

Sri Lanka Tea Board Standards for "Sri Lankan Origin Tea"

1) Basic Requirement: ISO 3720: 1986/ Corrigendum 1: 1992(E) & 2:2004 (E)

<u>Name of Standard</u>	<u>Accepted Limit</u>	<u>Test Method Ref.</u>
1. Water Extract	min 32 % (m/m)	ISO 9768:1994
2. Total Ash	min. 4% (m/m) - max. 8% (m/m)	ISO 1575:1987
3. Water - soluble ash of total ash	min. 45% (m/m)	ISO 1576:1988
4. Alkalinity of water-soluble ash (As KOH)	min. 1.0% (m/m) - max. 3.0% (m/m)	ISO 1578:1975
5. Acid insoluble ash	max. 1.0% (m/m)	ISO 1577:1987
6. Crude fibre	max. 16.5% (m/m)	ISO 15598:1999

SRI LANKA TEA BOARD GUIDELINES

1) Foreign Matter

- Completely free

(Teas should comply with ISO 3720 parameters specified above)

2) Heavy Metals:

		<u>Test Method Ref.</u>
1. Iron	- max. 500 mg/kg	AOAC: 975.03 (1995)
2. Copper	- max. 100 mg/kg	AOAC: 971.20 (1995)
3. Lead	- max. 5 mg/kg	AOAC: 972.25 (1995)
4. Zinc	- max. 100 mg/kg	AOAC: 969.32 (1995)
5. Cadmium	- max. 0.2 mg/kg	AOAC: 973.34 (1995)

(AOAC - Association of Official Analytical Chemists)

3) Microbiological Requirement:

<u>Name of Standard</u>	<u>Accepted Limit</u>	<u>Test Method Ref.</u>
1. Aerobic plate count	max 10,000/g	SLS 516: Part 1: 1991
2. Yeast & mould	max. 1,000 counts/g	SLS 516: Part 2: 1991
3. Total coliforms	max. 10 MPN/g	SLS 516: Part 3: 1982
4. <i>E.coli</i>	Absent / g	SLS 516: Part 3: 1982
5. <i>Salmonella</i>	Absent / 25 g	SLS 516: Part 5: 1992

4) Pesticide Residues:

Following twenty seven pesticides are recommended by the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka (TRI). Therefore, Sri Lankan Origin Tea should not contain residues of any other pesticides. Exporters of tea should be guided by the standards in the destination country. Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) in EU and Japan for the respective pesticides are given for information.