
International Standard



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Tea — Sampling

Thé — Échantillonnage

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 1839 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Agricultural food products*. It is the result of the combination into one single document of the revision of International Standards ISO 1839/1-1975 and 1839/2-1976 and draft International Standard ISO/DIS 1839/3, which was submitted to member bodies in February 1977, and which was approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Austria	India	Romania
Canada	Iran	South Africa, Rep. of
Chile	Israel	Thailand
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Korea, Rep. of	Turkey
France	Mexico	United Kingdom
Ghana	New Zealand	USA
Hungary	Poland	Yugoslavia

The member bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the draft International Standard on technical grounds :

Australia
Ireland

International Standard ISO 1839/1-1975 had been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Australia	Hungary	Poland
Brazil	India	Portugal
Chile	Iran	Romania
Czechoslovakia	Israel	South Africa, Rep. of
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Korea, Rep. of	Sri Lanka
France	Netherlands	Thailand
Germany, F. R.	New Zealand	Turkey
Greece	Peru	United Kingdom

International Standard ISO 1839/2-1976 had been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Austria	Germany, F. R.	Portugal
Belgium	Hungary	Romania
Brazil	India	South Africa, Rep. of
Bulgaria	Iran	Turkey
Canada	Israel	United Kingdom
Chile	Mexico	USA
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	Yugoslavia
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	New Zealand	
France	Poland	

No member body had expressed disapproval of these International Standards.

This first edition cancels and replaces International Standards ISO 1839/1-1975 and ISO 1839/2-1976.

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Tea — Sampling

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies methods for the sampling of tea.

It applies to sampling from containers of all sizes.

2 Definitions

For the purpose of this International Standard the following definitions apply.¹⁾

2.1 consignment : The quantity of goods despatched or received at one time and covered by a particular contract or shipping document. The consignment may be made up of one or more lots or parts of lots.

2.2 lot; break : A defined quantity of tea, intended to be uniform.

2.3 primary sample²⁾ : A small quantity of tea, taken at one time from one point in a single container, or, where appropriate, the whole contents of one container in the lot (in the case of containers containing less than 1 kg of tea) (see 5.3).

NOTE — A series of primary samples is taken from different positions in the lot.

2.4 bulk sample : The quantity of tea obtained by bringing together the primary samples taken from different positions in the lot and which is representative of the quality of the lot (see 5.4).

2.5 laboratory sample : A prescribed quantity of tea taken from the bulk sample, representative of the quality of the lot and intended for analysis or other examination (see 5.5).

3 Apparatus

3.1 Spoons, scoops, borers or other instruments, suitable for taking 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

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

4.2 Sampling shall be carried out in a covered place, in such a manner that the samples of tea, the sampling instruments and the sample containers are protected from adventitious contamination and other factors likely to affect the samples, for example moisture, dust, radiation, etc.

Special care is necessary to ensure that the sampling instruments are clean and dry, and do not impart any foreign odour to the sample.

4.3 Handling of the sample (for example combining of primary samples into the bulk sample, packaging of the sample) shall be carried out with care in order to avoid changing the original characteristics of the tea.

4.4 If examination of primary samples shows that the lot is not uniform within the definition of "lot" (2.2), the sampling shall be discontinued and reference made back to the person who ordered the sampling to be carried out.

1) The terms and definitions in this clause take cognizance of, but are not identical with, those in ISO 3534, *Statistics — Vocabulary and symbols*.

2) In ISO 3534 the term "increment" is used for this concept, but this term is not used in sampling in the tea trade.