

Week 19, 2018

<u> Tea Market Report 7 - 11 May 2018</u>

A brief report on this week's tea markets as the Ascension holiday's take place. In Mombasa demand improved, where offerings marginally increased to 163k packages. Absorption increased, and less tea was taken out. The rains continue, and various lower regions are suffering floods. Crop is high, but some buyers may have felt that auction volumes already peaked due to the slightly lower closing in two weeks. In Malawi, good demand took place, albeit initially only 51% sold. No weather reports were received, but the season is progressing well, and volumes should seasonally decrease.

In Jakarta, good demand boosted the market, CTCs sold mostly at firm to dearer levels. The weather conditions on Java remain variable, bright and dry with irregular showers. Sumatra is experiencing mixed weather with less rains; overall crop is maintained. Fair demand took place in North India, pre-monsoon rains are boosting crop and quality is already showing improvement in upper Assam and the North Bank. The full second flush is expected in week 21. Darjeeling will follow in the 1st week of June.

"Peace begins with a smile." - Mother Theresa

Crop figures (in m.kgs)

	March-18	March-17	Jan-March 18	Jan-March 17
Sri Lanka	28.5	26.6	74.2	66.56
Malawi	7.7	7.1	20.8	19.4
India	61.0	56.2	92.2	88.9

Upcoming auction quantities (pkgs)

	Week 20	Week 21	Week 22	
Mombasa	167,272	163,267	N/A	
Blantyre	6,400	N/A	N/A	
Colombo	7.96 m.kgs	N/A	N/A	
Jakarta	15,320	N/A	N/A	
Kolkata	99,009	114,260	N/A	
Guwahati	96,639	88,095	N/A	

KENYA

<u>Auction</u> – Improved general demand. Best BP1 irregularly firm, below best steady to a few cents easier, good medium up 8-15cts, medium irregularly firm, plainer types steady to 8cts easier. PF1s, best steady to 5cts easier, below best firm to 5cts up, good medium up to 12cts dearer, medium firm to 8cts up, plainer types firm to dearer. Best PDs steady to easier, below best up to 8cts easier, good medium firm to 10cts up, mediums irregularly firm, plainer types irregularly steady tending easier. D1s, best up to 5cts easier, below best up to 7cts easier, good medium firm to dearer, medium, irregularly steady, plainer types irregularly steady.

<u>Demand</u> - Strong activity from Pakistan, more interest from Afghanistan, Bazaar and Egypt. UK and Iran showed more but selective enquiries with Yemen and Russia maintaining support. Kazakhstan and Sudan were slower. Somalia was active at the lower end.

MALAWI

<u>Auction</u> – Good demand, with some teas taken out under bid. BP1s were mostly taken out under bid, the few that traded were firm to 2cts easier. PF1 Sc met selective demand mostly firm. PF1 Seedling generally firm to 3cts dearer. PFs met good demand 4cts dearer. PDs were mostly taken out under bid. D1s taken out under bid. Offgrade fannings met strong demand 3-6cts dearer. Offgrade dust, strong demand 9cts dearer.

SRI LANKA

<u>Auction</u> - No report at time of publishing.

INDONESIA

<u>Auction</u> - There was good demand for 10,600 packages with 8% remaining unsold. Overall Orthodox/CTC sold at firm to dearer levels except for selected Java Orthodox BOP1/BOP and CTC BP1.

<u>Weather</u> - Java - sunny and bright during the weekend with irregular showers during the weekdays were experienced in most planting districts. Sumatra - mixed weather with less rain was reported.

BANGLADESH

<u>Auction</u> - Good demand at firm prices for the 21,556 packages of CTC teas and dust on offer. Offering drops to 10,139 packages in the coming week.



INDIA

Kolkata

<u>Auction</u> - CTC met fair demand, better Assam's sold steady while medium and plainer types eased 5-10cts with some withdrawals. Orthodox teas met strong demand, generally firm to irregularly easier. Darjeeling teas met good demand, best whole leave teas sold up to 30.0 USD, while fannings achieved prices up to 8.0 USD.

Guwahati

Auction - Fair demand in the CTC market. Best quality steady to easier, others easier in line with quality.

Coonoor

<u>Auction</u> - No report at time of publishing.

Coimbatore

<u>Auction</u> - No report at time of publishing.

Cochin

Auction - No report at time of publishing.

All price movements quoted in USD per kilo. To read previous issues, please see our website: <u>www.vanrees.com</u>