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ISO RECOMMENDATION

R 1839

TEA SAMPLING

PART I

SAMPLING FROM LARGE CONTAINERS

1st EDITION

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BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 1839, *Tea sampling – Part I : Sampling from large containers,* was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Agricultural food products,* the Secretariat of which is held by the Magyar Szabványügyi Hivatal (MSZH).

Work on this question led to the adoption of Draft ISO Recommendation No. 1839, which was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry in May 1969. It was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies :

Australia	India	Portugal
Brazil	Iran	Romania
Ceylon	Israel	South Africa, Rep. of
Czechoslovakia	Korea, Rep. of	Thailand
France	Netherlands	Turkey
Germany	New Zealand	U.A.R.
Greece	Peru	United Kingdom
Hungary	Poland	

No Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft.

This Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

ISO Recommendation R 1839 October 1970

TEA SAMPLING

PART I

SAMPLING FROM LARGE CONTAINERS

1. SCOPE

This ISO Recommendation describes methods for the sampling of tea.

Part I applies to sampling from large containers, i.e. containing more than 20 kg of loose tea, for example tea chests.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this ISO Recommendation, the following definitions apply :

2.1 *Consignment.* The quantity of goods despatched or received at one time and covered by a particular contract or shipping document.

2.2 *Lot.* A stated portion of the consignment, intended to have the same characteristics.

NOTE. – For tea, material of the same brand and type and manufactured at the same time constitutes a lot.

2.3 *Primary sample.* A small quantity drawn from one point of a single container in the lot by means of an appropriate instrument.

A series of primary samples, of approximately equal size, is drawn from different parts of the lot.

2.4 *Bulk sample.* The quantity obtained by bringing together and mixing the primary samples drawn from different positions in the lot.

2.5 *Laboratory sample.* A prescribed quantity drawn from the bulk sample, representative of the quality of the lot and intended for analysis or other examination.

3. APPARATUS

3.1 *Spoons, scoops* or other instruments suitable for drawing samples from the interior of containers.

3.2 *Dividing apparatus* suitable for the purpose of reducing the bulk sample to obtain the laboratory samples.

4. GENERAL PROCEDURE

4.1 Sampling should be carried out by persons appointed by buyers and sellers and, if desired, in the presence of the buyer (or his representative) and the seller (or his representative).

4.2 Sampling should be carried out in a protected place, in such a manner as to protect the samples of tea, the sampling instruments and the containers in which the samples are placed from adventitious contamination such as rain or dust.

Special care is necessary to ensure that the sampling instruments are clean, dry and free from foreign odours.

5. SAMPLING FROM LARGE CONTAINERS

5.1 Number of containers to be sampled

The minimum number of containers to be sampled from a lot should be as shown in the following table.

Number of containers in lot	Number of containers to be sampled
2 to 10	2
11 to 25	3
26 to 100	5
101 and over	7

5.2 Procedure for random sampling

The containers to be sampled should be chosen at random and for this purpose use should be made of tables of random numbers. If such tables are not available, the following procedure may be used :

Let N be the number of containers in the lot and n the number of containers to be drawn. Starting from any container, count the containers in order as 1, 2, . . . etc. up to r, where $r = N/n$. (If N/n is not a whole number, take r as the integral part of it.) Draw the rth container as a sample. Continue counting and drawing every rth container, until the requisite number of containers has been drawn.

5.3 Drawing of primary samples

By means of the apparatus mentioned in clause 3.1, a primary sample of appropriate size, representative of the contents, should be drawn from each container sampled.

NOTE. – In most cases it would be impracticable and purposeless to re-blend the contents of a large container of tea with a view to procuring a fully representative sample, and a sample taken in the ordinary way, by boring or after opening the container, is sufficiently representative. In special cases, however, for example if tea dust or other adventitious powder is present as an impurity, exceptional measures may be required, especially when the tea is sampled for chemical analysis.

5.4 Bulk sample

The mixture of primary samples constitutes the bulk sample.

5.5 Laboratory sample

The size of each laboratory sample should be not less than 100 g for purposes of chemical examination and 50 g for sensory examination.

NOTE. – Replicate samples will often be required, for example as duplicate or reference samples, and in general the number and size of the samples to be drawn for examination and arbitration will have to conform to the recognized trade practices, unless otherwise agreed between buyer and seller.