

LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD TEA MARKET REPORT

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We Wish All Our Clients a Peaceful Vesak



SALE NO. 17 OF 06TH/09TH MAY, 2020

COMMENTS

The National Tea Sale Averages for April, 2020 have now been released and appear elsewhere in this report. A combined total average of Rs. 696.20 (Orth. & CTC) has been achieved for April, 2020 which is a welcome Rs. 116.34 higher than the corresponding month of 2019. The volume of 14.4 M/kgs sold during April 2020 however, is much lower than the figure of 25 Mkgs sold in April, 2019. When analyzing the *ytd* position of the current year, the weight of 60.1 M/kgs shows a colossal drop of 40.7 M/kgs on the previous year's comparative figure of 100.8 M/kgs. Although prices have been of a fairly satisfactory level up to now, the Producer Sector has been unable to benefit from it as the prolonged drought conditions in the first quarter of this year has sent production to critically low levels. This unfortunate situation has in turn sent the COP of plantations to dizzy heights causing losses. Matters have also been exacerbated by the COVID-19 Lockdown directly affecting worker turnout.

Sale #17 which was concluded this week as a one day sale in view of Vesak Holidays, and comprised of a total quantity of 3.2 m/kgs which was a drop of 1,250,000 Kgs over the previous auction. Low Grown Leafy/Tippy/Premium Flowery Grades comprised of 1.2 m/kgs, whilst Main Sale High & Medium category teas totaled 0.5 m/kgs. Teas on offer in the Ex Estate catalogue amounted to almost 0.6 m/kgs.

High Grown Ex Estate teas at the top end were mostly irregular and easier with prices closely following quality. Western BOP's in the "best" category eased Rs. 20/- to 30/- whilst below best descriptions too were lower. A range of Nuwara Eliya BOP's and BOPF's enjoyed good buyer support and were consequently firm to dearer. Uva / Uda Pussellawa BOP's/BOPF's eased Rs. 20/- to 40/-. CTC High and Medium PF1's lost Rs. 20/- and more on last week's closing levels. Buyers of quality high grown teas were active at lower levels, particularly those from Japan, Hong Kong, China. There was some interest from Europe and Scandinavia as well.

Low Grown leafy teas received fairly widespread demand at fully firm to dearer levels barring OP/OPA's which ruled irregular. Flowery grades at the top-end too were once again easier as Iran appeared more selective. Buyers for the C. I. S. and Turkey continued to bid actively for their requirements, whilst there was maintained interest from Russia.

This week's auction comprised of **4,965** lots with a total quantity of **3,216,289** kgs. The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	1,465	736,930
Low Grown Tippy	788	477,884
High & Medium	939	502,115
Off Grade/BOP1A	846	535,617
Dust	335	341,149
Premium Flowery	81	17,719
Ex-Estate	<u>511</u>	604,875
Total	<u>4,965</u>	<u>3,216,289</u>

In Lighter Vein

A lonely widow, aged 70, decided that it was time to get married again. She put an ad in the local paper that read: **HUSBAND WANTED:**

MUST BE IN MY AGE GROUP (70s), MUST NOT BEAT ME, NOR RUN AROUND ON ME, MUST STILL BE GOOD IN BED!!

ALL APPLICANTS PLEASE APPLY IN PERSON.

On the second day, she heard the doorbell. Much to her surprise (and dismay), she opened the door to see a grey-haired gentleman sitting in a wheelchair. He had no arms or legs.

The old woman said, "You're not really asking me to consider you, are you? Just look at you...you have no legs!" The old man smiled, "Therefore, I cannot run around on you!"

She snorted, "You don't have any arms either!"

Again, the old man smiled, "Therefore, I can never beat you!"

She raised an eyebrow and asked intently, "Are you still good in bed???"

The old man leaned back, beamed a big smile and said, "Rang the doorbell, didn't I

LOW GROWNS - LEAFY

: Select best teas declined by Rs.50-100/- per kg and balance was maintained. Teas at the lower end were firm.

: Teas in the select best category were fully firm on last week levels; balance too maintained. Stalky OP1 invoices were firm.

OP : Teas in the best category declined by Rs.40-50/- per kg; balance was barely steady. Teas at the lower end were maintained.

OPA : Few select best teas held firm; balance was declined by Rs.50/=- per kg and at times more. Poor sorts were firm on last levels.

PEK/PEK1: Well-made shotty invoices were fully firm on last levels and balance too tended irregular. Best bold PEK's advanced Rs.40-50/- per kg. Balance were firm. Teas at the lower end too firm on last levels.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)

	Best		Below	Best	Others		
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	<u>Last Week</u>	
BOP1	1000-1200	1000-1300	800-900	800-900	650-720	650-750	
OP1	1700-2100	1700-2100	900-1050	900-1000	500-570	500-600	
OP	900-1000	950-1050	700-750	700-750	530-580	530-600	
OPA	900-1000	950-1050	750-800	750-850	530-580	530-600	
PEK/PEK1	950-1000	950-1050	830-870	830-900	600-650	600-650	

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : Select Best and Best were easier. Balance were firm on last.

BOPF/BOPFSP: In general were easier

FBOP/FBOP1: Select Best FBOP's eased, whilst Best and Below Best sold around last levels. However, cleaner

teas at the bottom appreciated. Others were firm. FBOP1's in general firm.

FBOPF/FBOPF1: Very Tippy teas continued to attract good demand. Best together with Below Best

appreciated. Balance firm on last. Select Best FBOPF1's were lower, whilst Best sold around last levels. Cleaner below Best and cleaner teas at the bottom were firm to dearer.

Balance firm.

FBOPFSP/EXSP: A few select best invoices maintained following quality. Best and below best teas

too were dearer by Rs.50-100/- per kg.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)

	В	Best		Best	Others	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
BOP/BOPSP	1000-1200	1000-1150	800-900	800-900	650-750	600-700
BOPF/BOPFSP	800-920	750-860	750-800	700-750	600-700	600-700
FBOP/FBOP1	1300-1550	1500-1600	900-1200	900-1200	700-800	700-800
FBOPF/FBOPF1	1200-1400	1200-1550	900-1000	900-1050	700-800	700-800
FBOPFSP/EXSP	2500-3200	2800-3100	2000-2500	2200-2800	1000-1500	950-1300

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Best on offer declined by Rs.30-40/- per kg whilst the others maintained last levels. **FBOPF/FBOPF1** : Best on offer gained Rs.30-40/- per kg whilst the others were fully firm to dearer.

PEK/PEK1 : Select best declined Rs.40-60/- per kg whilst the others were irregular and mostly lower.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	Best		Belov	v Best	Others		
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	
FBOP	900-1100	900-1150	700-900	750-900	600-700	600-750	
FBOPF/FBOPF1	900-1350	900-1300	800-900	800-900	650-780	650-780	
PEK/PEK1	950-1050	950-1100	800-950	800-950	700-800	700-800	

HIGH GROWN

BOP: BestWesterns – select high price teas declined Rs.20-40/- per kg and more. Teas in the Below Best category declined Rs.30-40/- per kg whilst the plainer sorts eased further. Nuwara Eliya's sold reasonably well at firm to dearer rates. Uva/Uda Pussellawa's were up to Rs. 30-40/- per kg easier.

BOPF: Best Westerns declined Rs. 20-30/- per lqg and more following quality. Teas in the Below Best and plainer categories were irregular. Nuwara Eliya's tended dearer. Uva/Uda Pussellawa's declined Rs. 20-40/- per kg and more.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	В	OP	BOPF		
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	
Best Westerns	650-780	690-770	800-860	790-900	
Below Best Westerns	580-630	610-680	760-790	760-780	
Plainer Westerns	540-550	560-600	710-750	690-750	
Nuwara Eliyas	550-840	420	650	640-820	
Other Uda Pussellawas	500-540	520-580	600-630	600-630	
Best Uva's	530-610	550-600	690-750	760-800	
Other Uva's	N/A	520-540	N/A	620	

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP: Neat, well-made teas were up to Rs. 50/- per kg dearer. Others were barely steady on last week s levels.

BOPF: Clean leaf teas were Rs. 20-40/- per kg dearer. Others were barely steady.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	ВОР		В	OPF
	This Week Last Week		<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	520-1050	520-900	510-830	520-750

CTC

PF1: High Grown PF1's – Select well-made teas were barely steady. Others were Rs.10-20/- per kg easier. Medium Grown PF1's lower by Rs.20/- per kg. Low Grown PF1's too lower by Rs.10-20/- per kg.

BP1: High Grown BP1's irregular and barely steady. Medium Grown BP1's hardly any offerings. Low Grown BP1's lower by Rs.10-20/- per kg.

One to the same (De /IV-)	F	PF1	BP1		
Quotations (Rs./Kg)	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	
High	550-620	570-650	470-540	520-630	
Medium	490-700	360-650	N/A	400-570	
Low	490-860	370-870	360-600	350-570	

Cont'd (P4)

OFF GRADES

Best liquoring FNGS/FNGS1 appreciated by Rs.20-30/-per kg. Clean Low Grown FNGS/FNGS1 lost Rs.20/- per kg and more. Best BPs' too held firm. Well-made BMs appreciated by Rs.10-20/- per kg. Poorer types a little irregular. Well-made BOP1A's lost Rs.10-20/- per kg and others were firm.

QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)	н	GH	MEDIUM		LOW	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	<u>Last Week</u>	This Week	Last Week
Good Fannings (Orthodox)	450-620	450-620	380-460	380-460	380-470	380-470
Good Fannings (CTC)	400-550	400-550	400-425	400-425	400-425	400-425
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	400-450	400-450	325-380	325-380	325-380	325-380
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	500-510	500-510	500-550	500-550	500-570	500-570
Other BM's	425-450	425-450	420-470	420-470	420-470	420-470
Best BOP1As	550-600	550-600	570-620	570-620	575-670	575-600
Other BOP1As	400-440	400-440	400-450	400-450	400-460	400-460

DUST

Select best liquoring High Grown D1's advanced by Rs.50-60/- per kg whilst the secondary and below best types were firm on last levels. Poor varieties maintained on last level. Low Grown Clean D/D1s firm to dearer by Rs.40-50/-per kg. PD's from High Grown & Low Grown elevations advanced by Rs.50-70/- per kg whilst Mediums were firm to dearer by Rs30-40/- per kg.

QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)	HIGH		MEI	DIUM	LOW	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Good Primary Dust 1(Orthodox)	840-980	800-980	520-580	550-610	550-660	580-680
Good Primary PD (CTC)	630-740	650-700	580-630	550-650	640-700	600-690
Other Primary Dust (Orthodox)	260-270	260-270	260-280	260-280	280-300	280-300
Other Primary Dust (CTC)	N/A	N/A	260-290	260-290	260-280	260-280
Secondary Dust	240-270	240-270	240-260	240-260	240-270	240-270
Poorer Dust	230-250	230-250	180-250	180-250	190-250	190-250

World Crop Statistics (MKGS)

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

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

Doombagastalawe	BOP	1050/-
*Ancoombra	BOP1	1050/-
*Dartry Valley	FBOP/FBOP1	1100/-
Doombagastalawe	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1350/-
Elpitiya	OP/OPA	900/-
Kenilworth	OP1	940/-
*Dartry Valley		1050/-
1	PEK/PEK1	1050/-
Doombagastalawe	PEK/PEK1	1050/-
WESTERN HIGH	<u>I</u>	
Annfield	BOP	780/-
Somerset	BOPF	860/-
Holyrood	BOPF	860/-
Weddemulla	FBOP/ FBOP1	
Venture	FBOPF/FBOPF1	550/-
Weddemulla	OP/OPA	750/-
Weddemulla	OP1	750/-
Weddemulla	PEK/PEK1	850/-
NUWARA ELIYA	<u>\</u>	
Mahagastotte	BOP	840/-
Mahagastotte	BOPF	1050/-
Kenmare	FBOP/FBOP1	1100/-
Kenmare	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1000/-
Court Lodge	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1000/-
Court Lodge	OP/OPA	640/-
Court Lodge	OP1	770/-
Lovers Leap	PEK/PEK1	1100/-
CTC TEAS		
HIGH GROWN		
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	620/-
Dunsinane CTC	BP1	540/-
Dunsinane CTC	BPS	610/-
MEDIUM GROW	/N	
New Peacock	PF1	700/-
*Carolina CTC		500/-
LOW GROWN		
*Kalubowitiyana	CTC PF1	860/-
Ceciliyan CTC	BP1	600/-

*Halpewatta Uva	BOP/BOPSP	900/
*Halpewatta Uva	BOPF/BOPFSP	790/
*Halpewatte Uva	BOP1	1050/
Halpewatte Uva	FBOP/FBOP1	1000
Glen Alpin	FBOP/FBOP1	1000
Halpewatte Uva	FBOPF/FBOPF1	960/
Shawlands	FBOPF/FBOPF1	960/
Wewassa	OP/OPA	900/
Telbedde	OP1	900/
Telbedde	PEK/ PEK1	980/
UVA HIGH		
Spring Valley	BOP	830/
Oodoowerre	BOP1	1000/
*Battawatte	FBOP/ FBOP1	960/
Oodoowerre	FBOP/FBOP1	960
*Battawatte	FBOPF/FBOPF1	960/
Uva Kellie	FBOPF/FBOPF1	960/
Battawatte	OP/OPA +++	900/-
Oodoowerre	OP1	940/
Glenanore	PEK/PEK1	940/
UDA PUSSELLA	WA_	
Kirklees	BOP/BOPSP	900/
Luckyland	BOPF	750/
Gordon	BOP1	850/
Delmar	FBOP/FBOP1	920/
*Delmar	FBOPF/FBOPF1	940/
Delmar	OP/OPA	790/
Delmar	OP1	890/
Gordon	PEK/PEK1	830/
OFF GRADES		
*Aldora	BM	750/
*Narangalla Sup	BM	750/
Adhism	FNGS/FNGS1	670/
Rathkellie Uva	BP	760/
*Aldora	BOP1A	770

LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES					
New Vithanakande		2400/-			
Pothotuwa	BOP1	2400/-			
Lumbini	OP1	2750/-			
*Peak Paradise	OP	1250/-			
*Peak Paradise	OPA	1350/-			
*Dishan Valley	PEKOE	1300/-			
*Andaradeniya Sup	PEKOE	1300/-			
Suduwelipothahena		1300/-			
Nilgiri	PEKOE	1300/-			
Nilrich	PEKOE	1300/-			
Co-op Lanka	PEKOE	1300/-			
Lumbini	PEKOE	1300/-			
Hidellana	PEKOE1	1300/-			
*K.D.U Super	PEKOE1	1150/-			
LOW GROWN T	IPPY GRADES				
Ceciliyan	BOP	1200/-			
Ceciliyan	BOPSP	1100/-			
Pothatuwa	BOPF	920/-			
Broadlands SH	BOPFSP	840/-			
Pothatuwa	FBOP	1550/-			
*New Hopewell	FBOP	1300/-			
Dellawa	FBOP1	1450/-			
Himara	FBOPF	1400/-			
Morawakkorale	FBOPF	1200/-			
*Hedigalla	FBOPF	1100/-			
*Andaradeniya Sup	FBOPF	1050/-			
Pothatuwa	FBOPF1	1200/-			
Dellawa	FBOPF1	1200/-			
Ceciliyan	FBOPF1	1200/-			
*Sithaka	FBOPF1	1150/-			
*Hidellana	FBOPF1	1150/-			
PREMIUM FLOWERY					
Aruna	FBOPFSP	2600/-			
*Peak Paradise	FBOPFEXSP	3200/-			
New Deniyaya	FBOPFEXSP1	3000/-			
DUST					
Mattakelle	Dust1	980/-			
Ceciliyan CTC	PD	700/-			
Companer	1.0	7007-			

MONTHLY AVERAGE - APRIL, 2020

Elevation	Orthodox		СТС		Orth. & CTC Combined	
	Month	To-date	Month	To-date	Month	To-date
Uva High	630.16	548.52	355.72	332.65	629.59	547.81
Western High	687.58	608.38	596.45	558.09	672.43	602.71
Uva Medium	674.12	587.47	-	-	674.12	587.47
Western Medium	596.70	539.59	534.66	501.26	578.88	529.27
Low Grown	775.30	675.56	492.71	456.43	742.49	654.69
TOTAL	720.91	638.39	524.39	485.44	696.20	621.74

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALES

	Sale of 13	Sale of 13th/14th May' 2020		Sale of 20th/21st May' 2020		
	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)	Lots	Qty. (Kgs)		
Low Grown Leafy	3,026	1,446,560	3,474	1,695,550		
Low Grown Tippy	1,568	891,810	1,814	998,509		
High & Medium	1,283	668,900	1,262	658,908		
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,275	1,290,463	1,802	995,583		
Dust	424	435,979	321	317,290		
Premium Flowery	193	39,132	225	46,905		
Ex-Estate	<u>535</u>	624,305	<u>547</u>	628,380		
Total	<u>9,304</u>	<u>5,397,149</u>	<u>9,445</u>	<u>5,341,125</u>		

Weekly Private Sale Figures (From 27.04.2020 to 02.05.2020) - 112,051.00 Kgs.

Cumulative - 1,512,087.60 Kgs.

CATALOGUES

Sale No.19 of 20th/21st May 2020

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on 30th April, 2020 at 04.30 p.m.

Sale No.20 of 26th/27th May 2020

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

Sale No.21 of 01st/02nd Jun e 2020

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on 14th May, 2020 at 04.30 p.m. but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots if reached.

Cont'd.... (P6)

SALE NO.18

BROKER'S ORDER

Auction of 13th/14th May, 2020

Leafy/Tippy/BOP1A/ Premium Flowery 1John Keells PLC 2 Leafus Commodity Publicate Ltd.

2.Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd

- 3.Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
- 4.Bartleet Produce Marketing (Pvt) Ltd
- 5.Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
- 6. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
- 7. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
- 8. Forbes & Walker Tea Broker (Pvt) Ltd

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

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

Ex-Estate

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

Crop & Weather From 27th April to 03rd May, 2020

Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions - Both regions reported rain during the week.

<u>Uva/Udapussellawa Regions</u> - Clear mornings and evening showers were experienced in both regions

Low Growns - Ruhuna and Sabaragamuwa regions experienced bright mornings and evening showers throughout the week. The Department of Meteorology predicts evening showers over most parts of the island in the week ahead in all planting regions.

<u>Crop Intake</u> - Western and Nuwara Eliya regions showed an increase in the crop intake, whilst Uva, Udapussellawa, Sabaragamuwa and Ruhuna regions maintained.

09th May, 2020 -/tp