



**LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD**  
**TEA MARKET REPORT**

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**SALE NO. 16 OF 29<sup>TH</sup>/30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2020**

**COMMENTS**

The latest Tea Production statistics for March, 2020 were released on April 27<sup>th</sup> which indicates a drastic decline in crops harvested. The total production for March 2020 was a mere 13.2 Mkgs showing a drop of 15 Mkgs when compared to March, 2019. The unsettled work conditions on estates following the COVID-19 Lockdown together with dry and humid conditions in most planting districts have both seriously affected cropping conditions. The National Tea Crop during the first quarter of 2020 (Jan-March) is also significantly lower to the corresponding period of 2019. The total harvest of 53.2 Mkgs during Q1, 2020 is 20.1 Mkgs behind the 2019 comparative figure, and, such a deficit will indeed be quite a challenging one to catch up during the coming months. It is salient to mention that the worst cropping conditions are seen for the current year from teas in the Low Grown elevation. More details appear in the circular attached to this report.

Sri Lanka Tea Exports for January to March, 2020 are also given elsewhere in this edition of the Tea Market Report. It will be observed that the largest market for Sri Lanka has been Iraq followed by Turkey, Russia, Iran, Azerbaijan, Chile, Saudi Arabia, China, Syria, Libya, Japan, UAE, Germany, USA, Ukraine, Jordan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Lebanon and Poland. During Q1/2020, Sri Lanka has exported 59.5 Mkgs at FOB Rs. 826.39 per Kg as against 73.6 Mkgs at FOB Rs. 847.57 during Q1/2019.

Sale #16 which was concluded this week from April 29 through 30, 2020 via Electronic Platform comprised of a total quantity of 4.4 m/kgs which was a drop of 750,000 Kgs over the previous auction. Low Grown Leafy/Tippy/Premium Flowery Grades comprised of 1.7 m/kgs, whilst Main Sale High & Medium category teas totaled 650,000 Kgs. Teas on offer in the Ex Estate catalogue amounted to almost 0.6 m/kgs.

Select best Western BOPF continued to attract strong demand and were fully firm to Rs. 20/- dearer, whilst others were dearer to a lesser extent. Western BOP's in the "best" category saw sharp declines whilst below best descriptions eased Rs. 20/- to 40/-. Nuwara Eliya BOP's were neglected while their corresponding BOPF declined substantially. Uva / Uda Pussellawa BOP's eased Rs. 20/- to 40/-. Cleaner Uva BOPF in the "select best" category appreciated on last while Uda Pussellawa's were lower up to Rs. 30/- per kg. Liquoring CTC PF1's commenced firm but were irregularly lower as the sale progressed. Traditional buyers of quality high grown teas were active, particularly those from Japan, Hong Kong, China and some selected European markets.

Low Grown leafy teas received fairly widespread demand albeit at lower levels. Flowery grades at the top-end too were overall lower amidst more selective buying by the Middle East. Low Grown prices have been on the rise in recent weeks with fairly steep improvements noticed during the last two sales, and, it does appear that a price correction is taking place ahead of larger volumes expected for sale from end May onwards.

This week's auction comprised of **8,007** lots with a total quantity of **4,477,810** kgs.  
The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	<b>Lot</b>	<b>Qty. (Kgs)</b>
Low Grown Leafy	2,414	1,050,710
Low Grown Tippy	1,231	649,075
High & Medium	1,333	667,926
Off Grade/BOPIA	1,828	1,042,781
Dust	442	407,700
Premium Flowery	153	30,441
Ex-Estate	<u>606</u>	<u>629,177</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>8,007</u></b>	<b><u>4,477,810</u></b>

***In Lighter Vein***

A priest and a shepherd from Australia participate in a TV game. After answering all the questions, there is a tie. So, both are given one final assignment. It is to write a poem in three minutes, using the word "Timbuktu". It is city in Africa.

The priest returns with the fruit of his inspiration:

"I was a father all my life, I had no children, had no wife, I read the bible through and through on my way to Timbuktu ... "

The poem makes a great impression, and the priest smells a sweet victory.

But then comes the shepherd, with his winning masterpiece:

"When Tim and I to Brisbane went, we met three women cheap to rent. They were three and we were two, so I booked one and Tim Booked Two

**LOW GROWNS – LEAFY**

- BOP1** : Few select best held firm. Balance declined substantially. Teas at the lower end too declined by Rs.40-50/- per kg.
- OP1** : Teas in the select best from the best category declined by Rs.100/- per kg and at times more. Balance was maintained. Stalky invoices too declined.
- OP** : Best teas declined by Rs.100/- per kg. Balance too followed a similar trend. Teas at the lower end declined by Rs.40-50/- per kg.
- OPA** : Select best were declined by Rs.50-100/- per kg. Balance too declined by Rs.100/- per kg. Teas at the lower end were lower by Rs.40-50/- per kg.
- PEK/PEK1**: Well-made shotty invoices declined by Rs.50/- per kg and at times more; balance too declined by Rs.40/- per kg. Best bold PEK's declined Rs.100/- per kg and at times more. Balance was barely steady. Teas at the lower end declined by Rs.50/- per kg and at times more.

**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>
<b>BOP1</b>	1000-1300	1400-2300	800-900	900-1200	650-750	700-800
<b>OP1</b>	1700-2100	1800-2400	900-1000	900-1100	500-600	500-650
<b>OP</b>	950-1050	1000-1200	700-750	750-850	530-600	580-700
<b>OPA</b>	950-1050	1000-1300	750-850	800-950	530-600	580-700
<b>PEK/PEK1</b>	950-1050	1100-1300	830-900	850-950	600-650	630-700

**TIPPY/SMALL LEAF**

- BOP/BOPSP** : Select Best and Best were easier. Balance were firm on last.
- BOPF/BOPFSP** : In general were easier
- FBOP/FBOP1** : Select Best FBOP's eased, whilst Best and Below Best sold around last levels. However, cleaner teas at the bottom appreciated. Others were firm. FBOP1's in general firm.
- FBOPF/FBOPF1** : Very Tippy teas continued to attract good demand. Best together with Below Best appreciated. Balance firm on last. Select Best FBOPF1's were lower, whilst Best sold around last levels. Cleaner below Best and cleaner teas at the bottom were firm to dearer. Balance firm.
- FBOPFSP/EXSP** : A few select best invoices maintained following quality. Best and below best teas too were dearer by Rs.50-100/- per kg.

**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>
<b>BOP/BOPSP</b>	1000-1150	1000-1300	800-900	800-900	600-700	600-700
<b>BOPF /BOPFSP</b>	750-860	900-980	700-750	750-850	600-700	600-700
<b>FBOP/FBOP1</b>	1500-1600	1500-1700	900-1200	900-1200	700-800	700-800
<b>FBOPF/FBOPF1</b>	1200-1550	1200-1650	900-1050	900-1050	700-800	700-800
<b>FBOPFSP/EXSP</b>	2800-3100	3000-3700	2200-2800	2200-2800	950-1300	950-1300

**MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS**

**FBOP** : Best on offer gained Rs.30-40/- per kg whilst the others were firm on last levels.

**FBOPF/FBOPF1** : Best on offer gained Rs.50-60/- per kg whilst the others were irregularly lower by Rs.10-20/- per kg.

**PEK/PEK1** : All-round maintained last levels.

<b>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</b>	<b>Best</b>		<b>Below Best</b>		<b>Others</b>	
	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>
<b>FBOP</b>	900-1150	850-1100	750-900	700-850	600-750	600-700
<b>FBOPF/FBOPF1</b>	900-1300	900-1100	800-900	800-900	650-780	650-780
<b>PEK/PEK1</b>	950-1100	950-1100	800-950	800-950	700-800	700-800

**HIGH GROWN**

**BOP:** Best Westerns - Select high priced teas declined Rs. 50/- per kg and more. Others together with teas in the Below Best category declined Rs. 20-40/- per kg. Plainer sorts eased up to Rs. 50/- per kg and more. Nuwara Eliya's were neglected. Uda Pussellawa's were Rs. 20-30/- per kg lower. Uva's declined Rs. 30-50/- per kg.

**BOPF:** Teas in the Best and Below Best categories, where quality was reasonably maintained were firm and Rs. 20-30/- per kg dearer. Others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Nuwara Eliya's were up to Rs. 50/- per kg easier. Uda Pussellawa's were Rs. 20-30/- per kg lower. Uva's - clean leaf coloury sorts were Rs. 20-30/- per kg dearer. Others sold around last week's levels.

<b>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</b>	<b>BOP</b>		<b>BOPF</b>	
	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>
Best Westerns	690-770	740-850	790-900	790-850
Below Best Westerns	610-680	640-730	760-780	750-780
Plainer Westerns	560-600	530-620	690-750	640-740
Nuwara Eliyas	420	900	640-820	N/A
Other Uda Pussellawas	520-580	580	600-630	610-650
Best Uva's	550-600	650-680	760-800	720-750
Other Uva's	520-540	600-630	620	630-700

**MEDIUM GROWN TEAS**

**BOP:** Neat, well-made teas were firm and tended dearer.

**BOPF:** Firm and Rs. 10-20/- per kg dearer. .

<b>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</b>	<b>BOP</b>		<b>BOPF</b>	
	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>
Best Westerns	520-900	600-960	520-750	500-750

**CTC**

**PF1:** High Grown PF1's generally firm, though fluctuated following quality. Medium Grown PF1's rained Rs.20-40/- per kg at the commencement of the sale but dearer to a lesser extent by the close. Low Grown PF1's leaf and liquor quality maintained and gained up to Rs.20/- per kg. Others were irregular and tended easier.

**BP1:** High Grown BP1's dearer by Rs.20-30/- per kg. Medium Grown BP1's firm and Rs.20-30/- per kg dearer. Low Grown BP1's sold around last week levels.

<b>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</b>	<b>PF1</b>		<b>BP1</b>	
	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>
High	570-650	510-640	520-630	N/A
Medium	360-650	370-680	400-570	360-600
Low	370-870	360-1200	350-570	460-610

Cont'd.... (P4)

**OFF GRADES**

Best liquoring FNGS/FNGS1 advanced by Rs.20-30/-per kg. Clean Low Grown FNGS/FNGS1 were firm. Best BPs' too held firm. Well-made BMs a little irregular. Well-made BOPIA's were firm whilst the others and below best types firm on last week levels.

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)	450-620	450-620	380-460	380-460	380-470	380-470
Good Fannings (CTC)	400-550	400-550	400-425	400-425	400-425	400-425
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	400-450	400-450	325-380	325-380	325-380	325-380
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	500-510	500-510	500-550	500-550	500-570	500-570
Other BM's	425-450	425-450	420-470	420-470	420-470	420-470
Best BOP1As	550-600	550-600	570-620	570-620	575-670	575-600
Other BOP1As	400-440	400-440	400-450	400-450	400-460	400-460

**DUST**

Select best liquoring High Grown D1's advanced by Rs.50-60/- per kg whilst the secondary and below best types were firm on last levels. Poor varieties maintained on last level. Low Grown Clean D/D1s dearer by Rs.40-50/-per kg. PD's from High Grown & Low Grown elevations advanced by Rs.30-40/- per kg whilst Mediums were irregularly lower by Rs.20-30/- per kg.

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)	800-980	650-760	550-610	500-590	580-680	500-590
Good Primary PD (CTC)	650-700	600-650	550-650	600-650	600-690	600-650
Other Primary Dust (Orthodox)	260-270	260-270	260-280	260-280	280-300	280-300
Other Primary Dust (CTC)	N/A	N/A	260-290	260-290	260-280	260-280
Secondary Dust	240-270	240-270	240-260	240-260	240-270	240-270
Poorer Dust	230-250	230-250	180-250	180-250	190-250	190-250

**World Crop Statistics (MKGS)**

Country	Month	2019	2020	Difference +/-	To-date 2019	To-date 2020	Difference +/-
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	<b>Jan.</b>	<b>23.20</b>	<b>21.90</b>	<b>-1.30</b>	<b>23.20</b>	<b>21.90</b>	<b>-1.30</b>
BANGLADESH	Jan.	0.495	0.175	-0.32	0.495	0.175	-0.3
KENYA	Jan.	48.38	53.63	5.25	48.38	53.63	5.3
SOUTH INDIA	Jan.	14.22	16.01	1.8	14.22	16.01	1.79

Country	Month	2018	2019	Difference +/-	To-date 2018	To-date 2019	Difference +/-
MALAWI	Dec.	6.4	5.0	-1.4	50.6	48.2	-2.4
NORTH INDIA	Dec.	35.8	48.9	13.1	113.7	170.7	57.0
UGANDA	May	7.30	6.10	-1.2	28.18	21.95	-6.23

## THIS WEEK'S TOP PRICES

<b><u>WESTERN MEDIUM</u></b>			<b><u>UVA MEDIUM</u></b>			<b><u>LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES</u></b>			
Craighead	BOP	960/-	Halpewatta Uva	BOP/BOPF	900/-	*Makandura	BOP1	+++	2600/-
Craighead	BOPF	560/-	Serendib	BOP/BOPF	900/-	New Vithanakande	BOP1	+++	2600/-
Imboolpitiya	BOPFSP	600/-	Glen Alpin	BOP1	1050/-	Pothotuwa	BOP1		2500/-
Craighead	BOP1	1350/-	Telbedde	FBOP /FBOP1	1050/-	*Sithaka	BOP1		2250/-
Dartry Valley	FBOP/FBOP1	1150/-	Telbedde	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1000/-	Pothotuwa	OP1		2650/-
Craighead	FBOP/FBOP1	1150/-	Glen Alpin	OP/OPA	920/-	New Vithanakande	OP1		2650/-
Craighead	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1300/-	Dickwella	OP1	1050/-	Sihara	OP		1400/-
*Uplands	OP/OPA	920/-	Glen Alpin	PEK/ PEK1	1100/-	Himara	OP		1400/-
*Ancoombra	OP1	1000/-				Andaradeniya	OPA		1350/-
Harangalla	OP1	1000/-				Willie Group Super	OPA		1350/-
Dartry Valley	PEK/PEK1	1100/-				Spring View	PEKOE		1350/-
<b><u>WESTERN HIGH</u></b>			<b><u>UVA HIGH</u></b>			<b><u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u></b>			
Mousakellie	BOP	760/-	Aislaby	BOP/BOP	800/-	Ceciliyan	BOP		1150/-
Kottiyagalla	BOPF	900/-	*Battawatte	BOP1	980/-	New panilkande	BOP		1150/-
Inverness	BOP1	850/-	Oodoowerre	BOP1	980/-	Suduwelipothahena	BOP		1150/-
Venture	FBOP/ FBOP1	960/-	Attampettia	FBOP/ FBOP1	960/-	Mulathiyana Hills	BOP		1150/-
Venture	FBOPF/FBOPF1	880/-	Uva Kellie	FBOPF/FBOPF1	960/-	Waturawila	BOP		1150/-
Venture	OP/OPA	840/-	*Battawatte	OP/OPA	+++	*N.Mount Carmel	BOP		1100/-
Venture	OP1	840/-	Oodoowerre	OP1	1000/-	*Andaradeniya Sup	BOPSP		1000/-
Inverness	PEK/PEK1	890/-	Battawatte	PEK /PEK1	940/-	*Dishan Valley	BOPSP		960/-
<b><u>NUWARA ELIYA</u></b>			<b><u>UDA PUSSELLAWA</u></b>			<b><u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u></b>			
Mahagastotte	BOP	710/-	Luckyland	BOP/BOPF	740/-	Pothatuwa	BOPF		830/-
Lovers Leap	BOP	710/-	Gordon	BOP1	890/-	Suduwelipothahena	BOPFSP		860/-
Mahagastotte	BOPF	820/-	Gordon	FBOP/ FBOP1	880/-	Pothatuwa	FBOP		1650/-
Lovers Leap	BOP1	760/-	Gordon	FBOPF/FBOPF1	920/-	*Sithaka	FBOP		1550/-
Court Lodge	FBOP/ FBOP1	1000/-	*Delmar	OP/OPA	870/-	*Hidellana	FBOP1		1100/-
Kenmare	FBOP/ FBOP1	1000/-	Gampaha	OP1	940/-	Nilawala	FBOP1		1100/-
Court Lodge	OP/OPA	730/-	Gordon	PEK /PEK1	870/-	*Andaradeniya Sup	FBOP1		1000/-
Court lodge	PEK/PEK1	1000/-				*Kanneliya	FBOP1		1000/-
Mahagastotte	PEK/PEK1	1000/-				Himara	FBOPF		1550/-
<b><u>CTC TEAS</u></b>			<b><u>OFF GRADES</u></b>			<b><u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u></b>			
<b><u>HIGH GROWN</u></b>			*Aldora	BM	710/-	Suduwelipothahena	FBOPF1		1300/-
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	650/-	*Nawalakande Sup	BP	800/-	<b><u>PREMIUM FLOWERY</u></b>			
Dunsinane CTC	BP1	630/-	*Aldora	BO1A	750/-	*Makandura	FBOPFSP		3100/-
Mt.Vernon CTC	BPS	560/-	*Narangalla Sup	BO1A	750/-	Willie Group	FBOPFEXSP		2950/-
<b><u>MEDIUM GROWN</u></b>						New Vithanakande	FBOPFEXSP1		3050/-
*New Peacock	PF1	650/-				<b><u>DUST</u></b>			
Strathdon CTC	BP1	570/-				Mattakelle	Dust1		980/-
<b><u>LOW GROWN</u></b>						Hingalgoda CTC	PD		690/-
Ceciliyan CTC	PF1	870/-							
Ceciliyan CTC	BP1	570/-							

**DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALES**

	<u>Sale of 06<sup>th</sup> May' 2020</u>		<u>Sale of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> May' 2020</u>	
	<b>Lots</b>	<b>Qty. (Kgs)</b>	<b>Lots</b>	<b>Qty. (Kgs)</b>
Low Grown Leafy	1,465	736,930	3,026	1,446,560
Low Grown Tippy	788	477,884	1,568	891,810
High & Medium	939	502,115	1,283	668,900
Off Grade/BOP1A	846	535,617	2,275	1,290,463
Dust	335	341,149	424	435,979
Premium Flowery	81	17,719	193	39,132
Ex-Estate	<u>511</u>	<u>604,875</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>624,305</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>4,965</u></b>	<b><u>3,216,289</u></b>	<b><u>9,304</u></b>	<b><u>5,397,149</u></b>

Weekly Private Sale Figures (From 20.04.2020 to 25.04.2020) - 176,601.00 Kgs.  
 Cumulative - 1,400,036.60 Kgs.

**CATALOGUES**

**Sale No.18 of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> May, 2020**

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are closed on **25<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at 04.30 p.m.**

**Sale No.19 of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **30<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at 04.30 p.m.** but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots if reached.

**Sale No.20 of 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **6<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 at 04.30 p.m.** but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots if reached.

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**SALE NO.17**

**BROKER'S ORDER**

**Auction of 06<sup>th</sup> May, 2020**

**Leafy/Tippy/BOP1A/Premium Flowery**

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

**High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust**

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

**Ex-Estate**

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

**Crop & Weather  
From 20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2020**

**Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions** - Bright mornings and afternoon showers were reported in both regions during the week. The Department of Meteorology predicts evening showers in the week ahead.

**Uva/Udapussellawa Regions** - Both regions reported clear weather with occasional evening showers. Afternoon showers are expected in the week ahead according to the Department of Meteorology.

**Low Grows** - Ruhuna and Sabaragamuwa regions reported sunny mornings and evening showers throughout the week. According to the Department of Meteorology, Sabaragamuwa Region may continue to experience evening showers in the days to come.

**Crop Intake** - All planting districts reported a moderate increase in the crop intake.

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## OTHER MARKETS

### **SOUTH INDIAN ROUND-UP FOR THE WEEK ENDING 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2020.**

#### **KOCHI**

##### **CTC LEAF:**

**Demand:** Fair demand. Broken and Fannings are selling at fully firm to occasionally dearer levels. Fair demand from Internal and Upcountry buyers. Export buyers lent fair support.

##### **LEAF-ORTHODOX:**

**Demand :** Fair demand.

**Market:** Well made high grown whole leaf was selling at fully firm to occasionally dearer levels following quality. Smaller broken and high grown fannings were selling at around last levels. Medium whole leaf and smaller broken are selling at fully firm levels. Medium Fannings were selling at barely steady levels with some withdrawals.

**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 better mediums are selling easier by Rs.5 to 8 and sometimes more. Bolder grades are selling at barely steady levels. Plainer sorts were selling easier by Rs.2 to 3 and sometimes more with withdrawals.

**Buying Pattern:** Major blender AVT was active but KSCSC was inactive. Best mediums fetched with fair support from regional packeters. Domestic buyers were active in their purchases. Exporters were selective.

#### **COONOOR**

##### **CTC LEAF**

**Demand:** Strong

**Market :** Generally fully firm to dearer by Rs. 5/- to Rs. 10/- and more up to Rs. 15/-. The Best categories rather had less demand with fair out lots. The Larger Broken and Smaller Broken along with Fannings of Better Medium and Plainers have surged in prices.

**Buying Pattern:** Strong Export operation with equally strong participation from the Major Blenders. Internal had been fairly active.

##### **ORTH LEAF**

**Demand:** Good

**Market:** Whole leaf grades were selling at fully firm to dearer by Rs. 10/- and up to Rs. 20/- on some selected lines. Broken and Fannings were rather dearer by Rs. 3/- to Rs. 5/-.

**Buying Pattern:** Strong Export enquiry was forthcoming with fair participation from the Internal buyers.

##### **CTC DUST**

**Demand:** Strong

**Market:** Generally fully firm to dear by Rs. 10/- and up to Rs. 20/- on the Smaller dusts following quality. The Best categories were rather selling at steady to firm levels.

**Buying Pattern:** Strong Export and Internal participation was forthcoming with Major Blender being fairly active.

##### **ORTH DUST**

**Demand:** Good

**Market:** Steady to firm on the Primary dusts with select cleaner and popular marks having surged in prices up to Rs. 10/-. Secondaries and Tertiary grades rather sold at barely steady to occasionally dearer levels.

**Buying Pattern:** Fairly good Internal participation with select Export support.

#### **COIMBATORE**

##### **CTC LEAF**

**Demand:** Strong demand.

**Mark** Better medium smaller broken and BOPF's were dearer by Rs.10/- to Rs.12/- sometimes more following quality. Medium and plainers dearer by Rs.10 sometimes more.

**ORTH LEAF:** Good demand. Whole leaf were dearer by Rs.10/- to Rs.15/-. Others firm to dearer by Rs.5/-.

##### **CTC DUST**

**Demand:** Strong demand.

**Market:** Better liquoring and popular sorts were dearer by Rs.5/- to Rs.10/- particularly on bolder broken. Mediums were dearer by Rs.10/- to Rs.15/- sometimes more. Plainer teas were dearer by Rs.10/- to Rs.12/-.

**ORTH DUST** Good demand. Dearer up to Rs.5/-.

**MOMBASA TEA AUCTION****SALE NO.17 OF 27<sup>TH</sup>/28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2020**

Good demand for the 184,369 packages (12.28m/kgs) on offer at irregularly easier rates and 13.59% were neglected.

The Best **BP1s** in the market saw an irregular interest and ranged between firm to USC14 dearer to easier by up to USC10 while Brighter sorts varied between firm to USC14 dearer to easier by up to USC45 with Medium varieties ranging between firm to USC14 above previous levels to easier by up to USC32. Lower Medium types met an irregular interest varying between firm to USC23 above last prices to easier by up to USC2 and some invoices were unsold. Plainer descriptions were discounted by USC8 - USC9 with some lines remaining without bids.

Best **PF1s** on offer held steady to USC14 easier with Brighter types irregular varying between firm to USC9 dearer to easier by up to USC13 while Medium categories ranged between firm to USC23 above last rates to easier by USC6 - USC12. Lower Medium sorts were well absorbed and varied between firm to USC24 dearer to easier by a similar margin while Plainer varieties were better absorbed at steady to USC2 above previous week's levels but some invoices remained without bids.

The Best **PDUSTs** available eased by USC4 - USC10 with Brighter varieties irregular and ranged between firm to USC8 dearer to easier by up to USC11. Mediums varied between firm to USC24 above last levels to easier by up to USC6 while Lower Medium types were well absorbed at steady to USC20 dearer. Plainer descriptions held firm to USC4 dearer.

Best **DUST1s** on offer shed USC6 - USC14

while Brighter types eased by USC14 to USC17 with Medium categories irregular varying between USC3 - USC25 above last levels to easier by up to USC18. Lower Medium varieties were about firm to USC48 below previous rates while Plainer sorts met an irregular enquiry and ranged between firm to USC8 dearer to easier by a similar level and a few invoices remained unsold.

In the **Secondary Catalogues**, BPs gained with PFs dearer. Clean well sorted coloury Fannings held value with similar DUSTs dearer. Other Fannings were firm with DUSTs steady. BMFs were well absorbed.

Yemen, other Middle Eastern Countries and UK lent more and strong enquiry while Egyptian Packers and Pakistan Packers showed strong support but at lower levels. There was useful interest at lower rates from Kazakhstan, other CIS nations and Russia while Bazaar were active but at lower levels. Afghanistan and Sudan reduced participation and there was more but selective activity from Iran. Somalia were more active at the lower end of the market.

**CTC Quotations and Highest Prices (USC)**

	<b>BP1</b>	<b>PF1</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>D1</b>
<b>Best</b>	206 - 686	222 - 336	220 - 350	214 - 323
<b>Good</b>	190 - 280	223 - 243	215 - 268	195 - 248
<b>Good Medium</b>	204 - 228	218 - 238	215 - 236	210 - 234
<b>Medium</b>	205 - 232	208 - 234	212 - 259	200 - 259
<b>Lower Medium</b>	125 - 226	174 - 226	170 - 230	140 - 226
<b>Plainer</b>	085 - 180	092 - 194	086 - 208	110 - 200

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

**-/tp**

## SRI LANKA TEA EXPORTS

### Top Twenty Export Destinations for March (including export and re-exports)

Country	2020 March			2019 March			Comparison	
	Qty (Kg)	FOB Rs/Kg.	Mkt share of total exports	Qty (Kg)	FOB Rs/Kg.	Mkt share of total exports	QTY Change	% (+/-)
IRAQ	2,051,905	565.68	14.84	4,023,520	547.50	15.24	(1,971,615)	(49.00)
TURKEY	1,922,174	750.23	13.90	3,453,976	794.77	13.08	(1,531,802)	(44.35)
RUSSIA	1,223,312	886.26	8.85	2,524,457	868.34	9.56	(1,301,146)	(51.54)
CHILE	663,135	591.55	4.80	274,182	891.91	1.04	388,953	141.86
IRAN	579,057	928.24	4.19	2,033,447	776.00	7.70	(1,454,390)	(71.52)
SYRIA	561,879	866.82	4.06	807,032	895.27	3.06	(245,153)	(30.38)
LIBYA	473,600	560.41	3.42	1,239,280	685.76	4.69	(765,680)	(61.78)
JAPAN	465,607	924.47	3.37	689,918	1,066.60	2.61	(224,311)	(32.51)
GERMANY	461,961	863.79	3.34	708,510	849.30	2.68	(246,549)	(34.80)
CHINA	373,746	768.52	2.70	1,052,549	769.74	3.99	(678,803)	(64.49)
SAUDI ARABIA	328,572	1,210.01	2.38	459,438	1,266.53	1.74	(130,866)	(28.48)
AZERBAIJAN	318,406	892.68	2.30	699,138	831.28	2.65	(380,733)	(54.46)
UAE	314,716	695.60	2.28	1,056,785	723.43	4.00	(742,069)	(70.22)
TAIWAN	288,238	722.29	2.08	384,173	726.46	1.45	(95,935)	(24.97)
UKRAINE	277,433	949.60	2.01	284,262	1,096.76	1.08	(6,829)	(2.40)
USA	272,771	1,106.42	1.97	613,665	1,095.26	2.32	(340,894)	(55.55)
BELGIUM	232,392	674.62	1.68	188,741	642.46	0.71	43,652	23.13
ISRAEL	192,780	922.86	1.39	296,578	936.13	1.12	(103,798)	(35.00)
JORDAN	189,948	1,061.78	1.37	551,816	902.41	2.09	(361,867)	(65.58)
SOUTH AFRICA	187,960	700.13	1.36	104,354	866.47	0.40	83,606	80.12
<b>Top 20 Total</b>	<b>11,379,591</b>	<b>775.78</b>	<b>82.29</b>	<b>21,445,821</b>	<b>786.19</b>	<b>81.21</b>	<b>(10,066,230)</b>	<b>(46.94)</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>13,827,925</b>	<b>836.74</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>26,408,237</b>	<b>850.48</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>(12,580,312)</b>	<b>(47.64)</b>

### Top Twenty Export Destinations As at March (Including export and re-exports)

Country	2020 As at March			2019 As at March			Comparison	
	Qty Kg.	FOB Rs /kg	Mkt Share	Qty Kg.	FOB Rs /kg	Mkt Share	Qty Change	% (+/-)
IRAQ	8,984,861	525.59	15.08	9,997,844	558.22	13.58	(1,012,982)	(10.13)
TURKEY	8,135,175	762.09	13.65	9,106,723	796.41	12.37	(971,548)	(10.67)
RUSSIA	6,772,037	795.67	11.37	8,118,547	842.39	11.03	(1,346,510)	(16.59)
IRAN	3,968,951	872.54	6.66	5,509,672	789.43	7.48	(1,540,721)	(27.96)
AZERBAIJAN	1,985,494	868.35	3.33	2,354,267	828.06	3.20	(368,773)	(15.66)
CHILE	1,957,201	603.24	3.29	1,036,677	762.91	1.41	920,523	88.80
SAUDI ARABIA	1,848,828	1,190.14	3.10	1,488,215	1,155.62	2.02	360,613	24.23
CHINA	1,684,440	737.07	2.83	2,776,271	770.98	3.77	(1,091,830)	(39.33)
SYRIA	1,621,180	815.90	2.72	2,613,515	930.64	3.55	(992,335)	(37.97)
LIBYA	1,533,724	563.80	2.57	3,911,140	692.83	5.31	(2,377,416)	(60.79)
JAPAN	1,469,157	955.97	2.47	1,674,032	1,041.00	2.27	(204,875)	(12.24)
UAE	1,416,621	794.91	2.38	3,081,750	700.86	4.19	(1,665,129)	(54.03)
GERMANY	1,410,887	864.01	2.37	2,006,354	850.93	2.73	(595,467)	(29.68)
USA	1,384,340	966.32	2.32	1,640,264	1,029.69	2.23	(255,924)	(15.60)
UKRAINE	1,041,533	938.58	1.75	726,055	1,125.31	0.99	315,478	43.45
JORDAN	1,002,730	984.76	1.68	1,597,250	918.07	2.17	(594,519)	(37.22)
TAIWAN	888,362	742.44	1.49	1,012,851	751.72	1.38	(124,490)	(12.29)
HONG KONG	806,533	725.57	1.35	1,148,382	815.32	1.56	(341,849)	(29.77)
LEBANON	774,073	878.33	1.30	897,737	1,040.93	1.22	(123,664)	(13.78)
POLAND	702,079	1,313.65	1.18	653,542	1,337.37	0.89	48,537	7.43
<b>Top 20 Totals</b>	<b>49,388,204</b>	<b>773.60</b>	<b>82.89</b>	<b>61,351,088</b>	<b>796.29</b>	<b>83.33</b>	<b>(11,962,884)</b>	<b>(19.50)</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>59,579,343</b>	<b>826.39</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>73,624,681</b>	<b>847.57</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>(14,045,337)</b>	<b>(19.08)</b>

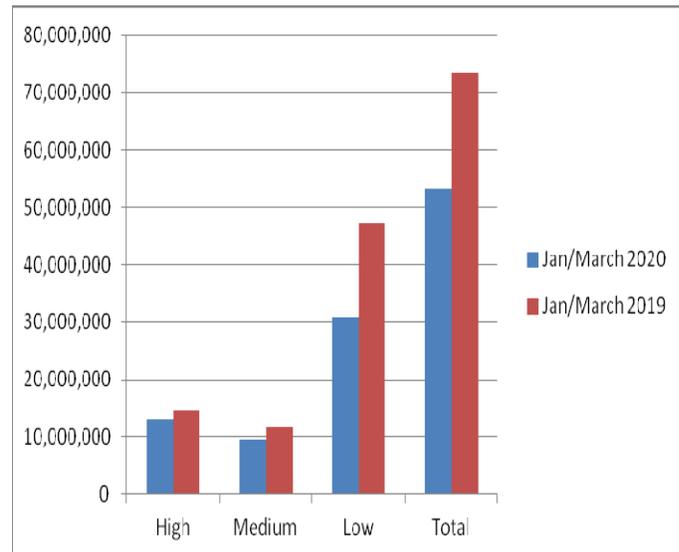
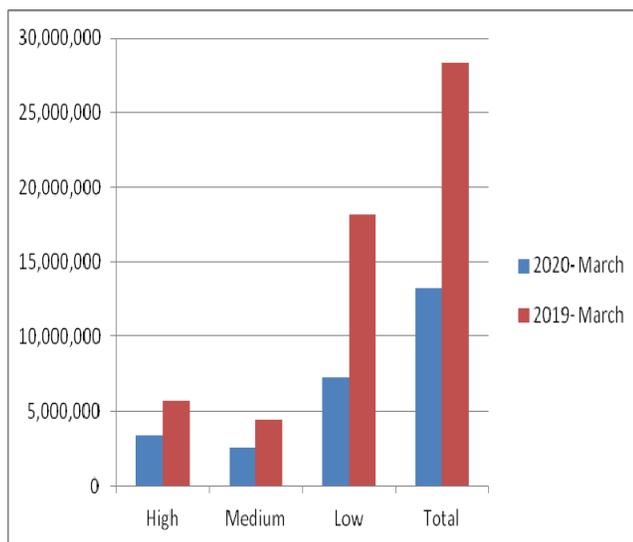
Courtesy: Sri Lanka Tea Board

The COVID-19 Lockdown and drought conditions experienced in March, 2020 together have resulted in a substantial drop in production to a mere 13.2 Mkgs for the month under review compared to 28.3 Mkgs in March, 2019, i.e., a decline of 15.0 Mkgs(-53.17%).

The production for January / March, 2020 has been recorded as 53.2 Mkgs which is again a drop of 20.1 Mkgs over the corresponding period last year. A closer look at the detailed crop statistics given below would reveal that the Low Grown plantations have been the worst affected with a decline of a massive 16.2 Mkgs during the first quarter of 2020, in comparison with that of the previous year. Given below are more comprehensive details relating to tea production.

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

	2020 March	2019- March	Change	%	Jan/March 2020	Jan/March 2019	Change	%
<b>High</b>	3,355,617	5,701,796	-2,346,179	-41.15	12,935,440	14,784,455	-1,849,014	-12.5
<b>Medium</b>	2,607,706	4,441,894	-1,834,188	-41.29	9,512,095	11,600,745	-2,088,650	-18.0
<b>Low</b>	<u>7,317,388</u>	<u>18,212,707</u>	<u>-10,895,319</u>	<u>-59.82</u>	<u>30,821,926</u>	<u>47,040,250</u>	<u>-16,218,324</u>	<u>-34.5</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>13,280,712</u>	<u>28,356,397</u>	<u>-15,075,685</u>	<u>-53.17</u>	<u>53,269,461</u>	<u>73,425,450</u>	<u>-20,155,989</u>	<u>-27.5</u>



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

1	Ratnapura	8,564,155	11	Pussellawa/Hewaheta	1,312,658
2	Galle	6,578,585	12	Kegalle	1,231,130
3	Kalutara	3,813,467	13	Bogawantalawa	1,218,411
4	Gampola/Nawalapitiya/Dolosbage	3,706,834	14	Upcot/Maskeliya	1,094,217
5	Deniyaya	2,112,047	15	Kelani Velli	1,043,211
6	Demodara/Haliella/Badulla	1,972,366	16	Kadugannawa	1,040,682
7	Matara	1,884,139	17	Morawake	995,250
8	Hatton/Dickoya	1,607,553	18	Agarapathana	945,995
9	Nanuoya/Lindula/Talawakele	1,598,058	19	Balangoda	893,196
10	Balangoda/Rakwana	1,553,531	20	Kandy/Matale/Kurunegala	832,024

April 27, 2020

JRA/-