

TEA MARKET REPORT

SALE NO:11

MARCH 12 & 13, 2024



A vertical poster for the Colombo International Tea Convention 2024. The background is a lush green tea plantation with rolling hills and a blue sky. At the top left is the Sri Lanka coat of arms, and at the top right is the Ceylon Tea logo. In the center is a large white stylized flower logo. Below it, the text reads 'COLOMBO INTERNATIONAL TEA CONVENTION 2024'. Further down, it says 'Tea A Lifestyle & A Livelihood'. The dates '24th - 26th July' are prominently displayed, followed by 'Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo - Sri Lanka'. A dark banner at the bottom contains the text 'Including Tea Estate & Factory Visits'. Below that, it says 'Registrations Open Soon'. At the very bottom, contact information is provided: 'For inquiries : +94 773865233' and 'teaconvention@ceylonteaevents.com | www.ceylonteaevents.com'.

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COMMENTS

This week's Tea Auction, namely Sale #11 of 2024 was held on March 12/13, 2024 (Tue/Wed). A total weight of 5.2 mkg's was on offer, which was a marginal increase of 0.11 mkg's when compared to the previous week's quantity. The Low Grown Leafy, Semi Leafy, Tippy/Small Leaf & Premium Flowery catalogues totaled 2.4 mkg's, while the Main Sale High & Medium segment had 0.66 mkg's. The Ex Estate category had 0.74 mkg's.

The Ex-Estate teas met with good demand and were a dearer feature. Best Western BOP/BOPF's gained Rs.50-100/- per kg and more on select invoices following special inquiry. In the below best category, improved teas appreciated Rs.100/- per kg and more whilst the others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Plainer teas appreciated again Rs.50-100/- per kg. Nuwara Eliya BOP's were irregular whilst their corresponding BOPF's sold well following quality. The majority of the Uva/Udapussellawa's on offer were dearer by Rs.50-100/- per kg. CTC Teas - High & Medium select best teas were firm to Rs.20-40/- per kg dearer whilst the balance were irregular and declined by Rs.50/- per kg and more. Low Grown varieties sold around last week's closing levels. High & Medium BP1's sold around last week levels whilst Low Grown varieties were irregular and barely steady. There was strong demand from shippers to Japan, UK and the Continent for the better teas whilst Russia, CIS and the Tea bag sector accounted for the balance teas.

Low Grown once again met with good demand this week too. The majority of the whole leaf grades maintained last levels with the exception of PEKOE's which once again were irregular. In the Small Leaf category, strong demand continued to be sustained with price levels maintaining last week levels. Bright Tippy Teas continued to meet with good demand and appreciated on last. Shippers to the Middle East, Russia and the CIS countries were fully active.

This week's auction comprised of 10,643 lots with a total quantity of 5,303,817 kgs.

In Lighter Vein

One Hole Behind ?

The catalogue wise breakdown was as follows:-

	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>
Low Grown Leafy	1,758	642,041
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,343	555,239
Low Grown Tippy	2,058	999,774
High & Medium	1,686	753,892
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,133	1,049,483
Dust	509	430,822
Premium Flowery	321	46,946
Ex-Estate	<u>835</u>	<u>825,621</u>
Total	<u>10,643</u>	<u>5,303,817</u>

A man playing on a new golf course got confused as to what hole he was on. He saw a lady playing ahead of him. He walked up to her and asked if she knew what hole he was playing. She replied, "I'm on the 7th hole, and you're a hole behind me, so you must be on the 6th hole." He thanked her and went back to his golf. On the back nine, the same thing happened, and he approached the lady again with the same request. She said, "I'm on the 14th, you are a hole behind me, so you must be on the 13th." Once again, he thanked her.

He finished his round and went into the clubhouse and saw the lady sitting at the end of the bar. He went up to her and said, "Let me buy you a drink to show my appreciation for your help." He started a conversation and asked her what kind of work she did. She said she was in sales, and he said he was in sales also. He asked what she sold.

She replied, "If I told you, you would only laugh."

"No, I wouldn't," he said.

She said, "I sell tampons."

With that he fell on the floor laughing so hard.

She said, "See, I knew you would laugh."

"That's not what I'm laughing at," he replied. "I'm a toilet paper salesman, so I'm STILL one hole behind you!"

LOW GROWN TEAS

LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY

BOP1 : In general maintained last week levels.

OP1 : Select best invoices declined by Rs.50-100/- per kg whilst the others firm on last levels. Stalky invoices were dearer by Rs.50/- per kg.

OP : Teas in the select best category held firm whilst the balance was irregularly lower by Rs.30-40/- per kg. Lower end teas were maintained.

OPA : A few select best invoices were maintained whilst the others declined following quality. Poorer sorts however met with a good demand.

PEK/PEK1 : Well-made PEK/PEK1's held firm. Below best and secondary varieties irregularly lower by Rs.50/- per kg. 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	1800-4050	1800-4000	1500-1700	1500-1700	1400-1550	1400-1550
OP1	1800-4150	1800-4250	1650-1750	1650-1750	900-1200	900-1100
OP	1500-2000	1500-1950	1200-1300	1200-1350	850-1000	840-960
OPA	1400-2200	1500-2350	1000-1200	1000-1200	825-950	820-920
PEK/PEK1	1400-2350	1400-2400	1200-1300	1200-1300	1000-1200	1000-1200

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : Well-made BOP's together with Below Best and the cleaner teas at the lower end were firm. Balance were easier following quality.

BOPF/BOPFSP : BOPF's in general were firm.

FBOP/FBOP1 : Select best and best FBOP's were firm. Clean leaf below best and the clean leaf teas at the lower end sold around last levels. Balance were irregular. However the bolder varieties declined. FBOP1's in general were firm.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : Very Tippy teas met with good demand and were firm to dearer. Best too appreciated. Below best and the teas at the lower end were firm. Few select Best FBOPF1's were firm whilst the others in general were easier.

FBOPFSP/EXSP : FBOPFSP – Firm market. High demand for top ends.
EXSP – Firm market. High demand for very Tippy teas.

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	1950-2000	1850-2000	1600-1800	1550-1750	1200-1500	1300-1500
BOPF /BOPFSP	1700-1950	1950-2300	1500-1750	1400-1850	1100-1400	1000-1300
FBOP/FBOP1	2300-3150	2250-2900	2100-2300	2100-2300	1800-2000	1700-2000
FBOPF/FBOPF1	2000-2250	2000-2550	1700-1950	1750-1950	1200-1650	1300-1650
FBOPFSP/EXSP	5500-5950	5600-5950	4000-5300	3900-5300	2900-3900	2800-3800

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Select well-made FBOP's maintained on last levels. Balance tended firm to irregularly lower. Teas at the lower end were firm on last levels.

FBOPF/FBOPF1 : Except for the few select well-made varieties, balance were irregularly lower.

PEK/PEK1 : Best on offer declined in value. Below best and the poorer types too lost Rs100/- per kg and more towards the close.

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	1750-2150	1700-2250	1250-1750	1300-1700	900-1250	950-1300
FBOPF/FBOPF1	1600-2000	1700-2150	1350-1600	1450-1700	1100-1350	1200-1450
PEK/PEK1	1350-1800	1450-1850	920-1350	950-1000	900-920	900-950

HIGH GROWNS TEAS

BOP : Best Western's were firm and Rs.50-100/- per kg dearer following special inquiry. In the Below Best category, improved sorts appreciated by Rs.100-150/- per kg and more following special inquiry, whilst the others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Plainer coloury sorts gained by Rs. 50/- per kg and more for select invoices, whilst the others sold around last week's levels. Nuwara Eliya's were irregular. Uda Pussellawa's were Rs.50/- per kg dearer. Uva's gained by up to Rs.100/- per kg

BOPF: Best Western's sold around last week's levels with select invoices appreciating by Rs.50/- per kg and more following special inquiry. In the Below Best category, a selection of improved teas appreciated by Rs.100/- per kg and more, whilst the others were dearer to a lesser extent. Plainer sorts appreciated by Rs.100/- per kg. Nuwara Eliya's continued to sell following quality. Uda Pussellawa's appreciated by Rs.50/- per kg and more. Uva's gained by Rs.40-60/- 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	1480-1850	1420-1900	1500-1750	1500-1850
Below Best Westerns	1280-1440	1240-1340	1380-1480	1340-1440
Plainer Westerns	1100-1240	1080-1200	1250-1320	1180-1280
Nuwara Eliyas	1600-1700	1700	1400-1650	1400-1650
Brighter UdaPussellawas	1100-1120	1200-1220	1220-1280	1180-1200
Other Uda Pussellawas	1060-1100	920	1120-1200	1100-1160
Best Uva's	1260-1320	1250	1260-1300	1220-1320
Other Uva's	N/A	1120-1180	1000-1180	1060-1200

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP : Firm and dearer.

BOPF : Better sorts appreciated by Rs.50/- per kg, whilst the others were 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	1160-1850	1080-1850	890-1320	1020-1280

CTC TEAS

HIGH GROWN:

BP1 - Continued to sell well.

PF1 - Select best were firm and Rs.20-40/- per kg dearer whilst the others were lower by a similar margin.

MEDIUM GROWN:

BP1 - Irregular and sold mostly around last week's levels.

PF1 - Better sorts declined by Rs.50/- per kg and more whilst the others were irregular and lower to a lesser extent.

LOW GROWN:

BP1 - Irregular and barely steady.

PF1 - Sold around last week's closing levels.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)	BP1		PF1	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
High	1080 - 1360	1360	1100 - 1320	1120-1280
Medium	710 - 1280	750-1400	710 - 1300	730-1300
Low	1380	890-1500	700 - 1500	680-1550

OFF GRADES

FGS/FGS1 : Select Best Liquoring FNGS/FNGS1 appreciated Rs.75-100/- per kg. Best teas dearer by Rs.50-75/- per kg. Poorer types were firm to dearer by Rs.25-50/- per kg whilst well-made Low Grown FNGS/FNGS1 firm to lower Rs.20/- . Others dearer Rs.25-50/-.

BM : Well-made teas held firm on last Best types lost Rs.25-50/- per kg. Poorer varieties were little irregular. Below best types firm to dearer Rs.10-20/- per kg.

BOP1A : PEK1's reducers lost Rs.50-75/- per kg whilst best BOP1A's lower by Rs.20-40/- per kg. Below best and poorer types firm to lower by Rs.10-20/- 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)	1150-1350	920-1300	790-890	790-920	800-930	800-970
Good Fannings (CTC)	730-830	750-850	700-760	720-820	680-790	720-850
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	680-750	650-720	680-770	650-750	680-770	650-750
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	820-900	820-940	830-910	820-950	850-1350	850-1500
Other BM's	670-720	670-720	670-800	670-820	670-830	670-850
Best BOP1As	780-850	780-880	780-870	780-890	950-1450	800-1450
Other BOP1As	730-820	730-830	720-820	730-840	720-840	720-850

DUST

DUST/DUST1: High grown liquoring Dust/Dust1's gained Rs.50-100/- per kg due to high demand from local buyers whilst their secondaries and below best types were fully firm to dearer. Low Grown clean Dust/Dust1's met with strong demand and gained Rs.80-100/- per kg.

PD : High grown and Mid grown teas were fully firm to dearer whilst the Low Grown types irregular and mostly lower.

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)	860-1800	840-1550	760-1500	800-1440	800-980	780-1500
Good Primary PD (CTC)	830-1280	820-1320	800-1340	820-1380	780-1440	740-1400
Secondary Dust	780-1260	730-1240	740-1000	780-840	800-1140	740-1220

WESTERN MEDIUM

Craighead	BOP	1850/-
Kenilworth	BOP	1850/-
*Harangalla	BOP	1800/-
Dartry Valley	BOP	1800/-
Dombagastalawa	BOPSP	1800/-
*Ancoombra	BOPSP	1750/-
*Hatale	BOPSP	1700/-
Craighead	BOPF/BOPFSP	1700/-
*Uplands	BOPF/BOPFSP	1550/-
New Rothschild	BOP1	2200/-
Dartry Valley	BOP1	2200/-
Kenilworth	BOP1	2150/-
*Ingurugalla	BOP1	2100/-
Dartry Valley	FBOP/FBOP1	2150/-
*Ancoombra	FBOP/FBOP1	2100/-
*Hatale	FBOP/FBOP1	2100/-
New Rothschild	FBOP/FBOP1	2100/-
Dartry Valley	FBOPF/FBOPF1	2000/-
*Hatale	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1950/-
*Dartry Valley	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1950/-
*Meezan	OP/OPA	1550/-
Craighead	OP/OPA	1550/-
*Dartry Valley	OP1	1950/-
Harangalla	OP1	1950/-
*Hatale	OP1	1900/-
*Ingurugala	OP1	1850/-
*Meezan	PEK/PEK1	1800/-

WESTERN HIGH

Somerset	BOP	1850/-
Great Western	BOPSP	1700/-
Somerset	BOPF/BOPFSP	1750/-
Robgill	BOPF/BOPFSP	1750/-
Torrington	BOP1	1950/-
Venture	BOP1	1950/-
Uda Radella	FBOP/FBOP1	1800/-
Kirkoswald	FBOP/FBOP1	1800/-
Inverness	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1850/-
Glenloch	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1850/-
Bambrakelly	OP/OPA	1500/-
Venture	OP1	1700/-
Somerset	PEK/PEK1	1750/-

NUWARA ELIYA

Lovers Leap	BOP	1600/-
Kenmare	BOPF/BOPFSP	960/-
Court Lodge	FBOP/FBOP1	1850/-
Court Lodge	PEK/PEK1	1950/-

CTC TEAS**HIGH GROWN**

Dunsinane CTC	PF1	1320/-
Dunsinane CTC	BP1	1360/-

MEDIUM GROWN

New Peacock CTC	PF1	1300/-
Delta CTC	BP1	1280/-

LOW GROWN

Himgalgoda CTC	PF1	1500/-
Kalubowitiyana CTC	PF1	1500/-
Ceciliyan CTC	PF1	1380/-

UVA MEDIUM

Demodera 'S'	BOP	1750/-
Glen Alpin	BOP	1750/-
Dickwella	BOP	1750/-
*Halpewatte Uva	BOPSP	1700/-
Spring Valley	BOPSP	1700/-
Dickwella	BOPF/BOPFSP	1750/-
Demodera 'S'	BOP1	2050/-
High Spring	BOP1	2050/-
Aruna Passara	FBOP/FBOP1	2050/-
Ambrosia Uva	FBOP/FBOP1	2050/-
Haputale Super	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1800/-
Dickwella	OP/OPA	1650/-
Telbedde	OP1	1950/-
Wewesse	OP1	1950/-
Misty Uva	PEK/PEK1	1700/-
*Halpewatte Uva	PEK/PEK1	1650/-

UVA HIGH

Uvakellie	BOP	1440/-
Craig	BOPSP	1750/-
Aislabay	BOPF/BOPFSP	1500/-
Glenanore	BOP1	2050/-
Glenanore	FBOP/FBOP1	2050/-
Ellathota Uva	FBOP/FBOP1	2050/-
Mount Uva	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1800/-
Craig	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1800/-
Spring Valley	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1800/-
Glenanore	OP/OPA	1550/-
Mount Uva	OP1	1850/-
Craig	OP1	1850/-
Craig	PEK/PEK1	1700/-

UDAPUSSELLAWA

High Forest	BOP	1120/-
Blairlmond	BOPSP	940/-
Kirklees	BOPF/BOPFSP	1280/-
Alma	FBOP/FBOP1	2000/-
Delmar	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1800/-
Alma	FBOPF/FBOPF1	1800/-
*Delmar	OP/OPA	1480/-
Alma	OP1	1800/-
Alma	PEK/PEK1	1700/-

OFF GRADES

Bogoda	BP	1650/-
Hingalgoda CTC	PF	1440/-
*Avisawella	BM	1360/-
*Aldora	BM	1340/-
Gunawardana	BM	1340/-
*Aldora	BM	1320/-
Holyrood	FNGS/FNGS1	1380/-
Wanarajah	FNGS/FNGS1	1380/-
Agraouvah	FNGS/FNGS1	1380/-
Wattegodde	FNGS/FNGS1	1380/-
New Spring View 'A'	BOP1A	1550/-
*Senpipi	BOP1A	1480/-
*Aldora	BOP1A	1480/-

LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES

Gunawardana	BOP1	4050/-
Pothotuwa	OP1	4150/-
Galatara	OP	2100/-
Liyonta	OPA	2200/-
Lumbini	PEKOE	2350/-
Lumbini	PEKOE1	2350/-

LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES

Ceciliyan	BOP	2000/-
Lumbini	BOP	2000/-
Hidellana	BOP	1950/-
*Mahaliyadda	BOP	1900/-
Ceciliyan	BOPSP	1900/-
*Hadigalla	BOPSP	1900/-
*Mahaliyadda	BOPSP	1850/-
*Allen Valley	BOPSP	1850/-
*Sithaka	BOPF	1950/-
*Hidellana	BOPF	1900/-
New Gurugodella	BOPFSP	1850/-
Parakaduwa Super	BOPFSP	1850/-
New Spring View	BOPFSP	1850/-
*Wattehena	BOPFSP	1800/-
*Andaradeniya Super	BOPFSP	1800/-
*Sithaka	FBOP	3150/-
Gunawardana	FBOP1	2650/-
Ceciliyan	FBOP1	2300/-
New Vithanakanda	FBOP1	2300/-
*Hidellana	FBOP1	2250/-
Sandalie	FBOPF	2250/-
*Hadigalla	FBOPF	2200/-
*New Laksakanda	FBOPF	2100/-
*Lenama Hills	FBOPF	2100/-
*Gangani	FBOPF	2100/-
Lumbini	FBOPF1	2200/-
Pothotuwa	FBOPF1	2200/-

PREMIUM FLOWERY

New Batuwangala	FBOPFSP	5650/-
New Falcon Lanka	FBOPFEXSP	5950/-
IVY Hills	FBOPFEXSP1	6650/-

DUST

Mattakelle	DUST	1260/-
Labookellie	DUST	1260/-
Mattakelle	DUST1	1800/-
Suduwelipothahena	CTC PD	1440/-

COLOMBO AUCTION – WEEKLY GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.10 OF 06TH March, 2024

	2024			2023	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Year to Date
Uva High Grown	1,220.17	1,223.05	1,066.85	1,168.34	1,237.67
Western High Grown	1,285.86	1,293.55	1,166.53	1,311.18	1,467.92
High Grown	1,268.92	1,275.68	1,142.82	1,275.12	1,407.27
Uva Medium	1,282.21	1,282.90	1,139.21	1,133.21	1,247.87
Western Medium	1,186.67	1,195.35	1,114.55	1,101.01	1,215.50
Medium Grown	1,214.83	1,220.89	1,121.36	1,109.89	1,224.79
Low Grown (Orthodox)	1,424.27	1,424.27	1,429.86	1,316.20	1,543.71
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	1,397.54	1,391.24	1,404.54	1,296.94	1,517.04
Total	1,344.39	1,341.46	1,308.87	1,267.04	1,452.64

Private Sale Figures (04.03.2024 – 09.03.2024) - 140,193.00 kgs

Cumulative - 1,168,614.40 kgs

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALE

	<u>Sale of 19th/20th Mar. '24</u>		<u>Sale of 26th/27th Mar. '24</u>	
	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Qty. (Kgs)</u>
Low Grown Leafy	1,650	604,414	1,762	656,007
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,256	520,127	1,393	578,760
Low Grown Tippy	1,916	913,443	2,038	980,160
High & Medium	1,679	761,648	1,845	869,590
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,007	999,001	2,095	1,066,859
Dust	520	451,279	497	426,767
Premium Flowery	272	38,260	322	44,586
Ex-Estate	<u>848</u>	<u>847,594</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>881,748</u>
Total	<u>10,148</u>	<u>5,135,766</u>	<u>10,822</u>	<u>5,504,477</u>

FUTURE CATALOGUES CLOSURE

Sale No.14 of 02nd /03rd April, 2024

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **14th March, 2024 at 04.30 p.m.**

Sale No.15 of 16th /17th April, 2024

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **21st March, 2024 at 04.30 p.m.**

Sale No.16 of 22nd /24th April, 2024

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **28th March, 2024 at 04.30 p.m.**

SALE NO. 12

AUCTION OF 19TH/20TH MARCH, 2024

BROKERS' SELLING ORDER

Leafy/Semi Leafy/Tippy/BOP1A/ Premium Flowery

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

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

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

Ex-Estate

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

Crop & Weather

For the period 05th to 11th March 2024

Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions:

The Western and Nuwara Eliya regions reported sunny weather throughout the week. According to the Department of Meteorology, misty conditions are expected in the Western Region in the week ahead.

Uva/ Udapussellawa Region:

Bright weather was reported in the Uva and Uda Pussellawa regions throughout the week. Misty mornings are expected in both regions in the week ahead according to the Department of Meteorology.

Low Grown:

Sunny weather was reported in the Low Grown Region throughout the week. The Department of Meteorology expects evening showers in the Low Grown Region in the week ahead.

Crop Intake:

The Uva and Udapussellawa regions maintained the crop intake, whilst the Western, Nuwara Eliya and Low Grown regions showed a decrease.

WORLD CROP STATISTICS (MKGS)

Country	Month	2022	2023	Difference +/-	To-date 2022	To-date 2023	Difference +/-
KENYA	Dec.	450.33	522.92	72.59	535.04	570.26	35.2
MALAWI	Dec.	4.60	4.00	-0.60	47.70	43.30	-4.4
NORTH INDIA	Dec.	50.00	59.8	9.80	1134.50	1131.70	-2.80

Country	Month	2023	2024	Difference +/-	To-date 2023	To-date 2024	Difference +/-
BANGLADESH	Jan.	0.40	0.20	-0.200	0.40	0.20	-0.20
SRI LANKA	Jan.	18.46	18.73	0.27	18.46	18.73	0.27
SOUTH INDIA	Jan.	13.60	17.00	3.40	13.60	17.00	3.40

“Africa Tea Brokers Bulletin of Statistic

OTHER MARKETS**MALAWI MARKET REPORT****SALE NO.11 HELD ON 13/03/2024**

There was fair but selective demand at easier rates for the 8340 packages on offer.

BP1 - Tended firm where sold.

PD - Met selective interest and were up to 4USC easier following quality.

D1 - Continued to attract good interest at irregular rates.

PF1SC - Met improved interest at firm rates.

Secondaries were generally firm on last.

WEATHER/CROP FOR THE WEEK ENDING 10TH MARCH, 2024

Warm to hot during the day and warm nights weather conditions were experienced this week. Scattered rainfall were reported in Thyolo and Mulanje, total average rainfall up to 55 mm and 21 mm respectively.

Green leaf intakes was steady.

TEA BROKERS CENTRAL AFRICA LIMITED

BANGLADESH AUCTION

SALE NO. 46 OF MONDAY 11th MARCH, 2024

CTC LEAF : 40,164 packages of tea on offer continued to meet with a restricted demand.

BROKENS : All descriptions met with a much less demand at lower rates with heavier withdrawals. BLF teas met with some demand at easier rates with a lot of withdrawals.

FANNINGS : Similarly, all varieties met with much less demand and prices eased further. There were heavy withdrawals. BLF teas met with some demand at easier rates with a lot of withdrawals.

DUST : 10,032 packages of tea on offer met with less demand. Only a few good liquoring Dusts were well competed for and sold around last levels. Mediums were easier with heavy withdrawals. Plain and BLF Dusts met with much less demand with huge withdrawals. Blenders lent only fair support with some interest from the Loose tea buyers.

COMMENTS : Offerings were of end of season quality which witnessed very restricted demand. Blenders were more selective whilst Loose tea buyers lent some support at the lower end of the market. Withdrawals were heavier this week.

Dusts met with much less demand at easier rates.

Quotations – This Week – (In Taka)

Brokens	This Week	Last Week	Fannings	This Week	Last Week	Dust	This Week	Last Week
Best	NQTA	190-200n	Best	NQTA	200-205	PD	055-216	078-212
Good	NQTA	165-175	Good	NQTA	165-175	RD	060-226	065-326
Good Med	140-150	145-155	Good Med	145-150	145-155	D	075-258	062-332
Medium	120-130	120-130	Medium	120-130	125-135	CD	098-337	115-321
Plain	055-085	055-085	Plain	055-085	055-085	BLF	085	090-095
BLF	080-110	080-115	BLF	080-110	080-115			

MOMBASA TEA AUCTION MARKET REPORT

Sale No.10 of 04th & 05th MARCH, 2024

There was good general demand for the 314,020 packages (21,172,184.00 kilos) on offer; 47.74% was unsold.

MARKETS

Pakistan Packers, Bazaar, Yemen and other Middle Eastern countries showed strong support and were dominant while **Egyptian Packers** and **UK** maintained good interest. **Afghanistan, South Sudan and Russia** improved enquiry with **Kazakhstan** and **other CIS states** selective. **Local Packers** were outbid with **Iran** and **Sudan** absent. **Somalia** were active at the lower end of the market.

OFFERINGS

Leaf Grades - 183,600 packages (12,032,719.00 kilos) – 52.57% unsold.
 Dust Grades - 105,720 packages (7,882,911.00 kilos) – 47.37% unsold.
 Secondary Grades - 24,700 packages (1,256,554.00 kilos) – 13.44% unsold.

LEAF GRADES (M2)

BP1:

Best – Varied between steady to dearer by up to USC32 with select teas appreciating by USC77 to easier by up to USC40.

Brighter – Were firm to USC19 above previous levels to easier by up to USC28 for some lines.

Mediums – KTDA mediums were steady with selected invoices advancing by up to USC30; older offerings sold for as low as USC100. Plantation mediums shed up to USC25 but a few lines gained up to USC21.

Lower Medium – Were irregular varying between steady to USC29 dearer to easier by up to USC20.

Plainer – Met more enquiry and gained up to USC21 with select teas advancing by up to USC50 but some lines lost up to USC12.

PF1:

Best – Were dearer by up to USC26 with only a few teas shedding up to USC21.

Brighter – Appreciated by up to USC26.

Mediums – KTDA mediums varied between steady to USC7 dearer to easier by up to USC10 while plantation mediums were irregular ranging from firm to USC4 above last levels to easier by a similar margin with a few invoices discounted by USC14.

Lower Medium – Ranged between steady to dearer by up to USC30 to USC8 below previous rates.

Plainer – Were irregular varying between firm to USC12 dearer to easier by up to USC14.

CTC QUOTATIONS	BP1 – USC	PF1 – USC
Best	140 - 372	332 - 472
Good	120 - 273	333 - 358
Good Medium	130 - 277	312 - 348
Medium (KTDA)	100 - 282	120 - 297
Medium (Plantations)	139 - 195	132 - 238
Lower Medium	100 - 173	080 - 172
Plainer	088 - 152	050 - 124

DUST GRADES (M1)**PDUST:**

Best – Were mainly firm to USC16 dearer but some teas shed up to USC26.

Brighter – Steady to USC21 above last levels, however the lower category shed up to USC157 on older offerings.

Mediums – KTDA mediums were firm to USC20 easier with plantation mediums varying between USC4 dearer to easier by up to USC6.

Lower Medium – Irregular and ranged between steady to USC15 dearer to USC18 below previous levels.

Plainer – Met irregular interest varying between firm to USC22 dearer to easier by up to USC16.

DUST1:

Best – Ranged between firm to USC14 dearer to easier by up to USC26.

Brighter – Were irregular with some teas appreciating by up to USC28 while others lost up to USC29.

Mediums – KTDA mediums were firm to USC19 easier while plantation mediums were steady to easier by up to USC31 but select lines gained USC48.

Lower Medium –ranged between firm to USC11 dearer to easier by up to USC14.

Plainer – Advanced by up to USC24 with selected teas gaining USC50 but a few lines lost up to USC13.

CTC QUOTATIONS	PDUST – USC	DUST1 – USC
Best	322 - 508	297 - 338
Good	334 - 345	270 - 315
Good Medium	140 – 343	150 - 325
Medium (KTDA)	120 - 286	120 - 293
Medium (Plantations)	120 - 240	120 - 248
Lower Medium	092 - 186	100 - 172
Plainer	052 - 120	064 - 129

SECONDARY GRADES (S1)

In the Secondary Catalogues, best BPs eased while others were steady with PFs dearer. Clean well sorted coloury Fannings held value with similar DUSTs about firm. Other Fannings were irregular but on balance dearer while DUSTs gained. BMFs were readily absorbed.

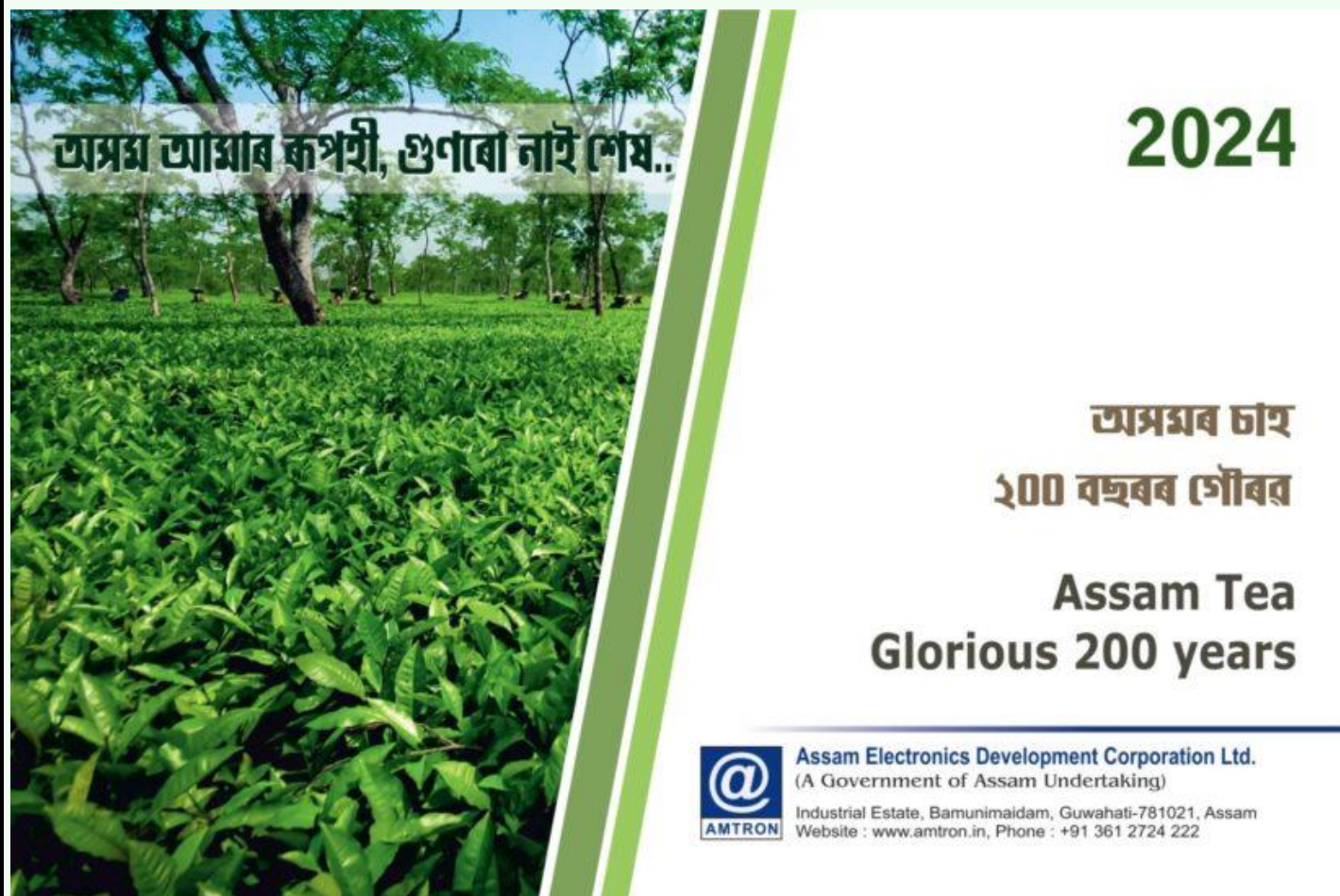
SECONDARY QUOTATIONS (USC)	BP / BP2	PF / PF2	FNGS1/FNGS	DUST / DUST2	BMF
Best / Good	200 - 268	193 - 270	107 - 245	110 - 304	095
Good Medium / Medium	100 - 114	-	125 – 158	140 – 253	-
Lower Medium	086 - 144	074 – 158	075 - 158	048 - 107	060 - 084
Plainer	078 - 108	060 - 111	061 – 098	038 – 091	056 - 080

13th March, 2024

-/tp

INTERNATIONAL TEA NEWS

It's the Story of Tea on the Table Calendar



What would the world do without tea!

That was an important line from a chapter in the textbook, which our high school teacher pronounced dramatically. Our beloved English teacher also threw light on Sydney Smith, the 18th-century British writer, who penned the chapter adding many reflective sentences like- Thank God for tea! I am glad I was not born before tea, etc. But till then, we had partial ideas about the tea and its garden, not to speak of varied ways of preparing it. Being a resident of Kamrup, I never saw a tea garden till my college days and knew only one way of preparing tea– that's with milk and sugar. My idea of a tea garden along with the plantation community was limited to some books, novels, and Assamese movies only.

So for me (probably for many in western Assam) tea remains an unknown world that needs to be discovered. Various reporting assignments led me to tea plantations in the eastern part of our State from time to time, but I continued nurturing a fantasy of living in one big tea garden for days with no outer communications.

That instinct attracts me to anything that narrates the tea stories. So, the table calendar, published by AMTRON (Assam Electronics Development Corporation Ltd, an Assam government undertaking as a nodal implementing agency for the information technology department) for the Gregorian calendar year 2024, dedicated to Assam Tea enriched with a legacy of 200 glorious years caught my eye.

2024

DECEMBER



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Holiday: 2nd - Asom Divas(Su-Ka-Pha Divas)
25th - Christmas Day

Restricted: 5th - Sikkul Ruoi (Harvest Festival of Hmar Community)
10th - Martyr's Day, 12th - Gaan Ngai, 24th - Christmas Eve

The Future of Tea

Tea has come a long way from the traditional bamboo mesh to the bamboo pipe and dheki to the present-day technology-driven manufacturing process. Assam tea's production has immensely strengthened the overall industry. But, climate change is likely to have an unforeseen influence on tea worldwide. Global average temperature changes are predicted to be within the range of 1.1 degrees to 5.4 degrees Celsius by 2100. This will differ considerably from region to region, with an exponential rise in some areas and a decline in others. Studies indicate that the suitability of several existing tea-growing regions might decrease by 22.5% by 2075 in countries like China and Kenya. Though climate change would create losses, gains, and shifts of climate suitability for tea habitats, further studies are required to arrive at any conclusion. But the good news so far is that though there is possibility of reduction in suitable areas for tea cultivation in certain countries, such a possibility is less for Assam as the Assam variety is originally native to dry and warmer climate.

Prepared in both English and Assamese languages, the attractive calendar put a voluminous text along with splendid paintings on the history of tea and its enormous contribution to Assamese society in particular. It's a decade-long initiative of AMTRON table calendars with the concept developed by senior officer Basanta Kumar Barthakur, text and research by Samudra Gupta Kashyap, and colorful illustrations by Naba Pratim Das. The previous theme-based publications heightened on varieties of intriguing issues— like the illustrious sons of Assam (from Srimanta Sankardev to Lakshminath Bezbarua to Jyotiprasad Agarwala to Bhupen Hazarika, etc), Vaishnavite monasteries of eastern Bharat, Bapu's visit, etc, where the contents were reared by Sivanath Barman, Pradip Jyoti Mahanta, Charu Kamal Hazarika, Kamal Kotoky, Ramon Bora, etc.

Assam today produces nearly 700 million kg of tea annually, which is around half of India's total tea production. Tea generates considerable revenue for Assam, apart from earning foreign exchange for India equivalent to Rs 3,000 crore. Apart from creating a global brand image for Assam, it prompted setting up the railways in the region primarily to move manufactured tea to the river and sea ports for export. As the railway tracks were laid, it also led to the discovery of petroleum in Assam. While the Kacharis and some other indigenous people were the first to work as laborers in the tea estates, thousands of laborers were later brought from Bengal, the Chotanagpur plateau, and other parts, according to the calendar text.

Having been brought to Assam to work in tea plantations, over ten lakh people of these communities have not only become an integral part of the greater Assamese society but also impacted public life. Despite being uprooted from their original places and facing extreme poverty as well as exploitation during the colonial era, they made Assam their home. Taking part in the freedom movement against the British colonial forces, several members of these communities sacrificed their lives. Mungri or Malati Orang happens to be the first woman martyr of Assam in the freedom struggles, the text narrated.

Tea has come a long way from the traditional bamboo mesh to the bamboo pipe to the present-day technology-driven manufacturing process. Now global warming and climate change are apprehended to have a negative impact on tea production. Various studies indicate that many existing tea-growing nations may face a decrease in tea production by 2075. But as the Assam variety of tea is native and possesses the capacity to face a dry and warmer climate, it will survive for many centuries to come even though facing the decrease in production, added the text. Definitely, it's an optimistic message for hundreds of thousands of large and small tea growers in Assam, concluded the narration.

Sabah holds International Tea Gathering



Chan (left) officiating the 44th International Tea Gathering, while Ho looks on.

KOTA KINABALU (Mar 11): The 44th International Tea Gathering, which was held at Magellan Sutura here on Sunday, has potential to advance the tea industry by promoting its growth and prosperity.

Datuk Lee Jack Son, the person in charge of the event, said more than 1,024 visitors from China, Macao, Hong Kong, Ukraine and Canada were in attendance at the programme, which was organised by Hangjia Tea-Dao Research Society.

He said the group, which arrived on Saturday and will be leaving on Thursday, will also be exploring other parts of Sabah such as Ranau, Pulau Mantanani and Pulau Gaya in a blend of Chinese tea celebration and holidaying.

“Their visit was actually initiated by Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor’s business trip to Shenzhen in November last year, where he informed the community there about our state of Sabah.

“His visit is one of the reasons the annual event is held in Sabah this time – initially they wanted to host it in Bali,” he told reporters after the event.

Kota Kinabalu Member of Parliament Datuk Chan Foong Hin who officiated the 44th International Tea Gathering, said the event shows great potential and prospect to the tourism sector, especially if each visitor spends RM3,000 during their trip here.

He said the event also provides a valuable opportunity for knowledge exchange and collaboration among industry experts, researchers and policymakers.

“The tea culture in Malaysia is a vibrant tapestry woven with diverse influences, traditions and rituals, reflecting the country’s multicultural heritage and love for this beloved beverage.

“By sharing best practices, addressing challenges, and exploring new trends, we can collectively advance the tea industry and promote its growth and prosperity worldwide.

“May this programme inspire us to continue our shared commitment to the art and science of tea, enriching lives and uplifting communities around the world,” said the Deputy Plantation and Commodities Minister.

Also present was Hangjia Tea-Dao Research Society president Ho Tsai Ping.
