

Realizing the Tea Promise

# KENYA TEA INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS FOR AUGUST 2021 PRODUCTION

Tea production for the month of August 2021 dropped significantly by 4.89 Million Kgs from 38.52 Million Kgs recorded in August 2020 to 33.63 Million Kgs. Production during the month was also lower compared to 34.73 Million Kgs recorded in July and 43.46 Million Kgs recorded in June this year and is the lowest monthly production for the eight month period of 2021. The drop in production for the month of August follows continued sunny and dry weather conditions condition that was characterized by occasional afternoon showers experienced in the tea growing regions. These adverse weather conditions were more pronounced in the tea growing areas of the West of Rift. However, despite sunny weather, tea growing areas in the East of the Rift recorded modest precipitation that was well distributed throughout the month.

Notably, in the West of Rift, tea growing areas in Kericho, Kisii, Nyamira and Nandi Counties were the most affected by unfavourable weather conditions, with Nyamira and Kisii recording dry weather conditions in the second half of the month while Kericho and Nandi received lower rainfall of between 27-45 mm daily. As a result of lower rainfall and dry weather conditions, production within the West of Rift was significantly lower by 3.35 Million Kgs from 29.67 Million Kgs recorded during the same month of 2020 to 26.32 Million Kgs.

Within the East of Rift, most tea growing regions recorded lower rainfall averaging 3-8mm daily throughout the month with Embu and Meru Counties recording an average rainfall of less than 3mm daily. Consequently, output within the East of Rift was also lower by 1.54 Million Kgs from 8.84 Million Kgs to 7.30 Million Kgs.

Notably, due to wider coverage of the Smallholder sub-sector in tea growing areas affected by adverse weather conditions in both the West and the East of Rift (Kericho,



Kisii, Nyamira, Embu, and Meru Counties), the sub-sector recorded lower production by 3.34 Million Kgs from 18.18 Million Kgs to 14.84 Million Kgs. Similary, lower rainfall and dry weather conditions in Kericho, Nandi and Nyamira Counties affected the production within the Plantation sub-sector which dropped by 1.55 Million Kgs from 20.33 Million Kgs recorded during the corresponding month of 2020 to 18.78 Million Kgs.

For the eight-month period, cumulative production was significantly lower by 33.31 Million Kgs to stand at 375.75 Million Kgs against 342.44 Million Kgs recorded during the corresponding period of 2020. Lower production is attributable to unfavourable weather conditions experienced this year to-date. Notably, the rainfall expected during the "Short Rainfall" season from October to December will also be depressed and poorly distributed according to weather prediction by the Kenya Meteorological Department. Consequently, this year's output is expected to be significantly lower compared to that of last year.



JAN. FEB. MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUG. SEPT. OCT. NOV. DEC.

Table 1: Production by Sub-Sector and Region (2021 vis-à-vis 2020)

Sub-Sector	Region	Aug21	Aug -20	Variance	Var. (%)	Jan. – Aug. 2021	Jan. – Aug. 2020	Variance +/-	Var. (%)
	West of Rift	17,952,628	19,288,061	- 1,335,433	-6.92%	152,610,689	144,565,096	8,045,593	5.57%
Plantation	East of Rift	832,446	1,046,908	- 214,462	-20.49%	11,454,837	12,548,200	- 1,093,363	-8.71%
Fidiliation	Total	18,785,074	20,334,969	- 1,549,895	-7.62%	164,065,527	157,113,296	6,952,231	4.42%
	West of Rift	8,373,708	10,388,728	- 2,015,020	-19.40%	79,065,560	99,028,020	- 19,962,460	-20.16%
Smallholder	East of Rift	6,476,257	7,801,084	- 1,324,827	-16.98%	99,313,852	119,615,058	- 20,301,206	-16.97%
	Total	14,849,965	18,189,812	- 3,339,847	-18.36%	79,065,560	99,028,020	- 19,962,460	-20.16%
Plantation &	West of Rift	26,326,336	29,676,789	- 3,350,453	-11.29%	231,676,250	243,593,116	- 11,916,866	-4.89%
Smallholder	East of Rift	7,308,703	8,847,992	- 1,539,289	-17.40%	110,768,689	132,163,258	- 21,394,569	-16.19%
	Total	33,635,039	38,524,781	- 4,889,742	-12.69%	342,444,939	375,756,374	- 33,311,435	-8.87%

### **TEA SALES**

#### **AUCTION**

During the month of August, auction sales volume for Kenyan tea stood at 21.6 Million Kgs, which was lower compared to 37.5 Million kgs recorded in the corresponding month of last year. The average monthly auction price for Kenyan tea rebounded back to 2.10 USD per Kg after dipping to a seven-month low of 1.75 USD per Kg in July and less than 2 USD in the months of May and June, respectively. The auction price recorded in August was also higher compared to an average of 2.09 USD recorded in August 2020. The reversed trend followed the setting up of minimum reserve price of 2.43 USD per Kg in July for the smallholder sub-sector taking into account the cost of production, the grade of the tea and a reasonable return to the tea farmer. During the month of August, tea offered for sale by the smallholder tea factories was bought at an average price of USD 2.08 to 2.51 USD per Kg with the BP1 grade fetching an average of 2.60 USD per Kg while the most predominant grade (PF1) fetched an average of 2.50 USD per Kg.

For all the tea offered for sale at the auction during the month, "Best" category of CTC leaf grades fetched higher prices at between USD 2.54 to 6.80 per Kg for the BP1s and 2.48 to 3.46 for the PF1s while tea prices for a similar category of the dust grades ranged between USD 2.47 to 3.20 for PDust and USD 2.32 to 3.12 for Dust1. Notably, well sorted grades and those with brighter liquors attracted more competitive bids and considerably higher prices while plainer categories across the grades attracted either less interest and thus lower prices or no bid by the buyers and consequently constituted the highest proportion of teas on offer at the auction that were withdrawn. However, there was no Orthodox tea grades on offer at the auction during the month.

However, for the period January - August 2021, the average auction price for Kenyan CTC tea was lower at USD 1.95 per Kg compared to USD 2.02 for the same period of last year and 2.16 recorded during the same period of 2019.

## **EXPORTS**

The total export volume for the month of August 2021 was significantly higher by 46% from 34.03 Million Kgs recorded in the same period of last year to 49.78 Million Kgs. It was also higher compared to 40.5 Million Kgs exported during the month of July 2021. The increase in export volume was attributable to enhanced demand in most markets.

During the month, Kenya tea was shipped to forty eight (48) export destinations compared to forty nine (49) for the same period of last year. Pakistan maintained the leading export destination for Kenyan tea having imported 18.55 Million Kgs, accounting for 37% of the total export volume. Other key export destinations for Kenyan tea were Egypt (9.06 Million Kgs), Sudan (4.26 Million Kgs), UK (3.36 Million Kgs), Russia (2.89 Million Kgs), UAE (2.26 Million Kgs), Kazakhstan (1.44 Million Kgs), Poland (0.85 Million Kgs), Yemen (0.821 Million Kgs) and China (0.650 Million Kgs). The top ten export destinations, majority of which are traditional markets for Kenyan tea accounted for 89% of Kenya tea export volume.

During the month, there was significant increase in exports to traditional markets especially Egypt, Pakistan, Sudan, U.A.E, Kazakhstan, Russia and Poland and emerging markets such as Iran, Japan and Switzerland. There were also a few shipments to seasonal markets such as Bangladesh, Qatar, Iraq, Peru, Hong Kong, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Morocco, Mexico and Singapore.

The total export volume for the eight-month period of 2021 was 20% higher at 389.04 Million Kgs, compared to 323.19 Million Kgs recorded during the same period of last year.

# **LOCAL TEA SALES**

Local tea sales for August 2021 was 2.87 Million Kgs against 2.96 Million Kgs recorded during the corresponding month of 2020 while cumulative tea sales for the eight month period of 2021 stood at 24.77 Million Kgs compared to 27.35 Million Kgs for the same period of 2020.

19TH OCTOBER 2021

Table 2: Kenya Tea Exports by Destination (August 2021 vis-à-vis August 2020)

DESTINATION	2021- QUANTITY KGS	2020 - QUANTITY KGS	QUANTITY VARIANCE KGS	%AGE VARIANCE
PAKISTAN	18,552,832	13,712,140	4,840,692	35%
EGYPT	9,060,723	1,476,765	7,583,958	514%
SUDAN	4,260,213	1,341,019	2,919,194	218%
UK	3,365,340	3,661,862	- 296,522	-8%
RUSSIA	2,896,504	2,337,781	558,723	24%
UAE	2,266,520	971,096	1,295,424	133%
KAZAKHSTAN	1,445,065	486,001	959,064	197%
POLAND	853,078	508,428	344,650	68%
YEMEN	821,236	1,403,316	- 582,080	-41%
CHINA	650,558	590,507	60,051	10%
IRAN	572,031	66,708	505,323	758%
JAPAN	537,548	257,288	280,260	109%
SWITZERLAND	472,330	222,052	250,278	113%
JORDAN	361,250	1,959,880	- 1,598,630	-82%
INDIA	321,483	1,035,425	- 713,942	-69%
TURKEY	268,779	143,145	125,634	88%
NIGERIA	266,397	913,244	- 646,847	-71%
USA	249,739	133,756	115,983	87%
INDONESIA	245,130	197,932	47,198	24%
UKRAINE	241,875	47,440	194,435	410%
IRELAND	207,888	351,412	- 143,524	-41%
BANGLADESH	192,000		192,000	
AFGHANSTAN	180,682	244,792	- 64,110	-26%
SAUDI ARABIA	167,740	400,544	- 232,804	-58%
QATAR	155,110		155,110	
SRI LANKA	144,112	128,117	15,995	12%
CANADA	120,120	110,300	9,820	9%
SOUTH AFRICA	116,388	62,600	53,788	86%
CHAD	105,949	18,196	87,753	482%
MALAYSIA	92,959	54,348	38,611	71%
NETHERLANDS	89,461	64,712	24,749	38%
OMAN	76,891	23,228	53,663	231%
GERMANY	70,380	65,353	5,027	8%
IRAQ	49,148		49,148	
PERU	46,520		46,520	
UZBEKISTAN	44,725	228,700	- 183,975	-80%
SOMALIA	43,340	312,209	- 268,869	-86%
MAURITIUS	40,000	20,000	20,000	100%
HONK KONG	32,040		32,040	
KYRGYZSTAN	24,144		24,144	,
AZERBAIJAN	21,774		21,774	
MOROCCO	17,400		17,400	
TAIWAN	12,600	53,760	- 41,160	-77%
MEXICO	9,000		9,000	
SINGAPORE	8,100		8,100	

CHILE	2,134		2,134	
SWAZILAND	1,037		1,037	
CZECH REPUBLIC	100	100		0%
AUSTRALIA		123,300	- 123,300	-100%
CAMEROON		5,174	- 5,174	-100%
DJIBOUTI		32,000	- 32,000	-100%
ERITREA		78,160	- 78,160	-100%
GHANA		85,320	- 85,320	-100%
GUINEA		5,472	- 5,472	-100%
ISRAEL		34,996	- 34,996	-100%
IVORY COAST		15,522	- 15,522	-100%
KUWAIT		3,900	- 3,900	-100%
MALTA		5,174	- 5,174	-100%
MYANMAR		26,000	- 26,000	-100%
NEW ZEALAND		12,800	- 12,800	-100%
TOTAL	49,780,373.04	34,031,973.35	15,748,400	46%

Table 3: Kenya Tea Exports by Destination (Jan.- Aug. 2021 vis-à-vis Jan.- Aug. 2020)

DESTINATION	2021- QUANTITY KGS	2020 - QUANTITY KGS	QUANTITY VARIANCE KGS	%AGE VARIANCE
PAKISTAN	146,495,089.43	111,120,364.50	35,374,725	32%
EGYPT	67,387,256.60	57,523,837.00	9,863,420	17%
UK	33,696,141.31	33,524,401.30	171,740	1%
UAE	20,572,383.91	16,519,780.03	4,052,604	25%
RUSSIA	20,176,802.00	15,527,914.87	4,648,887	30%
SUDAN	19,332,256.77	14,148,175.01	5,184,082	37%
YEMEN	11,362,423.00	9,906,949.00	1,455,474	15%
KAZAKHSTAN	8,893,813.15	6,932,256.00	1,961,557	28%
POLAND	6,215,339.00	5,323,436.00	891,903	17%
NIGERIA	4,753,437.00	3,053,625.00	1,699,812	56%
IRAN	4,697,355.00	1,624,742.00	3,072,613	189%
CHINA	4,124,289.00	3,024,369.10	1,099,920	36%
IRELAND	3,588,283.00	2,681,507.50	906,776	34%
SWITZERLAND	3,568,860.00	1,430,617.00	2,138,243	149%
INDIA	3,388,745.00	2,810,805.30	577,940	21%
NETHERLANDS	2,722,285.42	2,115,587.00	606,698	29%
JAPAN	2,527,791.00	1,237,731.80	1,290,059	104%
USA	2,348,351.00	2,324,442.75	23,908	1%
SAUDI ARABIA	2,306,008.00	4,716,958.87	-2,410,951	-51%
UKRAINE	1,771,509.00	1,043,456.00	728,053	70%
MALAYSIA	1,657,654.00	1,738,406.00	-80,752	-5%
INDONESIA	1,640,273.00	1,778,351.00	-138,078	-8%
SRI LANKA	1,576,114.00	589,109.00	987,005	168%
AFGHANSTAN	1,358,483.00	3,851,177.00	-2,492,694	-65%
TURKEY	1,297,449.00	2,395,671.00	-1,098,222	-46%
JORDAN	1,197,500.00	6,261,897.00	-5,064,397	-81%
UZBEKISTAN	1,153,534.00	1,632,611.00	-479,077	-29%
SOUTH AFRICA	992,776.00	786,962.00	205,814	26%
QATAR	962,720.00	797,408.00	165,312	21%
SOMALIA	915,496.00	1,308,230.00	-392,734	-30%

OMAN	803,798.00	425,148.00	378,650	89%
GERMANY	724,446.00	387,749.00	336,697	87%
CHAD	717,151.00	420,571.00	296,580	71%
BANGLADESH	598,800.00	176,278.00	422,522	240%
CANADA	554,000.00	394,562.00	159,438	40%
GHANA	452,992.00	325,320.00	127,672	39%
KYTRGYZSTAN	326,545.00	22,500.00	304,045	1351%
TAIWAN	277,580.00	258,960.00	18,620	7%
MAURITIUS	237,400.00	173,746.00	63,654	37%
DJIBOUTI	170,278.00	241,872.00	-71,594	-30%
IRAQ	161,142.00		161,142	
HONG KONG	159,032.00	25,870.00	133,162	515%
MYANMAR	133,067.00	143,581.00	-10,514	-7%
ERITREA	130,000.00	131,040.00	-1,040	-1%
PERU	117,080.00	48,000.00	69,080	144%
SINGAPORE	104,500.00	82,816.00	21,684	26%
AZERBAIJAN	81,270.00	59,844.00	21,426	36%
NEW ZEALAND	76,800.00	53,064.00	23,736	45%
VIETNAM	71,174.00	69,308.00	1,866	3%
MOROCCO	67,400.00	51,840.00	15,560	30%
MEXICO	54,000.00	7,579.00	46,421	612%
TURKMENISTAN	51,685.00		51,685	
BRAZIL	36,320.80	20,564.00	15,757	77%
FINLAND	33,608.00	18,400.00	15,208	83%
ISLE OF MAN	24,000.00	25,025.00	-1,025	-4%
ISRAEL	48,000.00	45,344.00	2,656	6%
ITALY	23,860.00	21,160.40	2,700	13%
TAJIKISTAN	23,829.00		23,829	
SPAIN	22,880.00	4,896.00	17,984	367%
TANZANIA	20,220.00	,	20,220	
BAHRAIN	12,412.00		12,412	
MALI	10,348.00	13,230.00	-2,882	-22%
CONGO	8,106.60	,	8,107	
CAMEROON	8,083.00	5,174.00	2,909	56%
LITHUANIA	7,224.00	10,348.00	-3,124	-30%
GUINEA	5,472.00	5,472.00	-,	0%
SENEGAL	5,174.00	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	5,174	
UGANDA	3,518.00		3,518	
CHILE	2,134.08	1,180,961.13	-1,178,827	-100%
SOUTH KOREA	1,600.00	,,-	1,600	
SWAZILAND	1,036.80		1,037	
CZECH REP	325.00	2,734.00	-2,409	-88%
AUSTRALIA		342,913.00	-342,913	-100%
BELGIUM		58,799.00	-58,799	-100%
BURKINA FASO		36,288.00	-36,288	-100%
FRANCE		38,400.00	-38,400	-100%
GABON		13,200.00	-13,200	-100%
GREECE		100.00	-13,200	-100%
IVORY COAST		42,864.00		
IVORT COAST		42,004.00	-42,864	-100%

KUWAIT		3,900.00	-3,900	-100%
LEBANON		31,044.00	-31,044	-100%
MALTA		5,174.00	-5,174	-100%
SOUTH SUDAN		2,450.00	-2,450	-100%
TOGO		10,348.00	-10,348	-100%
ZAMBIA		26,840.00	-26,840	-100%
TOTAL	389,047,708.87	323,196,054.56	65,851,654	20%