

COLOMBO TEA TRADERS' ASSOCIATION

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CIRCULAR NO. 40 OF 2020

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To All Seller and Broker Members:

Grades Nomenclature with Corresponding Minimum and Maximum Packing Densities

Reference is made to Circular No. 29(A) of 2013 of October 4, 2013 and Circular No. 37 of 2017 dated December 21, 2017 addressed to all Seller and Broker members on the subject of Rules for Cataloguing of the Teas for Auction.

The three-member sub committee appointed by the CTTA to study the possibility of reducing the lot size per auction came up with certain recommendations which were tabled at the monthly meeting of the association held in May 2020. The views of the stakeholders were then sought. There was agreement in principle only to reintroduce the minimum packing densities for the grades listed on the "Grades Nomenclature".

Accordingly, this circular titled "Grades Nomenclature with corresponding minimum and maximum packing densities" is hereby issued for implementation with effect from Sale No.28 of 21st / 22nd July 2020 catalogues for which are scheduled to close on 02nd July 2020. **In the period of 3 months following the implementation date, a further assessment will be made during which the packing density ranges will be strictly monitored and where necessary will be adjusted. It must be noted that the packing density range per grade is too wide and leaves room for grades descriptions to be out of line with the nomenclature.**

It will be the responsibility of the brokers to ensure that minimum and maximum packing densities are strictly adhered to.

**GRADES NOMENCLATURE WITH CORRESPONDING MINIMUM & MAXIMUM
PACKING DENSITIES**

ORTHODOX BLACK TEA – EX ESTATE TEAS

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. BOP | Neat in style and of medium size, devoid of fine particles [Fannings and Dust] |
| | Min: 48 kg. Max: 52 kg. |
| | |
| BOP Sp. | Much superior to and neater than BOP |
| | Min: 42 kg. Max: 52 kg. |
| | NB. In terms of Cataloguing Rules, to be treated as one grade |
| | |
| 2. BOPF | Neat in style, smaller than BOP and devoid of fine Dust particles |
| | Min: 55 kg. Max: 58 kg. |
| | |
| BOPF Sp. | Much superior to and neater than BOPF |
| | Min: 45 kg. Max: 55 kg. |
| | NB. In terms of Cataloguing Rules, to be treated as one grade |
| | |
| 3. FBOP | Smaller and shorter than BOP1 and larger than FBOPF1, preferably with a presence of tips, |
| | Min: 36 kg. Max 46 kg. |
| | |
| 4. PEKOE - | a) Orthodox/Rotor vane manufacture: Neat, with fair twist, larger than BOP and could be choppy
b) Leafy manufacture: Shotty, curly or semi curly leaf of large size |
| | Min: 45 kg. Max: 52 kg. |
| | |
| 5. PEKOE 1 | Shotty, curly, smaller in size than PEKOE |
| | Min: 36 kg. Max: 47 kg. |
| | NB. In terms of Cataloguing Rules, to be treated as one grade in Ex Estate catalogues only. |

NB. In the event above grades remain unsold at a given auction and subsequently catalogued as reprints in the H&M catalogue, the "Minimum" and "maximum" packing densities pertaining to "Ex-estate" will prevail only for such grades.

ORTHODOX BLACK TEA – MAIN SALE TEAS

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1. BOP | Neat in style and of medium size, devoid of fine particles [Fannings and Dust] |
| | Min: 38 kg. Max: 53 kg. |
| BOP Sp. | Much superior to and neater than BOP |
| | Min: 38 kg. Max: 52 kg. |
| | NB. In terms of Cataloguing Rules, to be treated as one grade |
| 2. BOPA | Flaky and larger than BOP |
| | Min: 30 kg. Max: 45 kg. |
| 3. BOPF | Neat in style, smaller than BOP and devoid of fine Dust particles |
| | Min: 40 kg. Max: 56 kg. |
| BOPF Sp. | Much superior to and neater than BOPF |
| | Min: 42 kg. Max: 55 kg. |
| | NB. In terms of Cataloguing Rules, to be treated as one grade |
| 4. OP 1 | Long, wiry and well twisted |
| | Min: 26 kg. Max: 36 kg. |
| 5. OP | Less wiry than OP1 and better twisted [less bold] than OPA |
| | Min: 22 kg. Max: 32 kg. |
| 6. OPA | Long and bold with fair twist and preferably without excessive stalk |
| | Min: 20 kg. Max: 30kg. |
| 7. BOP 1 | Wiry, twisted and shorter than OP1 |
| | Min: 30 kg. Max: 40 kg. |
| 8. FBOP 1 | Longer than FBOP, twisted and wiry, preferably with a presence of tips |
| | Min: 30 kg. Max: 42kg. |

9. FBOP Smaller and shorter than BOP1 and larger than FBOPF1, preferably with a presence of tips,
Min: 32 kg. Max: 45 kg.
10. FBOPF Similar in size to BOP and preferably with a presence of tips
Min: 40 kg. Max: 50 kg.
11. FBOPF 1 Larger than FBOPF and smaller than FBOP, preferably with a presence of tips
Min: 36 kg. Max: 52 kg.

Highly Tippy Teas (Full size Sacks)

- 12(a). FBOPF Sp. Similar in size to FBOPF or FBOPF1, with a fair presence of tips
Min:30 kg. Max: 55 kg.
- 13(a). FBOPF Ex. Sp. Similar in size to FBOPF Sp., with an attractive show of golden or silver tips
Min: 20 kg. Max: 52 kg.
- 14(a). FBOPF Ex. Sp.1 Larger and leafier than FBOPF Ex. Sp., with an attractive show of golden or silver tips
Min: 20 kg. Max: 52 kg.

Highly Tippy Teas (Half size Sacks)

- 12(b). FBOPF Sp. Similar in size to FBOPF or FBOPF1, with a fair presence of tips
Min:15 kg. Max: 28 kg.
- 13(b). FBOPF Ex. Sp. Similar in size to FBOPF Sp., with an attractive show of golden or silver tips
Min: 10 kg. Max: 26 kg.
- 14(b). FBOPF Ex. Sp. 1 Larger and leafier than FBOPF Ex. Sp., with an attractive show of golden or silver tips.
Min: 10 kg. Max: 26 kg.

15. PEKOE a) Orthodox/Rotorvane manufacture: Neat, with fair twist, larger than BOP and could be choppy
b) Leafy manufacture: Shotty, curly or semi curly leaf of large size

Min: 28 kg. Max: 45 kg.

- PEKOE 1 Shotty, curly, smaller in size than PEKOE

Min: 32 kg. Max: 47 kg.

NB. In terms of Cataloguing Rules, to be treated as one grade in Ex Estate catalogues and separate grades in Main Sale catalogues

ORTHODOX BLACK TEA – DUST GRADES

16. DUST1 Grainy, even, well-made and smaller than BOPF

Min: 50 kg. Max: 65 kg.

17. DUST Similar in size to DUST1, with flaky leaf but reasonably clean

Min: 58 kg. Max: 65 kg.

ORTHODOX BLACK TEA – OFF GRADES & BOP1A GRADE

18. BP Choppy and hard, with some stalk and fibre

Min: 35 kg. Max: 60 kg.

19. BOP1A Semi-leafy and flaky, without excessive stalk and fibre

Min: 25 kgs Max: 35 kg.

20. BM Mixed and flaky, with stalk and fibre

Min: 24 kg. Max: 40 kg.

21. BT Larger than BM, ragged and mixed leaf of varying sizes, with or without stalk and fibre

Min: 22 kg . Max: 33 kg.

22. FNGS1 Small, flaky leaf, without excessive fibre

Min: 50 kg. Max: 58 kg.

23. FNGS Similar to FNGS1, uneven and fibrous

Min: 40 kg. Max: 50 kg.

CTC TEA

1. BP1 Corresponding in size to high grown BOP, but granular

Min: 46 kg. Max: 53 kg.

2. BPS Larger particle size than BP1

Min: 44 kg. Max: 50 kg.

3. PF1 Corresponding in size to high grown BOPF, but granular

Min: 50 kg. Max: 60 kg.

4. OF Smaller than BP1 but larger than PF1

Min: 46 kg. Max: 52 kg.

5. PF **[Off Grade]** Similar to or slightly larger than PF1 and may contain some fibre

Min: 45kg. Max: 55 kg.

6. PD Grainy and smaller than PF1

Min: 60 kg. Max: 65 kg.

7. DUST1 Less grainy than PD and clean

Min: 55 kg. Max: 65 kg.

8. DUST **[Off Grade]** Inferior to DUST1 and may be powdery & fibrous

Min: 60 kg. Max: 65 kg.