

TEA MARKET REPORT

SALE NO: 38

September 29 & 30, 2026



LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD

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COMMENTS

This week's Tea Auction, Sale No.38 was held on September 29(Tue.)/30(Wed.), 2026. A total weight of 5.0MKgs was on offer, which shows an increase when compared to the previous week. The Low Grown Leafy, Semi Leafy, Tippy/Small Leaf & Premium Flowery catalogues totaled 2.4MKgs, while the Main Sale High & Medium segment had 0.5MKgs. The Ex Estate category had 0.7MKgs.

At today's Ex-Estate sale, there was improved widespread activity particularly for the better teas on offer.

Best Western select BOP's/BOPF's met with good demand and appreciated up to Rs.100/- per kg whilst others were firm to Rs.20-60/- per kg dearer. Lower end BOP's were irregular and the poor leaf types were neglected. Their corresponding BOPF's sold around last levels. The majority of the Nuwara Eliya's remained unsold. Udapussellawa Teas were irregular and sold rather poorly. Select best Uva BOP's were firm to Rs.20-40/- per kg dearer. Their corresponding BOPF's gained up to Rs.100/- per kg. CTC Teas – High & Medium PF1's sold around last levels whilst the poorer types were irregular. Low Grown select PF1's declined up to Rs.20/- per kg whilst others were firm to selectively dearer. Most BP1's on offer tended irregular. The better liquoring sorts were sought after by Shippers to Japan and the Continent whilst the balance were absorbed by Shippers to Russia, CIS and China along with the Tea Bag sector.

Low Grown met with good demand in for all grades with prices being fully firm throughout the sale. There was good demand from most International markets.

This week's auction comprised of **10,832** lots with a total quantity of **5,082,215** Kgs.

The catalogue wise breakdown was as follows:-

	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>
Low Grown Leafy	2,041	705,701
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,876	756,594
Low Grown Tippy	2,088	944,963
High & Medium	1,232	508,851
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,017	994,659
Dust	486	407,969
Premium Flowery	382	48,947
Ex-Estate	<u>710</u>	<u>714,531</u>
Total	<u>10,832</u>	<u>5,082,215</u>

In Lighter Vein

-- Whiskey and Water --

A man drinks a shot of whiskey every night before bed. After years of this, the wife wants him to quit; she gets two shot glasses, filling one with water and the other with whiskey.

After getting him to the table that had the glasses, she brings his bait box. She says "I want you to see this." She puts a worm in the water it, and it swims around.

She puts a worm in the whiskey, and the worm dies immediately. She then says, feeling that she has made her point clear,

"what do you have to say about this experiment?"

He responds by saying:

"If I drink whiskey, I won't get worms!"

LOW GROWN TEAS

LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY

BOP1 : Select best BOP1's were irregularly lower. Balance too declined further.

OP1 : Wiry types were maintained. Bold types were irregularly lower. Stalky invoices were maintained at last week's levels.

OP : Well-twisted OP's too declined by Rs.50-100/- per kg. Balance were irregularly lower.

OPA : Generally lower.

PEK/PEK1 : Shotty PEK's were maintained and the balance declined by Rs.50/- per kg. PEK1's were generally firm.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)		BOP1	OP1	OP	OPA	PEK/PEK1
SELECT BEST	This Week	1900-3100	2000-3400	1400-1800	1500-2050	1800-2750
	Last Week	2000-3100	2000-3400	1450-1800	1550-1850	1800-2950
BEST	This Week	1550-1850	1450-1950	1200-1350	1250-1450	1600-1750
	Last Week	1600-1950	1500-1950	1250-1400	1300-1500	1600-1750
BELOW BEST	This Week	1250-1500	1150-1400	1000-1150	1000-1200	1300-1550
	Last Week	1300-1550	1200-1450	1000-1200	1050-1250	1350-1550
SECONDARIES	This Week	900-1200	850-1100	800-950	800-950	1100-1250
	Last Week	900-1250	850-1150	800-950	850-1000	1150-1300
POOR	This Week	700-850	600-800	500 - 750	500 - 750	900-1050
	Last Week	700-850	600-800	500 - 750	500 - 800	950-1100

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : Met with a firm demand.

BOPF/BOPFSP : Well-made teas maintained last levels. Others were irregular following quality.

FBOP/FBOP1 : Select best and best FBOP's were easier by Rs.50/- per kg, whilst bolder varieties easier by Rs.50/- per kg. Teas at the lower end maintained.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : Few selected select best teas maintained, whilst the others were easier.

FBOPFSP : Except for few select best invoices maintained on last, whilst the others were overall easier by Rs.200-400/- per kg. Teas at the lower end mainly remained unsold.

FFEXSP/SP1 : Overall met with a good demand.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)		BOP/ BOPSP	BOPF/ BOPFSP	FBOP/ FBOP1	FBOPF/ FBOPF1	FBOPFSP/ FBOPFEXSP
SELECT BEST	This Week	1750-2600	1550-2500	2100-2650	1700-2150	3500-4850
	Last Week	1750-2600	1600-2550	2200-2650	1700-2050	3600-5050
BEST	This Week	1600-1700	1340-1500	1700-2000	1550-1600	2650-3000
	Last Week	1600-1700	1340-1550	1800-2100	1550-1650	2750-3200
BELOW BEST	This Week	1400-1550	1060-1260	1500-1600	1420-1500	1600-2200
	Last Week	1400-1550	1060-1260	1550-1700	1400-1500	1700-2350
SECONDARIES	This Week	1220-1360	860-1020	1340-1440	1160-1280	1420-1550
	Last Week	1220-1360	870-1020	1360-1480	1180-1300	1450-1600
POOR	This Week	850-1180	550-800	960-1220	850-1160	1020-1320
	Last Week	850-1200	540-800	960-1240	890-1180	1120-1360

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Select best FBOP's firm to easier by Rs.50/- per kg, whilst the best and below best followed a similar trend.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : A few select best FBOPF1's were firm to easier by Rs.50-100/- per kg, best and below best were irregularly easier.

PEK/PEK1 : Best PEK1's firm to easier, whilst the PEK1's maintained. The poorer sorts 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>
FBOP	1500 - 2500	1550 - 2100	1100 - 1550	1150 - 1600	800-1000	850-1000
FBOPF/FBOPF1	1600 - 1850	1650 - 2000	1500 - 1700	1250 - 1580	1000-1100	1100-1150
PEK/PEK1	1900 - 2450	1900 - 2350	1100 - 1450	1000 - 1500	800 - 960	800 - 1000

HIGH GROWN TEAS

MARKET : Improved widespread activity for the better teas, whilst the others sold around last week's levels

BOP: Best Western's – Select invoices appreciated by up to Rs.100/- per kg and more, whilst the others were firm and often dearer to a lesser extent. In the Below Best category, select invoices appreciated by up to Rs.100/- per kg and more, whilst the others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Prices were irregular at the lower end of the market. Nuwara Eliya's mostly sold around last. Uda Pussellawa's were irregular and mostly easier. Uva's – Select Best were Rs.20-40/- per kg dearer on last, whilst the others were generally firm.

BOPF : Best Western's – Select invoices were up to Rs.100/- per kg dearer, whilst the others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. In the Below Best category, select invoices were Rs.20-40/- per kg dearer, whilst the others together with teas at the lower end of the market sold around last week's levels. Nuwara Eliya's were mostly unsold. Uda Pussellawa's were irregular and continued to sell poorly. Uva's – Better teas gained by up to Rs.100/- per kg, whilst the others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BOP		BOPF	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	1360 - 1600	1300 - 1500	1400 - 1650	1300 - 1550
Below Best Westerns	1240 - 1340	1100 - 1280	1260 - 1380	1180 - 1280
Plainer Westerns	880 - 1120	880 - 1060	940 - 1240	900 - 1160
Nuwara Eliyas	1100	1180	N/A	1020 - 1200
Brighter UdaPussellawas	850 - 980	900 - 940	1200	N/A
Other Uda Pussellawas	N/A	850	770 - 940	730 - 900
Best Uva's	1340 - 1400	1280 - 1380	1200 - 1280	N/A
Other Uva's	1060 - 1200	900 - 1060	1060 - 1160	850 - 900

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP : Large Leaf teas continued to sell well, whilst the others were irregular and easier.

BOPF : Better sorts were firm, whilst the other poorer sorts appreciated by up to Rs.50/- per kg.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BOP		BOPF	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	960 - 2200	880 - 2300	700-1220	680-1220

CTC TEAS

HIGH GROWN:-

BP1 - Hardly any offerings.

PF1 - Sold around last week's levels.

MEDIUM GROWN:-

BP1 - Irregular.

PF1 - Better sorts were barely steady. Other improved sorts gained by Rs.20-40/- per kg, whilst the poorer sorts were irregular.

LOW GROWN:-

BP1 - Firm and tended dearer.

PF1 - Select high-priced teas declined by up to Rs.20/- per kg whilst the others were firm and selectively dearer by up to Rs.20/- per kg following quality.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BP1		PF1	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
High	N/A	N/A	710 - 1180	820 - 1240
Medium	500 - 800	530 - 960	570 - 1140	540 - 1180
Low	790 - 1380	790 - 1340	600 - 1500	600 - 1550

OFF GRADES

FGS/FGS1 : Select best liquoring FNGS/FNGS1's advanced Rs.20-40/- per kg whilst others were irregular. Low Grown select best FNGS/FNGS1's lost Rs.20/- per kg whilst poorer teas firm on last levels. Select best BM advanced Rs.20-30/- per kg . Others firm to dearer by Rs.10-20/- per kg. Lower end teas were firm on last.

BOP1A : Select best BOP1A's firm to dearer Rs.25/-. Best teas held firm whilst below best and lower end firm on last.

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)	750 - 1200	700 - 1200	610-690	610-690	600-700	620-720
Good Fannings (CTC)	610-630	610-650	600-630	600-650	600-720	600-690
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	530 - 620	530 - 650	530-620	530-630	520-620	530-630
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	670-870	670-850	680-850	680-830	780-1200	780-1350
Other BM's	570-620	560-590	560-630	550-600	560-640	540-600
Best BOP1As	660-820	660-800	700-890	700-880	700-1650	700-1600
Other BOP1As	580-660	580-650	580-680	580-660	570-700	570-690

DUST

DUST/DUST1: High grown liquoring teas declined Rs.40-60/- per kg, whilst their secondaries and below best types were irregularly lower by Rs.30-40/- per kg. Mid Growns declined Rs.40-50/- per kg, whilst the Low Growns were fully firm to dearer.

PD : High Growns together with Mid Growns maintained last levels. Low Growns were firm to dearer.

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 Dust1 (Orthodox)	700 - 1700	700 - 1750	640 - 1140	650 - 1000	630 - 1260	630 - 1040
Good Primary PD (CTC)	680 - 1180	650 - 1200	630 - 1080	630 - 1120	640 - 1460	640 - 1460
Secondary Dust	620 - 1040	620 - 1100	620 - 570	620 - 820	640 - 1240	630 - 1040

WESTERN MEDIUM

*Ancoombra	BOP	2200/-
*Hatale	BOP	2100/-
*Ancoombra	BOPSP	1900/-
*Hatale	BOPSP	1800/-
*Vellai Oya	BOPF	1220/-
*Ancoombra	BOPFSP	1550/-
Craighead	BOP1	2550/-
Doombagastalawa	FBOP	2000/-
*Ancoombra	FBOP	1900/-
Craighead	FBOP	1900/-
*Hatale	FBOP	1800/-
Dartry Valley	FBOP	1800/-
Madulkelle	FBOP	1800/-
Orange Field	FBOP1	1750/-
Greenwood	FBOPF	1240/-
*Ancoombra	FBOPF1	1850/-
Craighead	FBOPF1	1850/-
Imboolpittia	FBOPF1	1850/-
*Meezan	OP	1340/-
Cooroondoowatte	OP	1260/-
*Galgewatta	OP	1240/-
*Hatale	OPA	1400/-
*Hatale	OP1	1700/-
Uplands	PEKOE	2050/-
*Meezan	PEKOE	1800/-
*Hatale	PEKOE	1800/-
Dartry Valley	PEKOE1	2450/-

WESTERN HIGH

Alton	BOP	1600/-
Ingestre	BOP	1600/-
Ingestre	BOPSP	1700/-
Alton	BOPF	1650/-
Torrington	BOP1	2100/-
Venture	FBOP	1950/-
Torrington	FBOP1	1440/-
Inverness	FBOPF1	1700/-
Queensberry	FBOPF1	1700/-
Torrington	FBOPF1	1700/-
St. Andrews	OP	1280/-
Kirkoswald	OPA	1200/-
St. Andrews	OP1	1700/-
St. Andrews	PEKOE	1850/-
Torrington	PEKOE1	1800/-

NUWARA ELIYA

Kenmare	BOPF	700/-
Kenmare	FBOP	1400/-
Court Lodge	FBOPF	1040/-
Kenmare	FBOPF1	1550/-
Kenmare	OPA	960/-

UVA MEDIUM

Demodera 'S'	BOP	1850/-
Dickwella	BOPSP	1600/-
Hindagala	BOPSP	1600/-
El Teb	BOPFSP	1100/-
Dickwella	BOP1	2150/-
Wewessa	FBOP	1800/-
Dickwella	FBOP1	1700/-
Hindagala	FBOPF	1300/-
Dickwella	FBOPF1	1800/-
Dickwella	OP	1380/-
Hindagala	OPA	1180/-
Aruna Passara	OP1	1650/-
*Roseland Uva	PEKOE	1750/-
Aruna Passara	PEKOE	1750/-
Aruna Passara	PEKOE1	2450/-

UVA HIGH

Nayabedde	BOP	1420/-
Craig	BOPSP	1440/-
Nayabedde	BOPF	1280/-
Bandaraceliya	BOPF	1280/-
Uva Highlands	BOP1	1900/-
Ellathota Uva	FBOP	1800/-
Battawatte	FBOP1	1550/-
Uva Highlands	FBOPF1	1750/-
Ampittiakande	OP	1300/-
Non Pareil	OPA	1240/-
Uva Highlands	OP1	1420/-
Uva Highlands	OP1	1400/-
*Ellathota Uva	OP1	1360/-
Ellathota Uva	PEKOE	1750/-
*Ellathota Uva	PEKOE	1600/-
Glenanore	PEKOE1	1850/-

UDAPUSSELLAWA

Mooloya	BOP	980/-
Liddesdale	BOPSP	800/-
*Mooloya	BOPF	1200/-
Delmar	FBOP	1650/-
Blairlomond	FBOP	1650/-
Gonapitiya	FBOP1	1550/-
Blairlomond	FBOPF1	1700/-
Delmar	OP	1300/-
High Forest	OPA	980/-
Delmar	OP1	1550/-
High Forest	PEKOE	1600/-
Blairlomond	PEKOE1	1550/-

LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES

Pothotuwa	BOP1	3100/-
*Makandura	BOP1	2900/-
Mulatiyana Hills	OP1	3400/-
*Lenama Hills	OP1	3100/-
Miriswatta	OP	1800/-
Dampahala	OPA	2050/-
Miriswatta	OPA	2050/-
*Makandura	PEKOE	2500/-
Golden Garden	PEKOE	2400/-
*Green House	PEKOE	2200/-
Renukanda	PEKOE1	2750/-
New Batuwangala	PEKOE1	2750/-

LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES

Mulatiyana Hills	BOP	2600/-
Ceyenta	BOP	2500/-
*Nawagamuwahena	BOP	2450/-
*Elaine Super	BOPSP	2450/-
Lellopitiya Sup	BOPSP	2450/-
H P P Tea	BOPSP	2450/-
New Spring View	BOPSP	2450/-
Stream Line	BOPSP	2400/-
*New Nivithigala	BOPSP	2350/-
Wewelkandura S.	BOPF	2500/-
*Sithaka	BOPF	1800/-
Rajjuruwatta Sup.	BOPFSP	2500/-
Galatara	FBOP	2650/-
*Sithaka	FBOP	2600/-
*Hedigalla	FBOP	2500/-
Morawakkorale	FBOP1	2200/-
Kiruwanaaganga	FBOP1	2150/-
*New Galagawa	FBOP1	2050/-
Wewelkandura Sup	FBOPF	2850/-
Danawala	FBOPF	2150/-
*Ganganee	FBOPF	1900/-
*Makandura	FBOPF1	1950/-

PREMIUM FLOWERY

New Batuwangala	FBOPFSP	4850/-
*New Galagawa	FBOPFEXSP	4800/-
Miriswatta	FBOPFEXSP1	4450/-

CTC TEAS**HIGH GROWN**

Dunsinane CTC	BPS	1080/-
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	1180/-
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	1160/-
*Dunsinane CTC	PF1	1140/-

MEDIUM GROWN

Ancoombra CTC	BPS	590/-
Duckwari CTC	BP1	800/-
Strathdon CTC	PF1	1140/-
*New Peacock	PF1	1120/-

LOW GROWN

Lantern Hill CTC	BPS	860/-
Ceciliyan CTC	BP1	1380/-
Hingalgoda CTC	PF1	1500/-
*Kalubowitiyana CTC	PF1	1480/-

OFF GRADES

Sunrise	BP	1440/-
Suviska	BP	1400/-
*Hatale	BP	1340/-
Ceciliyan CTC	PF	1080/-
*Chandrika CTC	PF	830/-
*Castlebay CTC	PF	660/-
Gunawardana	BM	1200/-
Gunawardana	FNGS	1020/-
Stockholm	FNGS1	1200/-
Wattegodde	FNGS1	1200/-
Liyonta	BOP1A	1650/-

BOPA

Makandura	BOPA	2600/-
Kingsbru	BOPA	2600/-
*Selna	BOPA	2500/-
*Green House	BOPA	2500/-
Gunawardana	BOPA	2500/-
*New Galagawa	BOPA	2450/-

HIGH GROWN

Bogawantalawa	DUST	1240/-
Wattegodde	DUST1	1700/-
Dunsinane CTC	PD	1180/-

MEDIUM GROWN

*Ambuluwawa CTC	DUST	570/-
Delta CTC	DUST1	1140/-
Delta CTC	DUST1	1120/-
*New Peacock CTC	DUST1	1060/-
New Peacock CTC	PD	1080/-
New Peacock CTC	PD	1060/-
*New Peacock CTC	PD	1040/-
*Rothschild CTC	PD	1040/-

LOW GROWN

*Chandrika Est	DUST	1040/-
*Chandrka Est	DUST	1020/-
Ceciliyan CTC	DUST1	1440/-
Ceciliyan CTC	PD	1460/-

COLOMBO AUCTION – WEEKLY GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.37 OF 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2026

	2026			2025	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Year to Date
Uva High Grown	1,010.98	1,011.36	1,026.01	1,082.52	1,041.18
Western High Grown	1,128.45	1,118.89	1,152.38	1,231.84	1,104.49
High Grown	1,090.56	1,083.94	1,112.56	1,179.49	1,083.69
Uva Medium	1,093.44	1,061.78	1,033.48	1,083.14	1,068.95
Western Medium	932.04	918.93	946.49	1,043.57	1,005.79
Medium Grown	969.82	951.97	975.15	1,053.41	1,026.33
Low Grown (Orthodox)	1,359.17	1,347.48	1,285.18	1,306.92	1,263.33
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	1,336.78	1,316.57	1,265.42	1,281.06	1,247.29
Total	1,237.88	1,211.02	1,185.39	1,224.26	1,176.12

Private Sale Figures (17.09.2026 – 23.09.2026)

232,831.15

Cumulative

8,745,195.50

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALE

SALE NO: 39

SALE NO: 40

Sale of 06th /07th Oct. '26

Sale of 13th /14th Oct. '26

	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>
Low Grown Leafy	1,994	699,326	2,079	735,725
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,830	750,548	1,874	762,552
Low Grown Tippy	2,075	953,034	2,021	920,932
High & Medium	1,182	494,522	1,390	579,734
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,288	1,114,526	2,264	1,112,956
Dust	475	398,352	505	435,858
Premium Flowery	310	40,313	309	40,975
Ex-Estate	<u>697</u>	<u>696,314</u>	<u>667</u>	<u>657,832</u>
Total	<u>10,851</u>	<u>5,146,935</u>	<u>11,109</u>	<u>5,246,564</u>

FUTURE CATALOGUES CLOSURE

Sale No.41 of 20th (Tue.) /21st (Wed.) October, 2026

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **Thursday, 01st October, 2026 at 04.30 p.m.**

Sale No.42 of 27th (Tue.) /28th (Wed.) October, 2026

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **Thursday, 08th October, 2026 at 04.30 p.m.**

Sale No.43 of 03rd (Tue.) /04th(Wed.) November, 2026

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **Thursday, 15th October, 2026 at 04.30 p.m.**

SALE NO.39

AUCTION OF 06th /07th OCTOBER, 2026

BROKERS' SELLING ORDER

<u>Leafy/ Semi Leafy/ Tippy/Premium Flowery/ BOP1A/</u>	<u>High & Medium/ Off Grades/ Dust</u>	<u>Ex-Estate</u>
1. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC	1. John Keells PLC	1. Eastern Brokers PLC
2. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC	2. Eastern Brokers PLC	2. Bartleet Produce Marketing (Pvt) Ltd
3. Eastern Brokers PLC	3. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC	3. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
4. Bartleet Produce Marketing (Pvt) Ltd	4. Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd	4. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
5. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd	5. Bartleet Produce Marketing (Pvt) Ltd	5. John Keells PLC
6. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd	6. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd	6. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
7. John Keells PLC	7. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd	7. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
8. Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd	8. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC	8. Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd

Crop & Weather

For the period 22nd to 28th September, 2026

Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions

Rain was reported in both regions throughout the week. Intermittent showers are expected in the Western and Nuwara Eliya regions in the week ahead, according to the Department of Meteorology.

Uva/Uda Pussellawa Regions

Bright weather was experienced in both regions during the week. The Department of Meteorology expects showers in the Uva Region in the week ahead.

Low Grown

The Low Grown Region reported rain throughout the week. The Department of Meteorology expects showers in the Low Grown Region in the week ahead.

Crop Intake

The Nuwara Eliya, Uva and Uda Pussellawa regions maintained the crop intake, whilst the Western and Low Grown regions reported a decrease.

WORLD CROP STATISTICS (MKGS)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2026</i>	<i>Difference +/-</i>	<i>To-date 2025</i>	<i>To-date 2026</i>	<i>Difference +/-</i>
SRI LANKA	Aug.	19.70	19.00	-0.7	177.00	172.20	-4.8
BANGLADESH	July	13.50	12.40	-1.1	22.49	30.63	8.1
KENYA	May	52.13	52.42	0.3	240.83	252.22	11.4
MALAWI	June	2.1	2.1	0.0	31.50	29.40	-2.1
NORTH INDIA	July	161.69	139.77	-21.9	530.75	525.75	-5.0
SOUTH INDIA	July	20.85	24.56	3.7	138.59	132.50	-6.1

OTHER MARKETS

BANGLADESH AUCTION

SALE NO. 22 OF MONDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

CTC LEAF: 47,944 packages of tea on offer met with less demand at easier rates.

BROKENS: Well-made good liquoring types met with a good demand but prices were a little easier following quality. The remainder met with less demand and eased in value often by upto Tk.5/- and more. BLF teas met with fair demand and were easier compared to last levels.

FANNINGS: Well-made good liquoring Fannings were a good market but prices were a little lower than last. Other varieties met with less demand and were an easier market following quality. BLF teas met with fair demand and were easier compared to last levels.

DUST: 10,223 packages of tea on offer met with a good demand. Good liquoring Dusts sold well at around last levels. Mediums were an easier market and sold at a drop of Tk.3/- to Tk.5/- closely following quality. Plain/BLF Dusts met with less demand and saw a fair withdrawal. Blenders lent strong support with fair interest from the Loose tea buyers.

COMMENTS: Buyers were more selective in this week's sale and market witnessed a decline in price following less competition. Whilst Blenders were the mainstay of the market, there was only some support from the Loose tea buyers.

Dusts were again an easier market.

Quotations – This Week – (In Taka)

Brokens	This Week	Last Week	Fannings	This Week	Last Week	Dust	This Week	Last Week
Best	295-300	297-302	Best	296-303	298-303	PD	272-310	286-311
Good	285-290	287-293	Good	285-290	287-293	RD	262-316	268-330
Medium	270-280	278-283	Medium	270-280	278-283	D	275-327	267-300
Plain	260-265	268-273	Plain	260-265	268-273	CD	270-324	275-340
BLF	248-250	248-271	BLF	250-262	248-271	BLF	250-265	NQTA

MOMBASA TEA AUCTION MARKET REPORT

Sale No.39 of 28TH/29TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

There was good general demand for the 105,001 packages (6.975m/kgs) available in the market with 18.59% unsold.

MARKET:

Pakistan Packers were active with Yemen, other Middle Eastern countries and Egyptian Packers strong. Afghanistan maintained support with Kazakhstan and other CIS states less active; Bazar were selective. UK with more selective with Russia and South Sudan active while Local Packers were less visible. Somalia maintained good interest at the lower end of the market.

LEAF GRADES (M2 & M3)

BP1:

OFFERINGS :- 55,960 packages (3.704m/Kgs) – 26.95% unsold.

Best : Were easier by up to USC10.

Brighter: Irregularly discounted by up to USC33. Some teas held steady to USC23 above last rates.

Mediums: KTDA mediums were irregularly easier by up to USC15 while plantation mediums were well competed for gaining by up to USC12.

Lower Medium: Were steady to USC21 dearer but select lines lost by up to USC10.

Plainer: Were irregular varying between USC15 above previous levels to easier by up to USC14.

PF1:

Best : Were irregularly easier by up to USC8.

Brighter : Lost by up to USC10.

Mediums : KTDA mediums were mostly steady to USC12 dearer for select teas to easier by up to USC9 while Plantation mediums were irregularly firm to USC8 below previous levels. Saw irregular enquiry and varied between steady to USC4 above last rates to easier by up to USC7.

Plainer : Were easier by up to USC9.

DUST GRADES (M1)**PDUST:**

OFFERINGS :- 33,080 packages (2.460m/Kgs) – 8.34% unsold.

Best: Irregularly gained by up to USC16.

Brighter: Were firm to dearer by up to USC17.

Mediums: KTDA mediums were appreciated by up to USC12 while Plantation mediums irregularly advanced by up to USC8.

Lower Medium: Were steady to USC17 above last levels for better sorts to irregularly easier by up to USC6.

Plainer: Were mostly easier by up to USC12 but select teas held steady to USC8 dearer.

DUST1:

Best: Were firm to mostly dearer by up to USC6 to easier by USC3.

Brighter: Saw irregular enquiry ranging between steady to USC6 above previous rates to easier by up to USC9.

Mediums: KTDA mediums were firm to dearer by up to USC10 with Plantation mediums gaining by up to USC9.

Lower Medium: Were up to USC5 dearer to easier by up to USC2.

Plainer: Steady to USC5 above previous levels to easier by a similar margin.

SECONDARY GRADES(S1)

OFFERINGS :- 15,961 packages (0.810m/Kgs) – 10.53% unsold.

In the Secondary Catalogues, BPs advanced while PF's held value. Clean well-sorted coloury Fannings were dearer with similar Dust's selling at last levels. Other Fannings were steady with Dusts firm to irregularly dearer. BMFs were well absorbed.



SOUTH INDIAN ROUNDUP

FOR THE WEEKENDING – 26th SEPTEMBER, 2026

KOCHI

CTC LEAF

Demand : Good Demand: All grades sold at dearer levels. Brokenes were up to Rs.3 to 5 and Fannings by Rs.2

ORTHODOX LEAF

Demand : Good Demand.

Buying Pattern : All whole leaves sold irregularly and lower around last levels. Primary and Secondary brokenes had fetched fully firm levels. Fannings NQ

Market : CIS & Middle East Buyers operated.

DUST

Demand : Good Demand.

Buying Pattern : Popular marks and better mediums sold at steady to dearer by Rs.1 to 2. Medium and plainer sorts bolder grades were much appreciated in value, while the finer grades sold at fully firm levels.

Market : Major Packeteers were active, Exporters extended fair support on plainer bolder grades. Internal buyers were fairly active.

COONOOR

CTC LEAF

Demand : Strong.

Market : Opened on a steady to firm and occasionally dearer levels on the brighter liquoring teas and the Mediums, whilst the Plainers were trading by a Re to Rs.3/- dearer. However as the sale progressed it had gained momentum to be sold at Rs.2/- to Rs.5/- and up to Rs.8/- dearer on the major quantity that was traded.

The overall sale percentage was 97% at an average of Rs.128.37.

Buying Pattern: Major Blenders and Regional Packeteers continued to be in the forefront whilst the Exporters were active on the larger brokenes and on the Fannings. On the internal front Karnataka and Andhra buyers were lending fair support.

ORTH LEAF

Demand : Good.

Market : An irregular market with the Whole leaf grades trading at barely steady to occasionally dearer levels, the Brokenes were trading at fully firm to dearer levels by Rs.2/- to Rs.4/-. Fannings however were trading at easier levels.

The overall sale percentage was 86% at an average of Rs.149.75.

Buying Pattern: Fairly strong Export enquiry was forthcoming with CIS and Middle east buyers were active whilst the Internal support was rather selective.

CTC DUST**Demand :** Strong.**Market :** The bullish trend continued in the dust sale as well. The market witnessed a fully firm to dearer levels across all grades and categories by Rs.3/- to Rs.5/- and up to Rs.10/- following quality.**The overall sale percentage was 97% at an average of Rs.131.83.****Buying Pattern:** Strong export enquiry was forthcoming on the major quantity that was traded on the Mediums and on the common varieties. The Packeteers were seen operating mostly on the Brighter liquoring teas. Internal participation as rather subdued.**ORTH DUST****Demand :** Strong.**Market:** Market was tending fully firm on the primary dust grades and fully firm to dearer on the finer grades by Rs.5/- to Rs.10/-, whilst the Secondaries and Tertiaries were trading at steady to firm and occasionally dearer levels.**The overall sale percentage was 96% at an average of Rs.118.54.****Buying Pattern:** The Export enquiry was stronger on the primary dust grades whilst the Internal interest was mostly on the Secondaries and on the finer grades.**COIMBATORE****CTC LEAF****Demand :** Good demand.**Market :** Better medium teas were irregular and dearer. Medium teas were fully firm to dearer by Rs.2/- to Rs.3/- sometimes more on BOPF. Plainer teas were dearer by Rs.4/- to Rs.5/- sometimes more.**Buying Pattern :** Blenders, packeteers and internal were selective. Exporters were active.**ORTH LEAF****Demand :** Good general demand.**Market :** Whole leaf firm. Medium brokenes were fully firm to occasionally dearer. BOPF's were not quotable.**Buying Pattern :** Exporters were active.**CTC DUST****Demand :** Strong demand.**Market :** Better medium and popular teas were firm to occasionally dearer. Medium teas were firm to dearer by Rs.2/- to Rs.3/- sometimes more. Plainer teas were firm to dearer by Rs.2/- to Rs.5/- sometimes more on finer grades.**Buying Pattern :** All sections were active.**ORTH DUST****Demand :** Good demand.**Market :** Dearer by Rs.3/- to Rs.5/-.**Buying Pattern :** Exporters were active.**September 30, 2026****-/tp.**

North American Tea Conference **2026**

Gold Medal/ Sustainability Competitions

SRI LANKA

1st Place

Glen Nevis Plantation (PVT) Ltd.
Kandy, Glen Nevis Plantation
White, Aratenna Special Silver Tips

2nd Place

Avissawella Tea Factory (Pvt) Ltd.
Sabaragamuwa, Avissawella Tea
Factory (Pvt) Ltd
Black, FBOP

Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd. extends its warmest congratulations to Avissawella Tea Factory (Pvt) Ltd. and Hidellana Tea Factory (Pvt) Ltd. on this remarkable achievement.

Our sincere congratulations to Mr. Lalith Liyanage, Chairman / Managing Director, and his dedicated team, for this outstanding achievement and for their continued pursuit of excellence.

2026 SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

In recognition of their initiatives on sustainability within the tea industry,
this certificate is presented to

Hidellana Tea Factory (Pvt) Ltd.

Sustainable Today - Resilient Tomorrow



Sustainability Awards

Presented at the

North American
Tea Conference
September 22 – 24, 2026

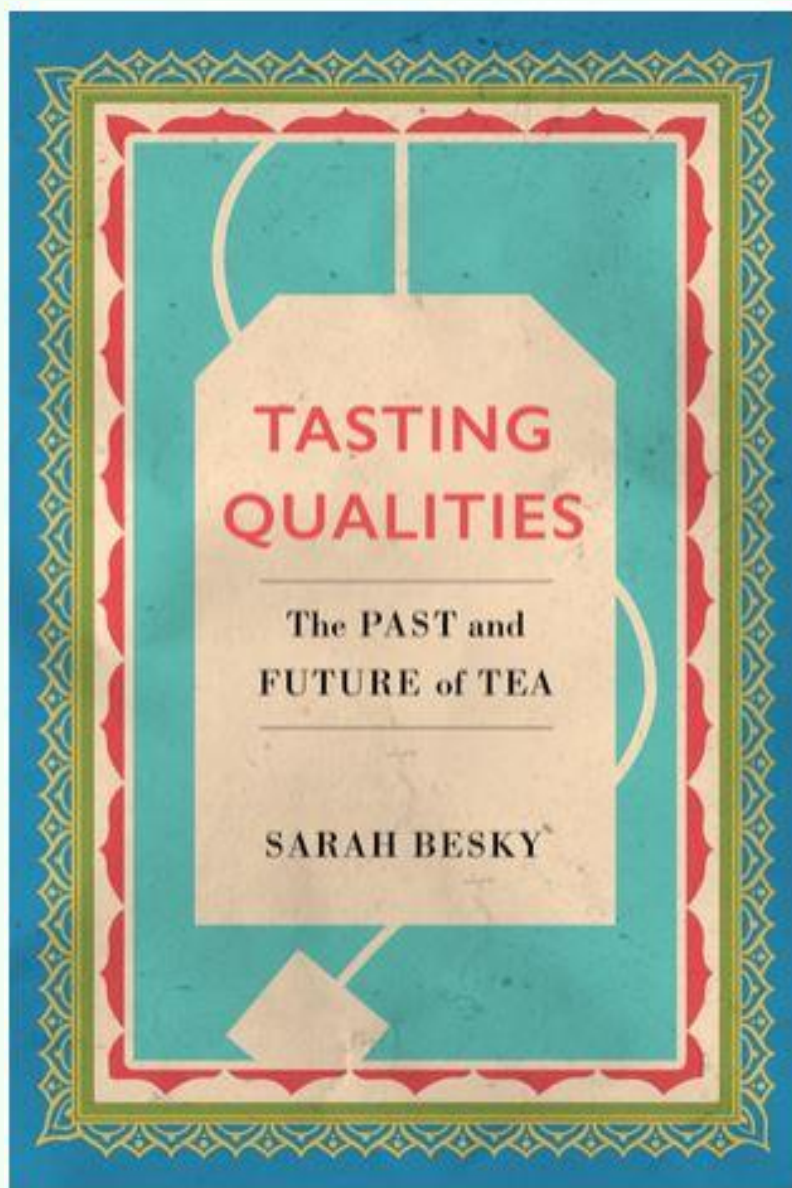
Shahnam Weber
President
Tea & Herbal Association of Canada
Tea Association of the USA

TEA NEWS - INTERNATIONAL

The making of a cup of tea: Plantation, empire and the pursuit of quality

When tea drinkers reach for a cup of black tea, they are reaching for something dependable and standardised, not something unique and distinguished. The sameness and reliability by which tea drinkers judge a good cup of tea are the result of a hidden, complex process that traverses the history of European colonialism, postcolonial economic debates, and the development of modern industrial food science.

Tea consumers today arguably think as much as they ever have about quality. If they've switched to a fair-trade or organic black blend, they presumably have the quality of the tea-producing environment or the life of the tea plantation worker in mind. But they also might justify spending a few extra pennies on this specially labelled box because what is inside is just as good as, or maybe even a little bit better than, what is inside the conventional box.



The cover of Sarah Besky's *Tasting Qualities: The Past and Future of Tea* (2020).

What counts as quality tea is not just a matter of consumer preference, or even of environmental and labour conditions at the point of production. Though what goes on at kitchen tables and on tea plantations is certainly important to the story of quality, quality is also produced in the spaces in between: those of brokerage, blending, auctioning, and food chemistry. Even the cheapest, most ordinary-looking tea arrives in its cup in that reliable form thanks to a set of linguistic, technological, and aesthetic techniques not just for judging quality, as if quality were always just waiting there to be perceived, but for producing quality.

No single corporation or institution fully controls this set of techniques. Over the [history of the modern tea industry](#), these techniques have been debated, distributed, and refined by professional tea tasters, auctioneers, blenders, and scientists. What these people all have in common is that they occupy intermediary positions in the system that circulates tea from farm to cup. The work of these figures helps make the black tea bag arrive to consumers in the form they come to expect time after time.

In contemporary capitalism, the relationship between quality and the market is often reduced to numbers. A quality product may be that which yields a high price, or that which has more numerous traits that, according to market research, a given consumer demographic considers desirable.

The techniques that produce quality are not entirely unique to the tea industry, but the pursuit of quality was central to the process by which colonial plantation production in India was transformed into a postcolonial capitalist enterprise. The qualification of reliable, cheap things is the outcome of historical and contemporary modes of economic inequality, racial and gendered differentiation, and environmental transformation. Black tea comes predominantly from former British and Dutch colonies, from East Africa to Southeast Asia. In these places, tea is plucked and pruned by hand on plantations, vertically integrated production systems in which factories, fields, and labourers' homes are all located in one place and are often controlled by owners in faraway urban centres. From plantations, tea is crated and shipped, ready for sale, to auction centres in former colonial port cities like Kolkata, Colombo, and Mombasa, where it is tasted, priced, and sold.

Mass-market black teas are blends of many different tastes, origins, and grades of tea, selected to match distinct flavour profiles. A bag of Tetley, PG Tips, or almost any tea consumers might encounter around the world is often a blend of 20 to 30 different kinds of tea, which traders refer to as "invoices". Large and small companies alike buy invoices from different tea-growing regions to make their blends. Some invoices may be recently harvested, while others may have sat in a warehouse for months before blending. Some invoices are chosen for their flavour (whether malty or floral), others for their appearance (whether "wiry" dry leaves or "bright" steeped leaves), and others for cost, with an eye to ensuring that the price of a particular blend stays within a desired range.

Reach for another box of the same brand a week or a month later, and it will likely be composed of a completely different set of thirty-something teas and a totally different combination of regions, grades, ages, and flavours. The teas inside will be different, but the taste will be familiar. In fact, your preferred tea bag tastes the same because the teas inside are totally different. Tea seems to be infinitely reproducible, even though what tea is is highly variable.

So while we might think of the ordinary black tea bag as a static, simple thing, getting the tea bag you drink today to taste the same as the one you drank last month, and getting the tea inside it to react in the same way to everything from the hardness of water to the fat content of milk to consumer preferences in places as different as London, Louisville, and Lucknow, is actually a complex and fraught undertaking.

It is tempting to think of the plantation as the starting point of quality, and of the auction or retail sale as the mechanism through which quality is transposed to consumers. In this view, quality matters because suppliers must meet the demands of consumers. My research leads me to join other scholars of capitalist markets in seeing such stories of "supply and demand" as deceptively simplistic. The plantation and the auction are just two nodes in a much larger array of sites that also includes laboratories, agricultural experimental stations, bureaucratic offices, and spaces of consumption.



Tea tasting at Nilhat House in Kolkata, a historic centre of the city's tea auction trade. Photo: Sarah Besky

While the plantation shapes the quality of black tea in the sense that colonial imagery of plantation landscapes and workers still dominates advertising and packaging, the reverse is also the case. Black tea, its sensory qualities and the images or memories it conjures, also works to keep the plantation together. Efforts to standardise and objectify quality were central to the British colonial project that gave birth to the mass-market black tea that tea drinkers across the world know and consume. The resulting linguistic and technoscientific conventions for describing tea's qualities help maintain the colonially derived plantation form. Those conventions are housed in the tea auctions and attendant brokerage houses that make the auctions run. Tea auctioning began in London under the auspices of the East India Company in the late 1600s. In these auctions, traders bought tea acquired from China. With the expansion of colonial control in India and the development of tea plantations there, beginning in Assam in the 1830s and moving to what is now West Bengal by the 1850s, the tea auction infrastructure expanded to include Calcutta, where the first sales were held in 1861. The environmental and social upheavals of plantation expansion under the British Empire ran parallel to the development of the new sciences of food chemistry and agronomy, the government regulation of an expanding global agribusiness, and the emergence of consumer consciousness about the taste, health effects, and safety of everyday foods and beverages.

Almost all that black tea comes from plantations. The plantation is far from an anachronism or a relic of a bygone era. It is both a crucible of the modern food system and an enduring driver of it. The tea plantation was a site at which scientific and economic experts first experimented with quality, devising methods for what they called the “improvement” of India’s landscapes, people, and tea itself. Within a few decades of carving out plantations in Assam from native forest, planters began to shift from hand-processing tea, the method used in China, to machine processing. They constructed mechanised factories on plantations, working towards a faster, more efficient, and vertically integrated system for converting highly perishable green tea leaves into a fermented, dried, and transportable form.

The plantation system allowed planters to grow tea as a monoculture, with a vast workforce that constantly pruned tea plants into flat-topped bushes. Tightly pruned bushes grow into each other, creating a nearly solid green shelf. Today, [tea workers, most of them women](#), must pull themselves through tightly packed hedges to pluck from their flat, manicured tops. Tattered pieces of tarpaulin protect their legs and torsos from scratches and punctures. They return to the same bushes nearly every week for ten months a year to find the freshest sprigs of tea, the iconic “two leaves and a bud”. In the short dormant season, these women prune those same bushes to encourage more sprigs to grow the following season. In innumerable advertisements, images of two leaves and a bud and of stooped, comely women workers create the illusion of an entirely natural production system.

But black tea is far from natural. Black tea’s very existence in the cups of consumers in the metropole is the result of a distinct industrial ecology, an ecology that contains and constrains the botanical variability of the tea bush into a standardised form. All plantations still rely upon a vast workforce of ethnically marginalised labourers who depend upon the plantation not just for their daily wage but for food, housing, and healthcare. While many stories about contemporary capitalism highlight the paradox that low-paid workers cannot consume what they produce, nearly all tea plantation workers are also tea drinkers. Tea punctuates the plantation working day and the home lives of labourers, and quality matters to [low-paid tea workers](#), albeit in a way that is quite distinct from how it matters to tea brokers, not to mention consumers in the Global North.

Tea brokers and traders are the central figures of *Tasting Qualities: The Past and Future of Tea*. (For a look into plantation production, please refer to *The Darjeeling Distinction*.) My research took place in the auction halls and brokerage offices of Kolkata and Siliguri. In these sites, I followed tea brokers as they tasted tea, and I observed the lively public outcry sales in which they auctioned lots of tea to buyers. In addition, I spent time in the Kolkata archives of the Indian Tea Association (ITA), the guild-like organisation that represents tea plantation managers and owners; in the National Library in Kolkata; and in the British Library in London, where the ITA’s London branch donated its materials after the office downsized in the 1970s.

Focused on the years between the founding of the ITA in 1886 and the passage of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act of 1973, which officially ended British capital’s control over the tea industry and other enterprises in India, my archival research traced the ITA’s central role in the development of standardised aesthetic and scientific methods for discerning quality. In the quest to improve Indian tea, the expertise of professional tea brokers was both juxtaposed with and blended with that of scientific experts, including chemists, agronomists, and botanists, engaged by the colonial and postcolonial tea industries.

While quality in food and drink markets is frequently posited as an end in itself, *Tasting Qualities* offers a different interpretation. Quality is not an endpoint. It is not a more-or-less proposition. It is a material and linguistic variable, one that can be viewed and manipulated at a variety of sites. Put another way, quality is a set of ongoing experiments. One consequence of those experiments is the perpetuation of the plantation as a socio-ecological system. Stabilizing quality, then, requires not only disciplining feelings but also disciplining soils, machinery, and bodies. While tea plantations might seem like legacies, in South Asia, they are continually and experimentally rearticulated. They continue to bring consumers across the world their daily cup of tea. “Quality” is the language and discipline through which the plantation continues to be thinkable and knowable. The plantation remains the answer to the question of how “quality” black tea is produced, despite attempts to do otherwise.



A tea plantation in Darjeeling, where tea cultivation has shaped both the landscape and the lives of generations of plantation workers. Photo: Sarah Besky

Kenyan growers behind half of Britain's black tea supply say climate shocks are crushing incomes



A major supplier of Britain's black tea market says climate-related disruptions are cutting harvests and driving prices up.

Here's what to know

Kenya supplies roughly half of Britain's black tea, according to [The Independent](#), but farmers in the country's western tea-growing regions say increasingly erratic weather is making the work harder and less profitable.

In the tea-growing areas of Kericho and Bomet, farmers say conditions have veered from rain during normally dry periods to unusual heat, storms, and drought.

Nelson Ngeno, who manages Fintea, said production across their five cooperatives dropped by 30% in May and June compared to typical harvest levels.

"Climate is really affecting our farmers," Ngeno said. "There has been a complete change as far as the weather is concerned."

Thousands of tea plants were damaged in Kabartegan during a hailstorm in January. Smallholder farmer Lilian Mutai Levin Langot told the Press Association (PA): "It was scary. The hailstones hit everything. On the tea plants, only the stems remained."

More background

As extreme weather disasters grow more severe, they threaten both lives and livelihoods by wiping out crops, reducing income, and making it harder for families to afford essentials such as food, health care, school fees, and stable housing.

Langot said the storm left her without a harvest and forced her to take out a loan.

Another farmer, Paul Kipsigei Koech of Chepchabas, told PA that he earns just 3,000 to 4,000 Kenyan shillings a month and can provide only a single daily meal of mushed-up maize for his wife, seven children, and elderly father.

"It is not enough. It is very scarce," he said. "There is no breakfast. No lunch."

Growers say they have seen little benefit from higher global tea prices. Instead, they describe a supply chain in which middlemen, brokers, and large companies take much of the profit, while farmers are left carrying the burden of extreme weather and rising costs.

What's being done?

Fintea said the share of tea it sells on Fairtrade terms has fallen from about 5% to under 1%, according to [The Independent](#). That decline has reduced the "premium payments" cooperatives can use for climate resilience efforts and social projects.

Fairtrade is urging more businesses to buy tea on Fairtrade terms. Lidl has said it will buy more tea from Fintea under Fairtrade terms and add extra funding to help raise farmer incomes through a new tea called "Way To Go!" Fintea said that could increase its Fairtrade share to around 2.6%.

Kerrina Thorogood, partnerships director at the Fairtrade Foundation, said: "Today, just one in five tea farmers in Kenya earns enough income each month to support their families with the essentials. As a result, many struggle to invest in their farms, adapt to climate change, and plan for the future. Addressing this challenge requires businesses to take responsibility for the prices they pay."
