

SALE NO.33 OF 25TH/26TH AUGUST, 2020.

C O M M E N T S

Sri Lanka's Tea Production for July, 2020 showed a marginal gain over the corresponding month of the previous year, largely on account of better harvests from the high and medium elevations. Crop intakes from the low grown areas during the month under review fell short by almost 0.5 m/kgs which perhaps is directly due to the inability of small holders to administer fertilizer applications during the preceding months as a result of COVID-19 lockdown. Additionally, the lack of sunlight and the gloomy, overcast conditions too would have contributed to the lower harvest from low grown properties. During the year-to-date period of the current year, there is a deficit of 28.4 m/kgs compared to the same period last year. The drop from low grown estates is a massive 23.3 m/kgs followed by high and medium elevations by -2.6 m/kgs and 2.4 m/kgs respectively.

This week's auction (Sale # 33) was conducted on the 25th and 26th August with an offer quantity of 6.2 m/kgs. The Low Grown Leafy/ Semi Leafy/ Tippy & Small Leaf/ Premium Flowery catalogues totaled 2.8 m/kgs, whilst Main Sale High & Medium category amounted to 0.7 m/kgs. The Ex Estate catalogue had 0.8 m/kgs; a drop of almost 0.1 m/kgs from the previous auction.

Ex Estate teas met with improved demand as the sale progressed. A range of the brighter western BOP's were firm to Rs. 20/- dearer, whilst at the lower end prices were barely steady. The better western BOPF appreciated up to Rs. 20/- whilst others were firm to a little dearer. Seasonal Uva BOP/BOPF gained substantially following special interest. CTC PF1's from the High and Medium elevations were firm and selectively dearer. There was more widespread demand from Hong Kong, China and other Far Eastern markets, whilst Japan was mainly focused on the top-quality teas, and in particular the improved teas from the Uva/Uda Pussellawa districts. Buyers for Europe displayed only limited interest whilst the "Tea Bag" buyers for Russia were active.

Low grown leafy teas met with fair demand. Stylish OP1's were firm to dearer whilst cleaner OP/OPA's were fully firm to dearer, though secondary teas were barely firm. Good demand continued in the semi leafy category, with BOP1's ruling firm and Pek/Pek1's fully firm to dearer. In the Tippy Catalogue, well made FBOP's were again a little easier as were their corresponding FBOPF1's, whilst secondary teas were about firm. There was sustained demand from Saudi Arabia, Libya, Jordan, Kuwait and the U. A. E. whilst Iran was more selective. Russia, the C.I.S and Turkey were also active for their favorite buying standards.

This week's auction comprised of **10,861** lots with a total quantity of **6,217,852** kgs.

The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>
Low Grown Leafy	2,003	884,167
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,637	837,251
Low Grown Tippy	1,931	1,036,775
High & Medium	1,468	728,141
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,212	1,333,468
Dust	464	455,758
Premium Flowery	415	8,216
Ex-Estate	<u>731</u>	<u>864,076</u>
Total	<u>10,861</u>	<u>6,217,852</u>

In Lighter Vein

The Way it used to be

A boy returns home from running an errand for his quarantined grandfather.

He says, "Grandpa, I got all the groceries you wanted! Altogether, it came to \$47.22. Here's your change."

Grandpa says, "My goodness, the world is expensive nowadays. When I was a boy your age, I could get five pounds of potatoes, three loaves of bread, two pounds of beef, a jug of milk, a tin of tobacco for my dad, and a handful of my favorite candies, all for about five cents.

"Can't do that today, though. No siree Bob!"

"Why is that, grandpa?" asks the boy.

"Too many bloody cameras."

LOW GROWNS - LEAFY

BOP1 : Select best teas were fully firm to dearer by Rs.40-50/- per kg; balance was barely steady. Lower end teas were maintained.

OP1 : Teas in the select best category appreciated by Rs.40-50/- per kg; balance too met with good demand. Stalky invoices tended irregular.

OP : Select best invoices held firm; balance was maintained. Teas at the lower end were irregularly dearer by Rs.5-10/- per kg.

OPA : A few selected invoices advanced by Rs.20/- per kg; balance tended irregular. Poorer sorts were barely steady.

PEK/PEK1: Well made Pekoe1's were fully firm on last week levels; balance was dearer by Rs.10-20/- per kg. Best bold Pekoes were generally firm; balance was declined Rs.10-20/- and at times more. Teas at the lower end were maintained.

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	950-1400	900-1300	630-670	620-660	525-550	525-550
OP1	1000-1400	900-1200	680-730	670-720	380-420	380-430
OP	770-820	760-800	620-660	620-670	380-430	370-420
OPA	760-800	750-790	600-630	620-650	340-380	320-350
PEK/PEK1	830-880	840-900	660-720	680-730	525-550	525-575

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : Select Best and Best BOP's declined. Few cleaner Below Best and cleaner teas at the lower end maintained. All others were easier.

BOPF/BOPFSP : In general easier.

FBOP/FBOP1 : Select Best and Best FBOP's declined. Below Best and cleaner teas at the lower end maintained. Others were easier. FBOP1's in general firm.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : Very Tippy teas declined. However, the leafier varieties were fully firm to selectively dearer. Best and Below Best were easier. Teas at the lower end were firm. Select Best and Best FF1's declined. Few cleaner Below Best and few teas at the lower end were firm; balance were easier.

FBOPFSP/EXSP : Select best Tippy teas were firm on last week levels, however all others were an easier feature. A Few Cleaner below best teas however maintained.

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	800-940	800-900	650-680	650-700	500-540	450-500
BOPF /BOPFSP	700-800	700-840	600-650	600-650	450-550	450-500
FBOP/FBOP1	800-1350	850-1000	700-750	680-720	650-680	600-650
FBOPF/FBOPF1	900-1250	900-1250	750-850	750-800	550-600	600-650
FBOPFSP/EXSP	2000-3500	2000-2850	1000-1500	1000-1500	750-850	700-800

Cont'd...(3)

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

- FBOP** : Select well made wiry invoices tended irregularly lower. Below best and the poorer sorts gained in value.
- FBOPF/FBOPF1**: Neat well made FBOPF1's firm to easier. Below best types too declined in value. Poorer sorts met with fair demand. FBOPF's types however were discounted.
- PEK/PEK1** : Except for shotty Pekoe and Pekoe1 types secondary below best varieties lost in value. Teas at the lower end gained Rs.10/- and more towards the close.

<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	775-1020	800-900	675-775	650-800	575-675	550-650
FBOPF/FBOPF1	750-840	800-870	650-750	650-800	550-650	530-650
PEK/PEK1	800-920	800-890	650-800	700-800	600-650	600-700

HIGH GROWN

BOP: Best Westerns - select high priced teas of last week were up to Rs.20 per kg lower on average, whilst the others were firm and Rs.10-20 per kg dearer selectively following special inquiry. In the Below Best category, few select invoices gained Rs.20 per kg and more following special inquiry whilst the others were barely steady. At the lower end, prices were barely steady and at times easier. Nuwara Eliyas together with the Uda Pussellawas sold around last levels. Uvas - few select seasonal teas were substantially dearer; whilst the others sold around last week's levels

BOPF: Best Westerns - select invoices gained Rs.20 per kg, whilst the others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Teas in the Below Best category were Rs.20 per kg dearer. Plainer sorts were generally firm. Nuwara Eliyas - hardly any offerings. Uda Pussellawas were firm though fluctuated following quality. Uvas - select seasonal invoices were substantially dearer whilst the others were firm and Rs.10 per kg dearer.

<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	600-630	560-720	590-700	580-620
Below Best Westerns	550-590	530-550	560-580	550-570
Plainer Westerns	510-540	480-520	500-550	520-540
Nuwara Eliyas	560-580	580-610	N/A	550-650
Brighter Uda Pussellawas	500-540	490-520	500-560	500-540
Other Uda Pussellawas	470-490	440-460	470-490	470-490
Best Uva's.	690-1250	600-840	650-720	500-530
Other Uva's	530-570	490-560	500-580	470-480

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP : Irregular.

BOPF : Up to Rs.20/- per kg dearer.

<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	520-780	660-740	450-560	460-550

CTC

PF1 : High & Medium PF1's were generally firm to selectively dearer following quality whilst Low Grown PF1's were fully firm to dearer.

BP1: High & Medium BP1's tended irregular and declined up to Rs.20/- per kg whilst Low Grown teas sold around last weeks levels.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	PF1		BP1	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
High	450-540	430-550	500-520	530-600
Medium	390-520	390-520	400-540	450-550
Low	400-900	330-650	420-670	490-650

Cont'd... (4)

OFF GRADES

Liquoring FNGS/FNGS1 lost Rs.10-15/-. Clean Low Grown FNGS/FNGS1s advanced Rs.20-30/-. Best BP's eased Rs.25/- per kg. Well-made BMs tended irregular whilst poorer types were firm. Select best BOP1A's held firm whilst at the lower end and the poor sorts lost by Rs.5-10/- 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 Fannings (Orthodox)	330-520	370-540	340-400	320-380	320-430	310-410
Good Fannings (CTC)	330-460	340-420	320-380	320-380	320-380	310-380
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	250-330	250-310	300-330	290-310	300-330	290-320
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	420-470	420-470	410-470	410-470	410-490	410-490
Other BM's	320-360	320-360	320-360	320-360	310-360	310-360
Best BOP1As	450-530	470-530	460-580	480-580	480-750	500-720
Other BOP1As	320-360	320-360	320-360	320-360	320-360	320-360

DUST

Select best liquoring High Grown D1's were firm on last levels whilst the secondary and below best types maintained last levels. Poor varieties too held last levels. Low Grown Clean Dust met with less demand and eased Rs.20-30/- per kg and at times more. PD's from High & Low Grown elevations were met with good demand whilst Medium Grown PD's too witnessed had an irregular market.

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)	660-900	660-900	550-600	520-560	510-600	400-500
Good Primary PD (CTC)	530-570	580-650	520-570	520-570	580-650	700-800
Secondary Dust	300-330	300-330	300-330	300-330	300-330	300-330

World Crop Statistics (MKGS)

Country	Month	2019	2020	Difference +/-	To-date 2019	To-date 2020	Difference +/-
SRI LANKA	June	27.28	26.84	-0.44	157.63	129.04	-28.59
BANGLADESH	June	11.67	8.96	-2.71	27.95	21.81	-6.1
KENYA	June	42.42	46.37	3.95	212.60	300.67	88.1
SOUTH INDIA	June	25.0	22.0	-3.0	100.5	98.4	-2.10
NORTH INDIA	June	125.5	116.5	-9.0	372.3	249.8	-122.5
MALAWI	June	27.28	26.84	-0.44	157.63	129.04	-28.59

<u>WESTERN MEDIUM</u>			<u>UVA MEDIUM</u>			<u>LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES</u>		
Nayapane	BOP	780/-	Dickwella	BOP	720/-	Pothouwa	BOP1	1950/-
Dombagastalawa	BOPSP	750/-	Tellbedde	BOPSP	740/-	Pothotuwa	OP1	2350/-
Craighead	BOPF/BOPFSP	570/-	Dickwelle	BOPF/BOPFSP	750/-	Sunrise	OP	860/-
Dombagastalawa	BOP1	870/-	Dickwelle	BOP1	960/-	Lions	OP	850/-
Craighead	FBOP /FBOP1	1020/-	Dickwelle	FBOP/FBOP1	830/-	*Makandura	OP	840/-
Craighead	FBOPF/FBOPF1	840/-	Dickwelle	FBOPF/FBOPF1	790/-	Athukorala Group	OPA	920/-
*Harangalla	OP/OPA	800/-	Tellbedde	OP/OPA	760/-	Lakvinka	PEKOE	1300/-
*Goorookoya	OP1	840/-	Wewesse	OP/OPA	760/-	*Andaradeniya Super	PEKOE1	1180/-
*Dartry Valley	PEK/ PEK1	920/-	Dickwelle	OP/OPA	760/-	K D U Super	PEKOE1	1180/-
<u>WESTERN HIGH</u>			Tellbedde	OP1	980/-	*K D U Super	PEKOE1	1160/-
Queensberry	BOP	650/-	Aruna Presara	PEK/ PEK1	920/-	<u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u>		
Somerset	BOPSP	640/-	Glen Alpin	PEK/ PEK1	920/-	Kiruwanaaganga	BOP	940/-
Glentilt	BOPF/BOPFSP	700/-	<u>UVA HIGH</u>			*Mount Carmel	BOP	850/-
Venture	BOP1	780/-	Uva Highlands	BOP	1250/-	*Sithaka	BOP	840/-
Weddemulla	FBOP /FBOP1	780/-	Ranaya	BOPSP	710/-	*Makandura	BOP	830/-
Weddemulla	FBOPF/FBOPF1	710/-	Aislaby	BOPF/BOPFSP	720/-	*Mount Carmel	BOP	830/-
Weddemulla	OP/OPA	760/-	Uva Highlsnds	BOP1	830/-	*Hidellana	BOPF	800/-
Venture	OP1	800/-	Aislaby	BOP1	830/-	*Andaradeniya Sup	BOPSP	820/-
Inverness	OP1	800/-	Aislaby	FBOP /FBOP1	820/-	*Andaradeniya Sup	BOPSP	810/-
Bearwell	PEK /PEK1	870/-	Gonamotawa	FBOPF/FBOPF1	740/-	Berubeula	BOPFSP	780/-
<u>NUWARA ELIYA</u>			*Battawatte	FBOPF/FBOPF1	730/-	Adams view	FBOP	1350/-
Loversleap	BOP	580/-	Oodoowerre	OP/OPA	770/-	Brombil	FBOP1	900/-
Court Lodge	FBOP/FBOP1	850/-	Glenanore	OP1	800/-	Aruna	FBOP1	830/-
Kemare	OP/OPA	730/-	Glenanore	PEK/ PEK1	880/-	*Makandura	FBOP1	800/-
Kemare	PEK/PEK1	820/-	<u>UDA PUSSELLAWA</u>			*Sithaka	FBOP1	790/-
<u>CTC TEAS</u>			Kirkless	BOP	540/-	Fortune	FBOPF	1250/-
<u>HIGH GROWN</u>			*Mooloya	BOPF/BOPFSP	560/-	Gangaboda	FBOPF	1060/-
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	540/-	Gordon	FBOP/ FBOP1	740/-	*Andaradeniya Sup	FBOPF	1000/-
Mt. Vernon	BP1	520/-	Gampha	FBOPF/FBOPF1	690/-	*Hidellana	FBOPF	980/-
Mt. Vernon	BPS	500/-	*Delmar	FBOPF/FBOPF1	660/-	New Vithanakanda	FBOPF1	1000/-
Dunsinane CTC	BPS	500/-	Delmar	OP/OPA	720/-	<u>PREMIUM FLOWERY</u>		
<u>MEDIUM GROWN</u>			Gonapitiya	OP1	700/-	Willie Group	FBOPFSP	3000/-
New Peacock CTC	PF1	520/-	Gampha	PEK/PEK1	790/-	Biyolta	FBOPFSP	2750/-
New Peacock CTC	BP1	540/-	*Delmar	PEK/ PEK1	760/-	*Garden Leaf	FBOPFSP	2500/-
Carolina CTC	BP1	540/-	<u>OFF GRADES</u>			Yalta	FBOPFEXSP	3500/-
*Strathdon CTC	BP1	530/-	Falcon Lanka	FNG/FNG1	580/-	K.D.U Super	FBOPFEXSP1	2750/-
*Strathdon CTC	BPS	500/-	Hingalgoda CTC	PFGS	690/-	<u>DUST</u>		
<u>LOW GROWN</u>			*Ihalapanapitiya	BM	700/-	Mattakelle	DUST1	900/-
Hingalgoda CTC	PF1	900/-	Ranwin	BP	690/-	Suduwelipothahena	PD	640/-
Suduwelipothahena	BP1	670/-	Aldora	BOP1A	760/-			
Ceciliyan CTC	BPS	++ 730/-	*Garden Leaf	BOP1A	740/-			

COLOMBO AUCTION – GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.32 OF 19TH AUGUST, 2020

	2020			2019	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Year to Date
Uva High Grown	527.08	523.24	543.57	425.30	465.21
Western High Grown	547.61	554.79	590.47	457.89	530.54
High Grown	541.01	544.89	576.27	450.24	511.96
Uva Medium	571.15	568.92	585.26	433.87	495.94
Western Medium	538.25	532.96	529.71	406.09	461.00
Medium Grown	547.75	543.41	547.11	413.01	470.73
Low Grown (Orthodox)	683.37	680.38	685.94	556.79	589.72
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	670.15	666.45	668.79	545.54	578.44
Total	624.06	621.76	627.93	505.73	547.55

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALES

	<u>Sale of 31st Aug. / 2nd Sept, 2020</u>		<u>Sale of 8th/9th Sept, 2020</u>	
	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	1,982	843,547	2,087	926,170
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,542	767,531	1,618	825,162
Low Grown Tippy	1,798	955,049	1,884	1,025,654
High & Medium	1,378	683,425	1,558	802,942
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,311	1,320,043	2,282	1,294,207
Dust	511	512,694	502	503,486
Premium Flowery	377	73,362	394	76,534
Ex-Estate	<u>654</u>	<u>752,798</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>815,848</u>
Total	<u>10,553</u>	<u>5,908,449</u>	<u>11,207</u>	<u>6,269,903</u>

Private Sale Figures (17/08/2020 - 22/08/2020) - 51,057.50 Kgs.

Cumulative - 2,984,011.60 Kgs.

Cont'd.... (7)

CATALOGUES

Sale No.35 of 08th / 09th September, 2020

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues closed on 20th August, 2020 at 04.30 p.m.

Sale No.36 of 15th/16th September, 2020

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on 27th August, 2020 at 04.30 p.m. but sale may close before the scheduled date when the number of lots if reached.

Sale No.37 of 22nd/23rd September, 2020

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on 03rd September, 2020 at 04.30 p.m. but sale may close before the scheduled date when the number of lots if reached.

SALE NO.34

BROKER'S SELLING ORDER

Auction of 31st Aug/02nd Sept, 2020

Leafy/Tippy/BOPIA/ Premium Flowery

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

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

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

Ex-Estate

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

Crop & Weather

From 17th August to 23rd August, 2020

Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions: The Western and Nuwara Eliya regions reported bright weather with showers experienced during the latter part of week. According to the Department of Meteorology, light showers are expected in the Western Region in the week ahead. **Uva/Udapussellawa Regions:** Bright weather was reported in the Uva and Udapussellawa regions in the beginning of the week, whilst rainy weather was reported towards the end of the week. The Department of Meteorology predicts showers/thundershowers during the week ahead. **Low Grown:** Clear weather was reported throughout the week. Light showers are forecast in the Ruhuna and Sabaragamuwa regions in the week ahead.

Crop Intake: All regions experienced a decrease in the crop intake.

Cont'd.... (8)

- OTHER MARKETS -

BANGLADESH AUCTION

Sale 13 held on Monday, 24th August, 2020.

CTC LEAFs 49,181 packages of Current Season and 50 packages of Old Season teas on offer once again met with a strong demand at dearer rates.

BROKENS: Well made good liquoring BOPs were in good demand at firm rates whilst their GBOPs continued to be a strong feature of the market and prices appreciated further. Their Medium varieties were also a good market at around last levels. Plainest met with a selective demand and were subject to fair withdrawals.

FANNINGS: Well made good liquoring Fannings were a strong market and were dearer by Tk.5/- and more. Their Mediums continued to be a good market at fully firm to slightly dearer rates. Plainest were again a selective market with fair withdrawals.

CTC DUST: 9,861 packages of Current Season teas on offer met with quite a strong demand. Best and good liquoring Dusts sold at barely steady to irregularly easier levels. Their Medium and plainer sorts sold well at a drop of Tk.5/- to Tk.7/- closely following quality. BLF Dusts met with a good demand at slightly dearer rates. Blenders lent strong support with fair interest from the Loose tea buyers.

COMMENTS: Strong demand continued to prevail in this week's sale particularly for all good and good Medium varieties. Major Blenders lent useful support with Loose tea buyers continuing to operate actively. It was evident throughout the sale that buyers closely followed quality. Withdrawals were again less this week. Dusts sold well.

Our catalogue (Sale 13): Avg: Tk 191.88, Sold 88.0% & (Sale 12) Avg: Tk 189.53, sold 84.6%.

Quotations – This Week – (In Taka)

Brokens	This Week	Last Week	Fannings	This week	Last Week	Dust	This Week	Last Week
Large	175-195	170-180	Large	210-215	205-210	PD	163-243	205-210
Medium	175-205	170-195	Medium	195-205	190-200	RD	140-300	190-200
Small	185-215	180-210	Small	165-180	160-175	D	179-257	160-175
Plain	140-160	130-155	Plain	135-155	125-150	CD	134-323	125-150
BLF	140-170	125-150	BLF	140-165	125-145	BLF	134-228	125-145

COURTESY: NATIONAL BROKERS LTD

Cont'd.... (9)

MOMBASA TEA AUCTION MARKET REPORT

Sale No.34 of the 24th, 25th, 26th August, 2020.

Strong general demand prevailed for the 135,583 packages (8.93m/kgs) on offer with prices closely following quality but 25.14% remained unsold.

Best **BP1's** available were forcefully competed for and gained USC52-USC62 and substantially more following quality with brighter types a strong but irregular feature varying between firm to USC50 dearer to easier by up to USC34 while Medium sorts ranged between USC14 and USC25 above previous rates to easier by USC18 to USC34 and some lines were neglected. Lower medium categories met an irregular interest and varied between steady to USC2 dearer to easier by up to USC8 with a few invoices unsold while Plainer varieties were discounted by USC4-USC9 where sold.

The Best **PF1s** on offer appreciated by USC4-USC38 while Brighter varieties gained USC14-USC32 with Medium sorts advancing by USC8-USC12. Plainer descriptions saw an irregular activity ranging between steady to USC4 dearer to easier by up to USC6 with many teas neglected on account of quality.

Best **PDUSTs** available were well-competed for and appreciated by USC32-USC34 while Brighter types saw useful enquiry and gained USC28-USC38 with Mediums a strong feature advancing by USC22-USC48 but a few lines shed up to USC6 on account of quality. Plainer categories saw irregular support and varied between firm to USC4 dearer to easier by up to USC8 and some invoices remained without bids.

The Best **DUST1s** on offer were USC2-USC10 dearer with Brighter varieties irregular ranging between firm to USC2 above previous rates to easier by a similar level while medium types met strong and improved interest and ranged between USC30-USC82 above last prices to easier by USC6-USC10 and some lines were unsold. Plainer types irregular varying between firm to USC4 dearer to easier by up to USC8 and a few teas were unsold.

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

Kazakhstan and other CIS nations were dominant and showed more interest with increased and strong support from Pakistan Packers, Yemen and other Middle Eastern countries. There was strong activity from Afghanistan, Sudan and Russia with more and useful enquiry from Bazaar while Egyptian Packers and UK lent good but selective interest Iran showed selective activity. Local Packers were less active with Somalia active at the lower end of the market.

	BP1	PF1	PD
Best	323-536	270-320	260-326
Good Medium	242-360	210-276	260-300
Lower Medium	140-226	148-198	144-182
Plainer	130-207	104-184	120-170

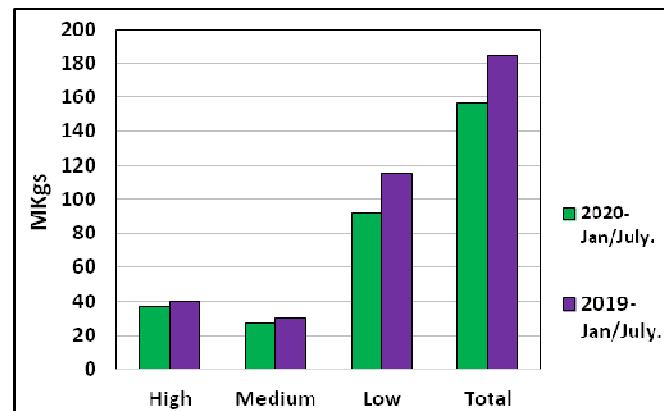
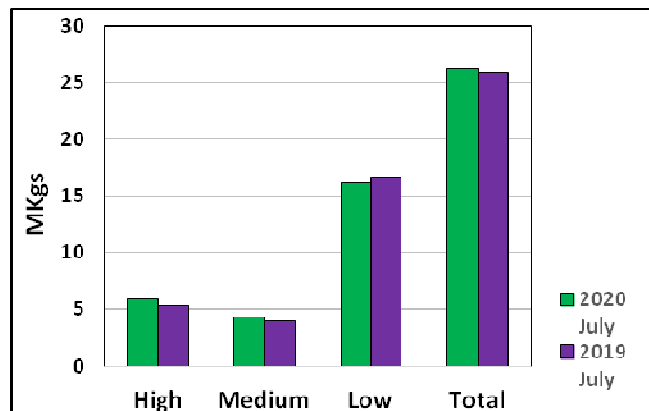
July 2020 saw an improved Tea Crop from the High & Medium elevations when compared to the corresponding month last year, whilst the Low Grown production was lower by 454,248 Kgs following dull and gloomy weather and the inability to apply fertilizer during the preceding months due to COVID-19 lockdown issues. The total production for last month was 26.2 Mkgs which was an improvement of 306,102 Kgs over July, 2019 on account of the better yields from the High & Medium elevations.

During the period Jan/July 2020, a total tea production of 156.3 Mkgs has been recorded which is 28.4 Mkgs below the comparative figure of 2019.

Given below are more comprehensive details relating to tea production.

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

	2020-July	2019-July	+/-	%	Jan/ July 2020	Jan/July 2019	+/-	%
High	5,869,909	5,379,462	490,447	9.12	37,262,869	39,905,722	(2,642,853)	(6.62)
Medium	4,252,984	3,983,081	269,903	6.78	27,181,149	29,668,865	(2,487,716)	(8.38)
Low	<u>16,156,519</u>	<u>16,610,767</u>	<u>(454,248)</u>	<u>(2.73)</u>	<u>91,933,632</u>	<u>115,243,221</u>	<u>(23,309,588)</u>	<u>(20.23)</u>
Total	<u>26,279,412</u>	<u>25,973,310</u>	<u>306,102</u>	<u>1.18</u>	<u>156,377,651</u>	<u>184,817,808</u>	<u>(28,440,157)</u>	<u>(15.39)</u>



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

1	Ratnapura	25,805,422.00	11	Kelani Valley	3,853,660.00
2	Galle	19,968,262.00	12	Pussellawa/Hewaheta	3,598,543.00
3	Kalutara	10,439,653.00	13	Kegalle	3,484,125.00
4	Gampola/Nawalapitiya/Dolosbage	10,131,474.00	14	Bogawantalawa	3,271,892.00
5	Deniyaya	6,910,916.00	15	Morawake	2,999,437.00
6	Demodara/Haliella/Badulla	5,806,860.00	16	Upcot/Maskeliya	2,954,030.00
7	Matara	5,753,575.00	17	Kadugannawa	2,858,097.00
8	Hatton/Dickoya	4,745,339.00	18	Balangoda	2,770,509.00
9	Nanuoya/Lindula/Talawakelle	4,690,667.00	19	Patana/Kotagala	2,609,643.00
10	Balangoda/Rakwana	4,484,422.00	20	Agarapathana	2,609,212.00

August 24, 2020

JRA: sr.