TEA MARKET REPORT

SALE NO: 29

July 22 & 23, 2024

20 Years of Excellence

LCBL
COMMODITY HOUSE

LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD

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COMMENTS

This week's Tea Auction, namely Sale #29 of 2024 was held on July 22/23, 2024 (Mon/Tue). A total weight of 5.8 mkgs was on offer, which shows a slight increase of 0.41 mkgs when compared to the previous week's quantity. The Low Grown Leafy, Semi Leafy, Tippy/Small Leaf & Premium Flowery catalogues totaled 2.6 mkgs, while the Main Sale High & Medium segment had 0.80 mkgs. The Ex Estate category had 0.80 mkgs.

At this week's sale too a similar scenario was witnessed as in the previous sale for the Western BOP/BOPF's. There was once again hardly any Nuwaraeliya offerings. With the exception of cleaner Uva/ Udapussellawa's which were firm all others were Rs.20-40/- per kg lower. CTC Teas – A few Select High and Medium PF1's were firm but the others declined up to Rs.50/- per kg. Low Grown teas were firm to Rs.20/- per kg dearer. BP1's from all elevations were substantially lower and remained unsold. The majority of the Exporters continued to be very selective in their buying.

The overall market for both Large and Small leaf categories were a lower feature this week with the majority of the prices declining. A few select bright Tippy Teas were firm to dearer. Shippers to the Middle East, Russia and CIS were active at lower levels.

The Colombo International Tea Convention 2024, will commence on 24th July, 2024 with the conducting of the "Charity Auction" due to be held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall "Jasmin Room" scheduled to commence at 2.00 pm. The main convention will formally be conducted on 25th and 26th July, 2024 hosted by the Cinnamon Grand Hotel.

This week's auction comprised of 11,426 lots with a total quantity of 5,806,860 kgs.

The catalogue wise breakdown was as follows:-

	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	2,015	789,511
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,635	710,442
Low Grown Tippy	2,047	1,009,557
High & Medium	1,768	802,071
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,199	1,122,692
Dust	549	494,306
Premium Flowery	409	68,990
Ex-Estate	804	809,291
Total	**11,426**	**5,806,860**

In Lighter Vein

TO MY ONE AND ONLY LOVE

At a jewelry store, a young man bought an expensive locket as a present for his girlfriend. "Don't you want her name engraved upon it?" asked the jeweler. The young man thought for a moment, and then, ever the pragmatic, steadfastly replied,

"No, just engrave it: To My One And Only Love. That way, if we break up and she throws it back to me in anger, I can use it again."

LOW GROWN TEAS

LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY

BOP1 : Select best BOP1's were barely steady whilst the best varieties tended irregular. Below best and secondaries were easier.

OP1 : Teas in the select best category were firm to irregularly dearer whilst the balance declined.

OP : OP's in general, declined.

OPA : OPA's in general, declined.

PEK/PEK1: A few teas in the select best category held firm whilst the balance declined substantially.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	Best		Below Best		Others	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
BOP1	**1700-3100**	1700-3200	**1100-1400**	1200-1500	**850-1000**	900-1100
OP1	**1600-3400**	1700-3400	**1000-1200**	1000-1200	**700-800**	700-800
OP	**1250-1700**	1300-1800	**1000-1150**	1000-1200	**700-780**	700-800
OPA	**1250-1500**	1300-2250	**1000-1150**	1000-1200	**700-780**	700-800
PEK/PEK1	**1550-2200**	1650-2200	**1200-1400**	1300-1500	**900-1050**	900-1100

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : BOP's, in general, were firm.

BOPF/BOPFSP : BOPF's, in general, were firm to easier.

FBOP/FBOP1 : Select Best FBOP's were firm whilst the others in general, declined FBOP1's in general were firm.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : A Few Select Best Tippy teas were firm to dearer whilst the Best together with the Below Best varieties were easier following quality. Well-made FF1's were sold around last levels whilst the others, in general, declined.

FBOPFSP/EXSP : **FBOPFSP**) Well-made teas met with fair demand whilst others showed a decline
EXSP) Rs.200-400/- per kg.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	Best		Below Best		Others	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
BOP/BOPSP	**2000-2250**	2000-2250	**1450-1950**	1750-1950	**1000-1400**	1450-1700
BOPF /BOPFSP	**1850-2200**	2000-2250	**1300-1800**	1750-1950	**950-1250**	1500-1700
FBOP/FBOP1	**2350-2650**	2250-2550	**1800-2300**	1900-2200	**1100-1750**	1200-1850
FBOPF/FBOPF1	**1950-2250**	2000-2250	**1500-1900**	1750-1950	**1000-1450**	1550-1700
FBOPFSP/EXSP	**4000-7900**	5000-8350	**2500-4000**	2800-4000	**1200-2600**	1500-2600

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Select best FBOP's on offer were firm to easier by Rs.50-100/- per kg whilst the others in general declined substantially towards the end.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : A few select best teas were firm whilst the best together with below best varieties declined. The balance declined substantially towards the latter part of the sale.

PEK/PEK1 : A few select best PEK/PEK1's were firm whilst the balance declined substantially towards the latter part of the sale.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	Best		Below Best		Others	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
FBOP	**1850-2000**	1550-2050	**1100-1400**	1275-1550	**980-1150**	1000-1275
FBOPF/FBOPF1	**1550-1850**	1600-1950	**1100-1350**	1300-1600	**880-1100**	900-1300
PEK/PEK1	**1300-1650**	1400-1750	**1000-1300**	1200-1400	**850-1000**	850-1200

HIGH GROWNS TEAS

BOP : Best Western's – Select invoices gained by Rs.50/- per kg and more following special inquiry, whilst the others were irregular following quality. In the Below Best category, select coloury invoices were firm and up to Rs.50/- per kg dearer, whilst the others sold at last levels. Teas at the lower end were firm and Rs.50/- per kg easier. Nuwara Eliya's had hardly any offerings. Uda Pussellawa's – Clean leaf teas were firm, whilst the others were Rs.20-40/- per kg lower. Uva's were Rs.50-100/- per kg dearer.

BOPF: Best Western's, where quality was maintained, were generally firm, whilst the others were irregular and Rs. 20-30/- per kg easier. In the Below Best category, here again where quality was maintained, sold around last week's levels, whilst the others tended irregular. Teas at the lower end too were generally firm though tended to ease marginally towards the close. Nuwara Eliya's had hardly any offerings. Uda Pussellawa's – Clean leaf teas were firm, whilst the others were Rs.20-40/- per kg lower. Uva's were firm and Rs.20-30-/- per kg dearer.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BOP		BOPF	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Best Westerns	**1360-1600**	1360-1550	**1340-1550**	1280-1340
Below Best Westerns	**1240-1340**	1200-1320	**1220-1320**	1100-1260
Plainer Westerns	**1060-1220**	1040-1180	**1100-1200**	N/A
Nuwara Eliyas	**N/A**	N/A	**N/A**	1160 – 1220
Brighter UdaPussellawas	**1160-1180**	1080 – 1100	**1180-1280**	1020-1120
Other Uda Pussellawas	**1040-1080**	1000-1060	**1040-1140**	1140-1220
Best Uva's	**1160-1280**	1160-1340	**1200-1280**	1050-1100
Other Uva's	**1040-1100**	1080	**1160-1180**	1280-1340

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP : Generally firm.

BOPF : Firm.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BOP		BOPF	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Best Westerns	**770 - 1950**	810 - 1900	**720-1280**	730-1240

CTC TEAS

HIGH GROWN:

BP1 - Rs.50-100/- per kg lower.

PF1 - A few select invoices were firm whilst the others declined by Rs.50/- per kg and more following quality.

MEDIUM GROWN:

BP1 - Up to Rs.100/- per kg easier.

PF1 - Better teas were Rs.20/- per kg easier whilst the others declined further.

LOW GROWN:

BP1 - Substantially lower and mostly unsold.

PF1 - Clean neat leaf teas were firm and Rs.20/- per kg dearer whilst the others were barely steady.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BP1		PF1	
	This Week	**Last Week**	**This Week**	**Last Week**
High	---	1000-1080	**940 – 1220**	1000-1200
Medium	---	710-1220	**880 – 1200**	790-1200
Low	**770**	760-1320	**940 - 1400**	790-1420

OFF GRADES

FGS/FGS1 : Select Best Liquoring FNGS/FNGS1 firm on last. Best and poorer teas firm on last levels. whilst well-made Low Grown FNGS/FNGS1 declined Rs.20/- per kg . Below best firm on last levels. Poorer types too firm.

BM : Well-made teas lost Rs.50-70/- per kg. Best types held firm. Poorer varieties lost Rs.20/- per kg. Below best types firm on last levels.

BOP1A : PEK1's reducers' lost Rs.100-150/- per kg whilst best BOP1A's firm on last. Below best teas firm on last. Poorer types lost Rs.10/- per kg.

QUOTATIONS (Rs./kg)	HIGH		MEDIUM		LOW	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Good Fannings (Orthodox)	**950-1200**	950-1220	**780-860**	780-880	**800-900**	820-920
Good Fannings (CTC)	**880-1000**	880-1050	**770-820**	770-820	**750-850**	750-802
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	**680-750**	680-750	**680-740**	680-740	**680-770**	680-770
Other Fannings (CTC)	**N/A**	N/A	**N/A**	N/A	**N/A**	N/A
Good BM's	**800-830**	800-830	**810-840**	810-850	**810-960**	830-1150
Other BM's	**700-720**	700-730	**700-740**	700-750	**700-740**	700-760
Best BOP1As	**800-830**	800-830	**800-820**	800-840	**900-1400**	900-1500
Other BOP1As	**740-760**	750-790	**740-780**	750-790	**740-780**	740-780

DUST

DUST/DUST1: High Grown liquoring DUST/DUST1's were irregular and mostly lower following quality. Mid grown teas too declined by Rs.40-80/- per kg. Low Growns were fully firm to dearer.

PD : High and Medium category declined by Rs.40-60/- per kg whilst Low Growns were irregular and mostly lower.

QUOTATIONS (Rs./kg)	HIGH		MEDIUM		LOW	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Good Primary Dust1 (Orthodox)	**720-1360**	740-1650	**730-1240**	760-1200	**780-1040**	780-1340
Good Primary PD (CTC)	**740-1180**	700-1240	**750-1200**	720-1220	**720-1240**	740-1240
Secondary Dust	**750-1180**	760-1160	**760-960**	750-890	**730-1200**	730-1200

WESTERN MEDIUM

Harangala	BOP	1950/-
***Harangala**	**BOP**	**1850/-**
***Hatale**	**BOP**	**1650/-**
Uplands	BOPSP	1800/-
***Hatale**	**BOPSP**	**1650/-**
Craighead	BOPF/BOPFSP	1600/-
***Uplands**	**BOPF/BOPFSP**	**1350/-**
Harangalla	BOP1	2100/-
Harangalla	FBOP/FBOP1	2000/-
Dartry Valley	FBOP/FBOP1	1950/-
Kenilworth	FBOP/FBOP1	1950/-
Cooroodoowatte	FBOP/FBOP1	1950/-
Doombagastalawa	FBOP/FBOP1	1950/-
***Hatale**	**FBOP/FBOP1**	**1850/-**
Craighead	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1900/-
Imboolpitia	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1850/-
Nayapane	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1850/-
***Hatale**	**FBOPF/FBOPF1**	**1800/-**
Dartry Valley	OP/OPA	1400/-
***Orange Field**	**OP/OPA**	**1260/-**
Kenilworth	OP/OPA	1260/-
Dilfar	OP1	1700/-
Uplands	PEK/PEK1	1750/-
***Hatale**	**PEK/PEK1**	**1700/-**
Dartry Valley	PEK/PEK1	1700/-
Craighead	PEK/PEK1	1700/-
***Meezan**	**PEK/PEK1**	**1650/-**

WESTERN HIGH

Robgill	BOP	1600/-
QueensBerry	BOPSP	1650/-
Robgill	BOPF/BOPFSP	1550/-
Frotoft Super	BOP1	1700/-
Weddemulla	FBOP/FBOP1	1900/-
Bambrakelly	FBOP/FBOP1	1800/-
***Cymru**	**FBOP/FBOP1**	**1750/-**
Weddemulla	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1700/-
Bogahawatte	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1700/-
Bogahawatte	OP/OPA	1240/-
Torrington	OP1	1550/-
Bogahawatte	PEK/PEK1	1650/-

NUWARA ELIYA

Court Lodge	BOP	1000/-
Lovers Leap	BOPF/BOPFSP	1100/-
Court Lodge	FBOP/FBOP1	1600/-
Court Lodge	OP/OPA	1120/-
Court Lodge	PEK/PEK1	1300/-

CTC TEAS

HIGH GROWN

Dunsinane CTC	PF1	1220/-
***Dunsinane CTC**	**PF1**	**1200/-**

MEDIUM GROWN

***New Peacock CTC**	**PF1**	**1200/-**
Strathadon CTC	BP1	1180/-

LOW GROWN

Hingalgoda CTC	PF1	1400/-
***Rossfield CTC**	**BP1**	**810/-**

UVA MEDIUM

Demodara 's'	BOP	1900/-
***Halpewatta Uva**	**BOP**	**1750/-**
Blossoms uva tea	BOPSP	1600/-
Dickwella	BOPF/BOPFSP	1600/-
Wewesse	BOP1	1950/-
***Roseland uva**	**BOP1**	**1750/-**
Adawatte	BOP1	1750/-
Aruna passara	FBOP/FBOP1	1900/-
***Roseland uva**	**FBOP/FBOP1**	**1800/-**
Misty uva	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Glen Alpin	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Halpewatte Uva	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Demodera'S	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Wewesse	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Gonakelle	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Telbedde	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1750/-
Telbedde	OP/OPA	1400/-
Telbedde	OP1	1750/-
Aruna keppettipola	PEK/PEK1	1750/-

UVA HIGH

Ellathota Uva	BOP	1400/-
Ranaya	BOPSP	1600/-
Nayabedde	BOPF/BOPFSP	1280/-
Uva Highland	BOP1	1700/-
Gonamotawa	FBOP/FBOP	1900/-
Aislaby	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1900/-
Ellathota uva	OP/OPA	1240/-
Oodoowerre	OP1	1500/-
Mount Uva	PEK/PEK1	1650/-
Aislaby	PEK/PEK1	1650/-

UDAPUSSELLAWA

Alma	BOP	1900/-
Luckyland	BOPSP	1200/-
Luckyland	BOPF/BOPFSP	1280/-
Delmar	BOP1	1500/-
Alma	FBOP/FBOP1	1850/-
Alma	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1700/-
Alma	OP/OPA	1200/-
Gampaha	OP1	1400/-
Alma	PEK/PEK1	1750/-

OFF GRADES

Chandrika Estate	BP	1420/-
Liyonta CTC	PF	1100/-
Golden Garden	BM	1300/-
Wattegodde	FNGS/FNGS1	1200/-
Holy Rood	FNGS/FNGS1	1200/-
***Chandrika Estate**	**BOP1A**	**1400/-**
***Aldora**	**BOP1A**	**1300/-**
***Hatale**	**BOP1A**	**1200/-**
Lumbini watta	BOP1A	1200/-
Watadeniya	BOP1A	1200/-

LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES

Sunrise	BOP1	3100/-
Susantha	OP1	3400/-
***Mahaliyadda**	**OP**	**1700/-**
Miriswatta	OP	1700/-
Mulatiyana Hills	OP	1700/-
Liyonta	OPA	1800/-
Miriswatte	OPA	1800/-
Green Lanka	OPA	1800/-
Wijaya Group	OPA	1800/-
Lumbini	OPA	1800/-
Lucky Dias	OPA	1750/-
***Wattahena**	**OPA**	**1700/-**
Lumbini	PEKOE	2200/-
Lakvinka	PEKOE	2200/-
***Makandura**	**PEKOE**	**2100/-**
Galatara	PEKOE1	2150/-

LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES

***Greenhouse**	**BOP**	**2250/-**
***New Mount Carmel**	**BOP**	**2200/-**
***Wikilliya**	**BOP**	**2200/-**
***Gangani**	**BOP**	**2150/-**
***KDU Super**	**BOP**	**2150/-**
***Andaradeniya Super**	**BOPSP**	**2200/-**
Marawakkorale	BOPF	1900/-
***Andaradeniya Super**	**BOPFSP**	**2200/-**
***Sithaka**	**FBOP**	**2650/-**
Kings Bru	FBOP1	2200/-
***Sithka**	**FBOP1**	**2100/-**
CO-OP Lanka	FBOPF	2250/-
Nilwala	FBOPF	2250/-
***New Laksakanda**	**FBOPF**	**2000/-**
Gangaboda	FBOPF1	2150/-

PREMIUM FLOWERY

Fortune	FBOPFSP	7350/-
New Deniyaya	FBOPFEXSP	7000/-
New Falcon Lanka	FBOPFEXSP	7000/-
Madampe Super	FBOPFEXSP1	7900/-

DUST

Pothotuwa	DUST	1200/-
Great Western	DUST1	1360/-
Ceciliyan CTC	PD	1240/-

***Sold by Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd / +++All Time Record Price / ++ Equal All Time Record Price**

COLOMBO AUCTION – WEEKLY GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.28 OF 17TH July, 2024

	2024			2023	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Year to Date
Uva High Grown	1,094.17	1,115.66	1,113.18	849.57	1,013.57
Western High Grown	1,194.48	1,194.94	1,194.95	904.03	1,171.92
High Grown	1,161.20	1,167.07	1,168.74	885.04	1,123.47
Uva Medium	1,117.99	1,141.75	1,154.24	950.13	1,038.91
Western Medium	1,049.48	1,055.03	1,085.24	843.44	1,016.46
Medium Grown	1,072.54	1,085.87	1,108.40	881.29	1,023.62
Low Grown (Orthodox)	1,353.34	1,361.80	1,396.60	1,135.98	1,303.91
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	1,328.30	1,327.30	1,371.30	1,122.98	1,285.17
Total	1,243.74	1,248.83	1,282.86	1,022.48	1,206.41

Private Sale Figures (15.07.2024 – 20.07.2024) - 173,444.80 kgs

Cumulative - 3,408,417.25 kgs

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALE

	Sale of 30th /31st July '24		Sale of 06th /07th Aug. '24	
	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	1,951	740,917	1,904	730,117
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,596	688,587	1,532	654,796
Low Grown Tippy	1,969	962,308	1,949	941,022
High & Medium	1,920	844,062	1,895	834,526
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,159	1,128,499	2,356	1,179,240
Dust	571	511,472	619	542,221
Premium Flowery	486	71,261	385	57,214
Ex-Estate	817	846,965	832	853,228
Total	**11,469**	**5,794,071**	**11,472**	**5,792,364**

FUTURE CATALOGUES CLOSURE

Sale No.32 of 13th /14th August, 2024

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **25th July, 2024 at 04.30 p.m.**

Sale No.33 of 20th /21st August, 2024

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **01st Aug, 2024 at 04.30 p.m.**

Sale No.34 of 27th /28th August, 2024

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **08th Aug, 2024 at 04.30 p.m.**

SALE NO. 30
AUCTION OF 30TH /31ST July, 2024
BROKERS' SELLING ORDER

Leafy/Semi Leafy/Tippy/BOP1A/ Premium Flowery

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

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

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

Crop & Weather

For the period 16th to 22nd July, 2024

Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions:-

Bright weather and intermittent showers were reported in Nuwara Eliya and Western Regions throughout the week. The Department of Meteorology expects heavy rain and windy conditions in both regions in the week ahead.

Uva/ Udapussellawa Region:-

The Uva and Udapussellawa regions reported sunny weather and windy conditions throughout the week.

Low Growns:-

The Low Grown Region reported bright mornings throughout the week. Rain is expected in the Low Grown Region in the week ahead, according to the Department of Meteorology.

Crop Intake:-

The Western, Nuwara Eliya, Uva and Udapussellawa regions maintained the crop intake, whilst the Low Grown region reported a decline.

WORLD CROP STATISTICS (MKGS)

Country	Month	2023	2024	Difference +/-	To-date 2023	To-date 2024	Difference +/-
SRI LANKA	***June***	***23.08***	***23.02***	***-0.06***	***134.66***	***127.43***	***-7.23***
BANGLADESH	*March*	2.00	1.50	-0.500	2.50	1.70	-0.80
KENYA	*March*	30.48	54.34	23.86	118.13	168.76	50.6
MALAWI	*March*	6.50	7.30	0.80	19.10	20.80	1.7
NORTH INDIA	*April*	63.07	61.98	-1.09	132.08	111.16	-20.92
SOUTH INDIA	*April*	18.54	12.54	-6.00	59.32	61.52	2.20

"Africa Tea Brokers Bulletin of Statistic"

OTHER MARKETS

SOUTH INDIAN ROUNDUP

FOR THE WEEK ENDING – 20th JULY, 2024

KOCHI

CTC LEAF

Demand : Brokens sold dearer by ₹2 to ₹3, fannings sold irregular and lower around last levels.

ORTHODOX LEAF

Demand : Fair Demand.

Buying Pattern : High grown, well made & cleaner blacker whole leaves sold at steady to occasionally dearer levels other whole leaves sold lower by almost Rs 10 to 12 depending on quality. Primary and secondary brokens sold irregular and lower to last. Fannings barely steady with few withdrawals.

Market : CIS & Middle East, buyers operated.

DUST

Demand : Fair Demand.

Buying Pattern : Popular Marks & Better mediums sold irregularly around last levels. Mediums & plainers witnessed easier trend levels dropping ₹1 to ₹ 2 with some withdrawals.

Market : Major Packeteers and exporters were active, internal market also purchased cautiously.

COONOOR

CTC LEAF

Demand : Good.

Market : Generally an irregular market with fairly larger quantity of Brokens across all categories have traded at barely steady levels. However the Better Mediums, browner complexion teas along with the Fannings have suffered in sale percentage as well as in price levels.

The overall sale percentage is 85% at an average of Rs. 105.06.

Buying Pattern: Strong enquiry was forthcoming from the Major Blenders. Regional Packeteers have been lending fair support along with other Internal buyers. Export has been operating mainly on the Larger Brokens.

ORTH LEAF

Demand : Fairly good

Market : Barely steady to occasionally dearer on the Brokens, whilst the Whole leaf grades and Fannings were rather trading irregularly and mostly around last levels.

The overall sale percentage is 80% at an average of Rs. 132.83.

Buying Pattern: Fairly good Internal participation was noticed whilst Shah Brothers has been the main stay on the Export front.

CTC DUST

Demand : Fair.

Market : The down trend continued this week too as prices dropped further by Rs. 2/- to Rs. 3/- and up to Rs. 5/- on the Better Mediums, and on the major quantity of the Mediums whilst the Brighter liquoring teas have held firm levels or rather dearer at times. The common, browner and flaky teas have suffered withdrawals and further dropped in price levels as well.
The overall sale percentage is 72% at an average of Rs. 98.82.

Buying Pattern: Fair participation from all quarters of buyers whilst Anjaneya enterprises continued third support on the Brighter liquoring high priced teas.

ORTH DUST

Demand : Strong.

Market: The Primary cleaner dust grades were trading irregularly and mostly dearer levels along with the Secondaries, whilst the Tertiaries were tending at rather easier by Rs. 2/- to Rs. 3/-.
The overall sale percentage is 97% at an average of Rs. 112.68.

Buying Pattern: Strong export enquiry was forthcoming with very select Internal participation.

COIMBATORE

CTC LEAF

Demand : Fair demand.

Market : Better medium and popular teas were irregular and lower by Re.1/- to Rs.2/. Medium and plainer teas were lower by Rs.3/- to Rs.4/- with some withdrawals.

Buying Pattern : Blenders, packeteers and exporters were active. Internal selective.

ORTH LEAF

Demand : Less demand.

Market : Whole leaf were lower by Rs.8/- to Rs.10/- sometimes more. Well made brokens were lower by Rs.10/- to Rs.15/ with few withdrawals. Secondary brokens BOPF / PF suffered heavy withdrawals.

Buying Pattern : Exporters were active.

CTC DUST

Demand : Fair general demand.

Market : Better medium and popular sorts were lower by Rs.2/- with few withdrawals. Medium and plainer teas were lower by Rs.3/- to Rs.5/- with some withdrawals.

Buying Pattern : Blenders and packeteers and internal were selective. Exporters were active.

ORTH DUST

Demand : Good demand.

Market : Irregular with few withdrawals.

Buying Pattern : Exporters were active.

23rd July, 2024
-/tp.

Sick leaves: Tea growers' climate misery leads to jump in UK prices

Amid stagnant or falling yields producers across India and east Africa are being forced to adapt

Tea is a British institution and 100m cups will be drunk today, but experts are warning that our beloved brew could get pricier as extreme weather causes misery for growers in India and Kenya.

Last week's official cost of living update put food inflation at 1.5%, but a breakdown of price moves showed a box of 80 teabags now costs £2.65, a rise of 18p, or 7%, on a year ago.

A recent analysis in food industry bible The Grocer pointed to bigger hikes, with the price of branded and own-label "everyday" teabags in supermarkets up by as much as 30%.

One factor already at play is supply chain problems resulting from Houthi attacks on vessels in the Red Sea.

But further price increases could be on the horizon for what has always been an affordable drink. Harvests in Kenya and India, which together supply half the UK's tea, have in recent months been disrupted by heatwave, drought and flooding.

"I've just been in India where the north-east is having a drought and the south is having too much rain and farmers are talking about productivity down 40%," says Anna Mann, associate director for responsible business at Fairtrade Foundation.

"The price of tea hasn't changed in a decade. We're looking at one of the first times when there might be shortages and it will have to shift."

In May, tea production in India was down 30% on 2023 to what was the lowest haul for the month in over a decade. As a result, in the last week of June, the country's average tea price topped £2 a kg, almost 20% up on a year ago, according to India Tea Board data.

Across India growers are battling stagnant or falling yields due to the climate crisis, says Shilajit Roy Choudhury, vice-president of the United Nilgiri Tea Estates company.

"I've been in the plantation industry for 35 years now and see the change," he says. "I would love, every day, to have sun in the morning and rain in the afternoon. Historically that was the case. It is not any more."

The company is based in Tamil Nadu in southern India and Choudhury says it would normally get spring showers in February and March and a major crop in April and May. This year, he says, "our rains are already a month and a half late".

The Fairtrade supplier has invested in better agricultural and harvesting practices, he says, but is having to adapt. "We are 6,500-7,000ft above sea level and in May had temperatures touching 30C which is very unusual."

Tea production from a trip to Malawi. Photograph: Chris Terry/Fairtrade Foundation

Tea is unusual among agricultural commodities in that, unlike coffee and cocoa, there is no futures market. This means prices are determined by supply and demand with about 70% of the world's tea traded through auctions.

Producers receive different prices for higher and lower grades. African black teas tend to be lower grade, due to the varieties and production techniques, and are more likely to end up in our teabags.

Intermediaries can take a large slice of the money paid by the factory for small-scale growers' tea, meaning they earn a fraction of the amount it fetches in shops here, according to the Fairtrade Foundation.

Climate change is threatening tea-growing regions of east Africa with deeper and longer dry seasons, although this year unusually heavy rainfall has been an issue.

"I've been tea farming for 26 years and there have been some very big changes," says Geoffrey Mitei, who grows tea on one acre in Kericho County, Kenya.

He is part of a Fairtrade producer organization that had to buy in water for processing tea in its factory after the floods affected its supply, resulting in increased operational costs.

More normally the concern is a lack of rain. "If there is a drought in the early part of the year our tea production goes down," says Mitei, who adds that when there is an oversupply "we have a challenge with fluctuating prices".

The tea farmer's cause has not been helped by changing tastes: the rise of coffee culture as well as younger consumers switching to herbal infusions and kombucha.

When Unilever put its tea business up for sale four years ago the then boss pointed to falling demand for so-called "builder's tea". Its drinkers were "getting older and consuming less and starting to fall over".

Andrew Thompson, professor of molecular plant science and head of soil, agri-food and biosciences at Cranfield University, says: "Coffee has grown and tea hasn't, and when you go into a high street coffee shop you're paying twice as much for coffee as for tea.

"It's around the culture and what people are willing to pay … so the price has remained a bit static. There is this slight problem of oversupply but I don't think that's going to last that long."

"If you look forward at effects of climate change, then you get downwards pressure on east African production mainly because of drought but occasionally floods," says Thompson, who is involved in a Kenyan project with Lipton Teas and Infusions to breed drought-resistant varieties of tea.

This is making fair prices even more urgent as without the ability to invest in their farms, producers cannot hope to mitigate the impact of global heating, says Mann.

"Shoppers don't realise," she says. "They're having a cup of tea, they love it, but in a year or two from now this could have massive knock-on effect on where tea comes from, what it tastes like and the price we pay. It's happened in cocoa. The worst happened and the price jumps were absolutely phenomenal."

Turkish tea enjoyed across globe, reaches 112 countries

Türkiye, which boasts the only tea in the world that is harvested under snow, exported 2,898 tons of tea in the January-June period, generating $13,914,532 in revenue, according to data compiled by the Eastern Black Sea Exporters Association (DKIB).

Belgium, the United Kingdom and the United States emerged as the top three importers of Turkish tea. During the first six months of the year, Türkiye exported $5,246,512 worth of tea to Belgium, $1,878,642 to the United Kingdom, and $1,009,991 to the United States.

New Markets for Turkish Tea

Besides these leading markets, Turkish tea found new buyers in countries including the United Arab Emirates (Dubai), Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt, South Sudan, Cuba, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Namibia, Sao Tome and Principe, Venezuela, Equatorial Guinea, Czech Republic, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Cambodia and Slovenia during this period.

Rize leads in export contribution

Rize, accounting for 49% of Türkiye's tea exports, played a crucial role. The city exported 1,870 tons of tea to 24 countries, earning $6,850,514. Belgium, the U.S., and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) were the top importers from Rize, with exports valued at $5,169,765, $599,795, and $209,830, respectively.

This year, Rize also expanded its export markets to include France, Singapore, Qatar, China and Bahrain.

Increasing productivity, quality in tea gardens

DKIB Chairman Saffet Kalyoncu emphasized the ongoing upward trend in tea exports, expressing optimism about closing 2024 with increased export figures.

He highlighted the need for significant efforts to boost tea exports, focusing on enhancing productivity and quality in tea gardens to address the future risk of global warming.

Kalyoncu underscored the importance of innovative products tailored to the tastes and consumption habits of different countries, alongside a stronger emphasis on R&D and innovation.

He called for support for all small and medium-sized tea-manufacturing firms to achieve these goals.

“We believe that improving productivity and quality in the gardens will significantly elevate our tea exports and strengthen our position in global markets,” Kalyoncu said.

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