prices. Select high priced westerns of last week were substantially lower, whilst teas in the middle price range eased Rs. 20/- to 40/-; the steepest slide we have witnessed for quite some time. The market for CTC teas continued to be highly disappointing with further depressed prices, and a large number of out lots that did not attract any interest. Producers of CTC teas are eagerly awaiting a reversal of fortunes but as for now there does not seem to be any indication of a light at the end of the tunnel! The “Tea Bag” sector operating for Russia was fairly active at the lower price levels. Interest from Japan, Hong Kong and Europe was subdued with buyers closely following quality.

This week’s auction comprised of **11,250** lots with a total quantity of **6,564,574** Kgs.
 The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	3,924	1,812,541
Low Grown Tippy	2,070	1,110,111
High & Medium	1,285	663,111
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,167	1,272,868
Dust	578	587,578
Premium Flowery	278	48,769
Ex-Estate	<u>948</u>	<u>1,069,596</u>
Total	<u>11,250</u>	<u>6,564,574</u>

In lighter vein

Wake UP Call

A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment.

Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 AM for an early morning business flight. Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper, “Please wake me at 5:00 AM.” He left it where he knew she would find it.

The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 AM and he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife didn’t wake him up, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed.

The paper said, “It is 5:00 AM. Wake up.”

LOW GROWNS – LEAFY

- BOP1** : Select best declined by Rs.40-50/- per kg; balance too declined on average Rs.25/- per kg. Teas at the lower end tended irregular.
- OPI** : Teas in the select best category advanced by Rs.30-40/- per kg; balance too followed a similar trend. Stalky invoices maintained.
- OP** : Select best teas advanced Rs.20/- per kg; balance gained substantially. Teas at the lower end were irregularly dearer.
- OPA** : A few select best invoices held firm; balance gained substantially. Teas at the lower end were irregular.
- PEK/PEK1**: Well made shotty invoices met with good demand; balance declined Rs.30-40/- more as the sale progressed. Best bolder PEKOE's declined Rs.20/- per kg; balance declined Rs.40-50/- and particularly difficult of sale at the later part. Teas at the lower end too declined.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)

	Best		Below Best		Others	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
BOP1	870-960	900-1010	650-680	650-680	570-600	575-600
OPI	1000-1400	950-1300	740-780	720-760	470-500	475-500
OP	730-800	700-790	640-680	610-650	470-520	470-520
OPA	830-1000	800-1050	630-680	600-650	400-440	420-450
PEK/PEK1	750-1000	830-990	650-680	650-680	500-525	500-525

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

- BOP/BOPSP** : Select best BOP's firm. Best together with cleaner below best and cleaner teas at the lower end appreciated. Others were firm on last.
- BOPF/BOPFSP** : Select best and best firm. Cleaner below best and cleaner teas at the lower end appreciated.
- FBOP/FBOP1** : Select best FBOP's irregular. Best maintained. Well-made below best and well-made teas at the bottom appreciated. Others maintained. FBOP1's in general firm, however the teas at the lower end appreciated.
- FBOPF/FBOPF1**: Best maintained. Select best teas were irregularly lower. Well made below best and well made teas at the lower end appreciated. FBOPF1 generally firm. Teas at the lower end appreciated.
- FBOPFSP/ EXSP**: Select best category gained in price and met with good demand whilst the best and below best teas too appreciated. The poor teas maintained last levels.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)

	Best		Below Best		Others	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
BOP/BOPSP	750-900	760-830	580-650	580-620	400-440	400-430
BOPF /BOPFSP	750-900	730-840	580-650	580-620	400-440	400-430
FBOP/FBOP1	850-1070	900-1050	650-700	620-680	600-650	580-620
FBOPF/FBOPF1	780-850	760-820	700-750	680-750	600-650	550-650
FBOPFSP/EXSP	800-1600	750-2000	780-850	750-800	700-800	700-750

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Select best types gained Rs.40-60/- and at times more; whilst the others were irregular and mostly lower.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : All round showed an irregular market conditions and declined by Rs.20-30/-.

PEK/PEK1 : Best category declined by Rs.10-20/- whilst the others were Rs.30-40/- lower.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	Best		Below Best		Others	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
FBOP	880-1250	840-960	750-880	740-840	600-750	580-740
FBOPF/FBOPF1	780-890	800-920	680-780	700-800	550-680	580-700
PEK/PEK1	800-900	800-920	700-800	700-800	520-700	550-700

HIGH GROWNS

BOP: Best Westerns –select high priced teas were substantially lower whilst the others declined Rs.20-30/-per kg and more. Teas in the below best category declined Rs.30/-per kg and more. At the lower end teas were Rs.10-20/-per kg easier. Nuwara Eliyas were substantially easier. Udupussellawas were firm and Rs.10-20/-per kg lower. Uva –select high priced teas were substantially easier whilst the others were Rs.20-40/-per kg lower..

BOPF: Best Westerns –select high priced teas were substantially easier whilst the others were Rs.30-40/-per kg easier. Teas in the below best category declined Rs.30-40/-per kg and more. Teas at the lower end declined Rs.40/-per kg and more. Nuwara Eliyas were irregular. Udupussellawas were Rs.10-20/-per kg lower. Uva –select high priced teas were substantially easier whilst the others were Rs.20-30/-per kg easier.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	BOP		BOPF	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	650-710	710-1500	650-760	700-800
Below Best Westerns	580-640	610-680	580-640	620-680
Plainer Westerns	500-550	550-590	510-570	540-610
Nuwara Eliyas	660-720	480-700	590-670	590-680
Other Uda Pussellawas	460-480	490	470-480	470-480
Best Uva's	550-590	650-750	500-540	640-700
Other Uva's	510-540	580-640	470-580	540-600

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP: Rs.20-30/-per kg easier.

BOPF: Better sorts were up to Rs.50/-per kg lower whilst the others were Rs.20-30/-per kg easier.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	BOP		BOPF	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	620-980	500-870	445-560	500-630

CTC

PF1: High Grown where sold were Rs.10-20/-per kg lower whilst the Medium Grown PF1's a few select bright liquoring invoices were firm and Rs.10-20/-per kg dearer whilst the others were barely steady. Low Growns firm around last levels.

BP1: High Grown BP1's difficult of sale whilst Medium varieties were firm. Low Grown BP1's lower by Rs.10/-per kg.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	PF1		BP1	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
High	390-490	400-480	370	360-370
Medium	325-435	340-470	270-400	UNQUOTED
Low	300-650	310-650	300-600	225-520

OFF GRADES

Best liquoring FNGS/FNGS1's firm on last week levels per kg whilst the poorer types followed a similar trend. Best BP's firm on last week levels. Well made BM's lost Rs.20-30/-. Poorer types were irregularly lower by Rs.10/-.Select Best BOP1A's lost Rs.25-50/- per kg whilst poorer types firm to dearer Rs.10-15/-.

QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)	HIGH		MEDIUM		LOW	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Good Fannings (Orthodox)	320-480	320-470	310-360	300-350	300-360	290-350
Good Fannings (CTC)	300-320	300-320	300-320	300-320	300-320	300-310
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	310-330	300-330	310-330	300-330	310-330	300-330
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	330-400	330-400	370-420	370-420	410-450	410-460
Other BM's	310-350	310-340	310-350	310-340	310-350	310-340
Best BOP1As	400-410	400-410	410-430	400-420	400-480	400-500
Other BOP1As	320-370	320-350	320-370	320-350	320-370	320-350

DUST

Best liquoring High Grown D/D1's lost by Rs.10-20/- per kg and at times more whilst others were irregularly lower. Secondary and poorer types too were firm on last levels. Select best Low Grown D/D1's met with good demand whilst the poorer sorts maintained last levels. CTC PD's were irregularly lower by Rs.20-30/- and at times more.

QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)	HIGH		MEDIUM		LOW	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Good Primary Dust 1(Orthodox)	880-960	880-960	560-620	570-630	460-570	470-530
Good Primary PD (CTC)	400-410	400-420	520-600	530-620	470-620	480-640
Other Primary Dust (Orthodox)	290-300	290-310	300-320	300-330	380-390	380-400
Other Primary Dust (CTC)	N/A	N/A	300-310	300-320	280-300	280-300
Secondary Dust	300-320	300-330	290-300	290-300	270-300	270-300
Poorer Dust	300-320	300-320	230-280	230-280	290-320	290-330

World Crop Statistics (MKGS)

Country	Month	2018	2019	Difference +/-	To-date 2018	To-date 2019	Difference +/-
SRI LANKA	Feb.	21.18	21.59	0.41	45.72	44.92	-0.80
BANGLADESH	Jan.	0.331	0.495	0.16	0.331	0.495	0.2
MALAWI	Jan.	6.3	7.5	1.2	6.3	7.5	1.2
NORTH INDIA	Jan.	5.3	0.0	-5.3	5.3	0.0	-5.3
SOUTH INDIA	Jan.	12.4	14.0	1.6	12.4	14.0	1.57
KENYA	Jan.	40.83	48.39	7.56	40.83	48.39	7.6

Country	Month	2017	2018	Difference +/-	To-date 2017	To-date 2018	Difference +/-
UGANDA	Nov.	5.63	3.06	-2.6	47.67	52.95	5.28

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THIS WEEK'S TOP PRICES

WESTERN MEDIUM			UVA MEDIUM			LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES		
Kenilworth	BOP	980/-	Demodara S	BOP	700/-	Mulatiyana Hills	BOP1	960/-
Kenilworth	BOPSP ++	940/-	Halpewatte Uva	BOP SP	680/-	*Makandura	BOP1	940/-
Cooroondoowatte	BOPF/ BOPFSP	700/-	Demodara S	BOP SP	680/-	*Sithaka	OPI	1400/-
* Dartry Valley	BOP1	920/-	*Halpewatte Uva	BOP SP	660/-	Gunawardena	OP1	1400/-
Harangalla	FBOP/FBOP1	1250/-	Halpewatte Uva	BOPF/BOPFSP	610/-	Mulatiyana Hills	OP1	1400/-
Craighead	FBOPF /FBOPF1	890/-	Telbedde	BOP1	900/-	Sirimewana	OP	890/-
Dehiwatte Super	OP/OPA	800/-	Uva Samovar	FBOP /FBOP1	800/-	Sunrise	OPA	1000/-
Kenilworth	OP1	1100/-	Sarnia Plaiderie	FBOP /FBOP1	800/-	*Makandura	OPA	970/-
*Harangalla	PEK/PEK1	900/-	Sarnia Plaiderie	FBOPF/FBOPF1	730/-	Liyonta	PEKOE	1070/-
*Dartry Valley	PEK/PEK1	900/-	Maratenne	OP/OPA	770/-	Mulathiyana Hills	PEKOE1	1000/-
Craighead	PEK/PEK1	900/-	Tini Oya	OP/OPA	770/-	Kuttapitiya Sup	PEKOE1	995/-
*Ancoombra	PEK/PEK1	860/-	Pettiagalla	OP1	840/-	*Andaradeniya Sup	PEKOE1	990/-
			Aruna Passara	PEK / PEK1	870/-	*Peak Paradise	PEKOE1	990/-
WESTERN HIGH			UVA HIGH			LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES		
Tillyrie	BOP	710/-	Ranaya	BOP	670/-	Pothatuwa	BOP	840/-
Glentilt	BOP	710/-	Glenanore	BOPSP	610/-	Adams View	BOP	840/-
Queensberry	BOPSP	680/-	Uva Kellie	BOPF/BOPFSP	580/-	*Sithaka	BOPSP	900/-
Waltrim	BOPF / BOPF SP	760/-	Uva Kellie	BOP1	820/-	Pothatuwa	BOPF	900/-
Harrow	BOP1	800/-	Glenanore	FBOP/ FBOP1	770/-	Kiruwana ganga	BOPFSP	800/-
Inverness	FBOP/ FBOP1	920/-	*Battawatte	FBOPF / FBOPF1	740/-	Kiruwana ganga	FBOP	1070/-
Inverness	FBOPF/FBOPF1	750/-	Oodooerre	OP1	790/-	*Sithaka	FBOP	1050/-
Queensberry	FBOPF/FBOPF1	750/-	*Battawatte	OP/OPA	760/-	Pothatuwa	FBOP	1050/-
Inverness	OP/OPA	780/-	Uva Kellie	PEK/PEK1	820/-	H.P.P Tea	FBOP	1050/-
Inverness	OP1	820/-				Gangaboda	FBOP1	840/-
Weddemelle	PEK/PEK1	820/-				Aruna	FBOP1	830/-
NUWARA ELIYA			UDA PUSSELLAWA			PREMIUM FLOWERY		
Mahagastotte	BOP	720/-	Kirklees	BOP	680/-	New Nivithigala	FBOPFSP	1600/-
Kenmare	BOPF/BOPFSP	670/-	Alma	BOPSP	670/-	Wattahena	FBOPFEXSP	1500/-
Lovers Leap	FBOP/ FBOP1	920/-	*High Forest	BOPF/BOPFSP	540/-	New Vithanakande	FBOPFEXSP1	1450/-
Court Lodge	PEK / PEK1	1000/-	Kirklees	BOPF/BOPFSP	540/-			
Lovers Leap	PEK / PEK1	1000/-	Alma	FBOP/ FBOP1	700/-			
Kenmare	PEK / PEK1	1000/-	Alma	FBOPF/FBOPF1	790/-			
			Alma	OP/OPA	650/-			
CTC TEAS			OFF GRADES			DUST		
HIGH GROWN			Chandrika Estate	BM	640/-	Mattakelle	DUST1	960/-
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	490/-	Gunawardena	BM	640/-	Suduwelipothahena CTC	PD	640/-
Florence CTC	BP1	370/-	Narangala Sup	BP	630/-			
Florence CTC	BPS	450/-	Mousakellie	FNGS/FNGS1	590/-			
Dunsinane CTC	BPS	450/-	Hingalgoda CTC	PFGS	610/-			
			Morawakkorale	BOPIA	700/-			
MEDIUM GROWN								
Madulkelle	PF1	460/-						
Duckwari	PF1	460/-						
Strathdon CTC	BP1	400/-						
Delta CTC	BP1	400/-						
Carolina CTC	BPS	430/-						
LOW GROWN								
Hingalgoda CTC	PF1	650/-						
Henathenna CTC	BP1	600/-						
Ceciliyan CTC	BPS	620/-						

* Sold by Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd

+++ All Time Record Price

++ Equal All Time Record Price

Cont'd... (P6)

COLOMBO AUCTION – GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.12 OF 19TH MARCH 2019

	2019			2018	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Year to Date
Uva High Grown	537.68	533.65	505.27	583.71	587.51
Western High Grown	592.55	595.30	596.80	603.06	650.37
High Grown	579.72	581.37	573.58	598.52	636.03
Uva Medium	551.67	551.77	527.94	589.96	570.77
Western Medium	493.38	498.90	501.59	553.77	569.00
Medium Grown	506.54	511.57	508.11	563.93	569.51
Low Grown (Orthodox)	626.93	622.48	620.77	640.06	650.37
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	611.20	608.26	607.91	633.11	644.05
Total	587.67	586.73	584.96	614.69	631.25

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALES

	Sale of 02 nd /03 rd April'19		Sale of 08 th /09 th April'19	
	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	4,162	1,979,521	4,204	2,011,604
Low Grown Tippy	2,085	1,137,834	2,075	1,143,933
High & Medium	1,434	737,411	1,438	748,850
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,500	1,435,589	2,447	1,443,470
Dust	587	582,242	609	623,055
Premium Flowery	192	35,440	235	44,619
Ex-Estate	865	960,226	844	940,664
Total	11,825	6,868,263	11,852	6,956,195

Weekly Private Sale Figures (From 18/03/2019 – 23/03/2019)	- 104,636.50 Kgs
Cumulative	- 1,442,378.75 Kgs

CROP & WEATHER

For the period 18th-24th March, 2019.

Western Region: Bright weather with occasional isolated showers were reported in the latter part of the week. The Department of Meteorology forecasted misty mornings in the week ahead. **Nuwara Eliya Region :** Dry weather was reported throughout the week. **Uva/Udapussellawa Regions:** Both Uva and Udapussellawa regions reported bright weather throughout the week and the Haputale Region reported evening occasional showers in the latter part of the week. Bright weather is expected to continue in the regions in the days ahead according to The Department of Meteorology. **Low Grown:** Ruhuna and Sabaragamuwa regions experienced intense dry weather throughout the week. However, The Department of Meteorology predicted dry weather and misty mornings in the Sabaragamuwa region and dry weather conditions to continue in both regions in the week ahead.

Crop Intake: All planting regions maintained low crop intake, whilst both Ruhuna and Sabargamuwa decreased by a greater degree.

CATALOGUES

Sale No. 15 of 08th & 09th April, 2019

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues closed on 21st March 2019, 2019 at 04.30 p.m.

Sale No. 16 of 23rd & 24th April, 2019.

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on 28th March, 2019 at 04.30 p.m. but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots is reached.

Sale No. 17 of 29th & 30th April, 2019.

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on 04th April, 2019 at 04.30 p.m. but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots is reached.

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BROKER'S ORDER- SALE NO.14

Auction of 02nd/03rd April, 2019 - Main Sale

Leafy/Tippy/BOP1A/ Premium

1. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
2. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
3. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
4. Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
5. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
6. John Keells PLC
7. **Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd**
8. Bartleet Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

1. Bartleet Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
2. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
3. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
4. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
5. John Keells PLC
6. Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
7. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
8. **Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd**

Auction of 03rd April, 2019 - Ex-Estate

1. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
2. **Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd**
3. John Keells PLC
4. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
5. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
6. Bartleet Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
7. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
8. Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd

LCBL APPROXIMATE SELLING TIME

Tuesday 02nd April'19

High & Medium	: 02.15 p.m.
Low Grown Tippy	: 03.45 p.m.
Premium Flowery	: 04.50 p.m.
BOP1A	: 05.30 p.m.

Wednesday 03rd April'19

Ex-Estate	: 08.10 a.m.
Low Grown Leafy	: 09.45 a.m.
Off Grades	: 02.30 p.m.
Dust	: 03.45 p.m.

MOMBASA TEA AUCTION MARKET REPORT

Sale No. 13 of 26th -27th March 2019.

REPORT NOT AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING

JAKARTA AUCTION OF 27TH MARCH 2019.

Auction No. 12.

Orthodox	11,628 Sacks (607,000 Kgs)
CTC	1,743 Sacks (100,800 Kgs)
Total	13,371 Sacks (707,880 Kgs)

Less demand.

Russia less active. Van Rees strong for select PF and Dust. Lipton limited interest. UK/Europe operated at full strength. USA & Japan quiet. Other traditional buyers bought less. Pakistan quiet.

Java - BOP mostly withdrawn due to higher limits. Corresponding BOPF good withdrawn asking for more while others sold at lower levels. Good PF increased by 3—6 Cents while others were irregularly easier. PF2 declined by 2—4 Cents. Dust 2—4 Cents lower followed by many withdrawals. Powdery sold around last. BT and other Off Grades 5—10 Cents easier.

Sum – BOP none available while corresponding BOPF sold at las rates. PF gained by 1—2 Cents on last. Dust irregularly easier. Powdery gained by 3—6 Cents. BT none on offer other Off Grades similar last.

CTC – BP1 were withdrawn and thus unquotable. PF1 none on offer. Good PD withdrawn others sold around last levels. The few D1 sold 2—3 Cents easier. Fannings none available. D2 were 2—6 Cents more.

Cont'd... (P8)

SOUTH INDIAN ROUND-UP FOR THE WEEK ENDING 16th MARCH, 2019.

KOCHI

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fair demand. Market tending steady for the brokens. Fannings ruled at occasionally dearer levels with fair support from Internal and Upcountry buyers. Export buyers lent fair support for plainer fannings.

LEAF-ORTHODOX:

Demand: Good demand.

Market: Market ruled at dearer levels for the well-made whole leaf and smaller brokens, particularly for the best Nilgiri . However, Medium Brokens and Fannings and Plainer sorts witnessed good demand at fully firm levels.

Buying Pattern: CIS/Middle East exporters were selective. Upcountry buyers lent support on whole leaf grades.

DUST

Demand: Fair demand.

Market: Best liquoring popular finer grades and selective bolder grades were selling at easier by Rs.1 to 2 but selective finer grades were at fully firm to dearer by Rs.1. Plainer bolder sorts were selling at steady levels with fair export enquiry.

Buying Pattern: Major blender AVT and KSCSC were active on the best mediums with fair support from regional packeters. Domestic buyers were fairly active in their purchases. Exporters were active on their purchase.

COONOOR

CTC LEAF

Demand: Good.

Market: High-priced teas were barely steady. Others were easier by Rs. 2/- to Rs. 3/-, however Medium BOPF's were easier by Rs. 1/- to Rs. 2/-.

Buying Pattern: Packeteers and Blenders were silent whilst Internal and Export Buyers were fairly active.

ORTH LEAF

Demand: Good.

Market: Barely steady however Secondaries were Rs. 1/- to Rs. 2/- dearer.

Buying Pattern: Exporters were active and fairly well supported by the Internal buyers.

CTC DUST

Demand: Good.

Market: High-priced teas were easier by Rs. 4/- to Rs. 5/-. Better mediums were easier by Rs. 2/- to Rs. 3/-. Mediums & Plainers were Rs. 1/- to Rs. 2/- easier.

Buying Pattern: Exporters were active and fairly well supported by Internal buyers.

ORTH DUST

Demand: Good.

Market: Barely steady.

Buying Pattern: Export and Internal buyers were fairly active.

COIMBATORE

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fair general demand.

Market: Better medium smaller brokens were barely steady. BOPF's suffered heavy withdrawals. Mediums and plainer teas were barely steady to firm.

ORTH LEAF: Good demand. Whole leaf and brokens were firm to dearer by Rs.2/- to Rs.5/- sometimes more on brokens. Others irregular and lower.

CTC DUST

Demand: Good general demand.

Market: Better liquoring and popular marks were lower by Re.1/- to Rs.2/- with some withdrawals. Mediums were lower by Rs.2/-. Plainer teas were barely steady to firm.

ORTH DUST Less demand. Lower by Rs.2/- to Rs.4/-.

Source: Paramount Tea Marketing (SI) Private Limited.

27th March, 2019.

-/ra

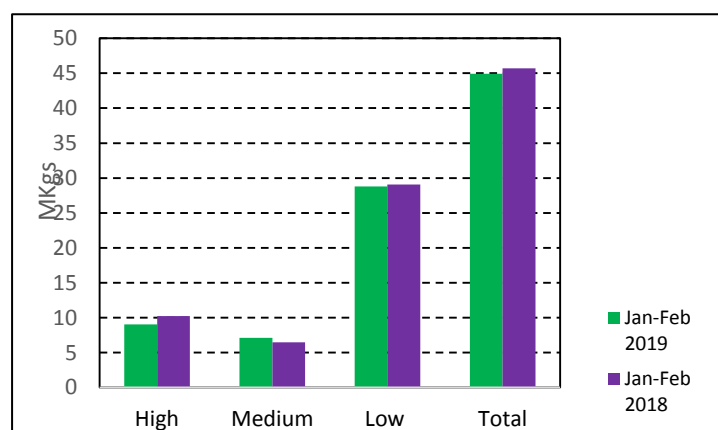
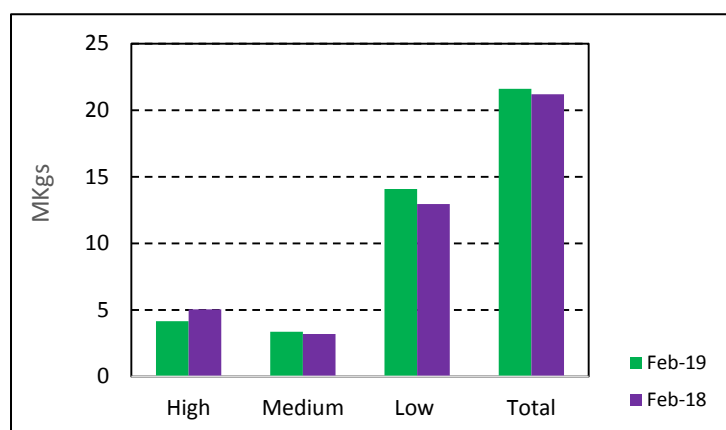
Sri Lanka has recorded a tea crop of 21.5 Mkgs during February 2019 which is marginally higher than the corresponding month in 2018. Analyzing the production for last month, it is noted that the High grown sector has declined almost 0.9 Mkgs month on month whilst the Medium category has shown a marginal increase. The Low Grown plantations however, show an increased production of 1.1 Mkgs when compared to last year's February.

During the year to date period this year, the production of 44.9 Mkgs still reflects a deficit of 0.8 Mkgs over the same period last year. The major drop in production during the cumulative period is again in the High Grown sector.

Given below are more comprehensive details relating to tea production.

Sri Lanka Tea Production-February 2019 vs. 2018 (In Kgs)

	2019- February	2018- February	+/-	%	Jan/ Feb 2019	Jan/Feb 2018	+/-	%
High	4,146,244	5,032,947	(886,703)	(17.62)	9,018,773	10,210,320	(1,191,547)	(11.67)
Medium	3,366,146	3,192,765	173,381	5.43	7,103,118	6,470,895	632,223	9.77
Low	<u>14,082,713</u>	<u>12,957,173</u>	<u>1,125,540</u>	<u>8.69</u>	<u>28,805,007</u>	<u>29,044,788</u>	<u>(239,782)</u>	<u>(0.83)</u>
Total	<u>21,595,103</u>	<u>21,182,885</u>	<u>412,218</u>	<u>1.95</u>	<u>44,926,897</u>	<u>45,726,003</u>	<u>(799,105)</u>	<u>(1.75)</u>



During the period January to February, 2019 the larger crop harvests have been from the following regions.

1	Ratnapura	7,609,881.00	11	Kadugannawa	991,449.00
2	Galle	6,603,547.00	12	Morawaka	958,398.00
3	Kalutara	3,620,042.00	13	Upcot/Maskeliya	945,552.00
4	Gampola/Nawalapitiya/Dolosbage	2,993,789.00	14	Pussellawa/Hewaheta	935,298.00
5	Matara	2,375,230.00	15	Hatton/Dickoya	899,199.00
6	Deniyaya	2,220,182.00	16	Kegalle	856,496.00
7	Nanuoya/Lindula/Talawakelle	1,392,857.00	17	Balangoda	843,434.00
8	Balangoda/Rakwana	1,146,443.00	18	Bogawantalawa	834,607.00
9	Demodara/Haliella/Badulla	1,131,835.00	19	Agarapathana	726,480.00
10	Kelani Valley	1,073,012.00	20	Patana/Kotagala	648,607.00

March 23, 2018

JRA/sr