



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

1) Basic Requirements for Black Tea: ISO 3720:1986/ Corrigendum 1: 1992 (E) & 2:2004 (E) and/or Sri Lanka Standards 135:1979 (UDC 663.951).

| <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 3720:1986 parameters specified above)

2) Heavy Metals:

| | <u>Accepted Limit</u> | <u>Test Method Ref.</u> |
|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Iron | - max. 500 mg/kg | AOAC: 975.03 (2007) |
| 2. Copper | - max. 100 mg/kg | AOAC: 971.20 (2007) |
| 3. Lead | - max. 2 mg/kg | AOAC: 972.25 (2007) |
| 4. Zinc | - max. 100 mg/kg | AOAC: 969.32 (2007) |
| 5. Cadmium | - max. 0.2 mg/kg | AOAC: 973.34 (2007) |

(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 cfu/g | SLS 516: Part 1: 1991/ISO 4833:2003 |
| 2. Yeast & mould | max.1,000 cfu/g | SLS 516: Part 2: 1991/ISO 21527-2:2008 |
| 3. Total <i>Coliforms</i> | max.10 MPN/g | SLS 516: Part 3: 1982/ISO 4831:2006 |
| 4. <i>E.coli</i> | Absent / g | SLS 516: Part 3: 1982/ISO 7251:2005 |
| 5. <i>Salmonella</i> | Absent / 25 g | SLS 516: Part 5: 1992/ISO 6579:2002 |

4) Pesticide Residues:

Following twenty seven pesticides are recommended for use by the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka (TRI). Therefore, Sri Lankan Origin Teas should not contain residues of pesticides other than in this list. In addition exporters of tea should be guided by the standards in the destination country as required by the importer. Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) in EU and Japan for the respective pesticides are given for information.