

(b) The Board of Tea Experts shall prepare duplicate samples of the standards for teas.

[38 FR 32107, Nov. 20, 1973, as amended at 55 FR 34797, Aug. 24, 1990; 60 FR 29987, June 7, 1995]

§ 1220.41 Effective date of tea standards.

The standards prepared and submitted to the Secretary of Health and Human Services by the Board of Tea Experts, appointed by him on or before February 15 of each year, shall be fixed and established as standards under the act and shall be in effect from the 1st day of May of each year until April 30, inclusive, of the following year, except that tea shipped from abroad prior to May 1 of any year shall be governed by the standards in effect at the time of shipment. Such standards for each year will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

§ 1220.42 To whom standards will be furnished.

(a) A quantity of tea of the approved standards will be repacked in half-pound tin containers by competent tea packers under the constant supervision of an officer of the Food and Drug Administration and full sets will be furnished the Board of Tea Appeals, the supervising tea examiner, and the examiners of tea at all the tea examining stations.

(b) Standards will be furnished to actual importers and regular tea brokers on application to the supervising tea examiner, at the actual cost of the same.

§ 1220.43 Disposition of obsolete standards.

After standard samples have served their purpose and new season samples have been submitted, the old samples may be included in quarterly sales of unclaimed goods, and the proceeds paid into the Treasury, after deducting expenses of advertisement and sale, the designation on the packages showing such teas to have been used as Government standards to be obliterated before delivery to purchaser.

Subpart F—Individual Standards

§ 1220.50 Macao or Canton congou and brick tea standards.

Macao or Canton congou and brick tea should be compared with the standard for China congou. The mustiness or damaged flavor exhibited in certain Canton teas would be just cause for rejection.

§ 1220.51 Teas imitating China green teas.

Whenever Japans, Ceylons, Indias, or any other teas are made up to imitate the green teas of China, they are to be examined in comparison with the China green standards.

§ 1220.52 Powchong Formosa oolong teas.

All Powchong (scented) Formosa oolong teas should be examined in comparison with the Formosa standard.

Subpart G—Inspection, Testing, and Grounds for Rejection

§ 1220.60 Instructions to examiners.

(a) Examiners are instructed not to pass upon samples representing importations of tea imported separately from the importation; neither shall they give nonofficial opinions concerning samples.

(b) The examination of tea in comparison with the standards under this act shall be made according to the usages and customs of the tea trade, including the testing of an infusion in boiling water and, if necessary, chemical analysis; and examiners are advised, inasmuch as they must not under the law admit any tea inferior to the standards in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption, to employ the present methods of determining the presence of artificial coloring and other impurities. (See § 1220.64.)

§ 1220.61 Testing of teas.

(a) In comparing with standards, examiners are to test all the teas for quality, for impurity consisting of artificial coloring or facing matter, and other impurity, and for quality of infused leaf. Quality shall be ascertained by drawing, according to the custom of

the tea trade, with the weight of a silver half dime to the cup. The quality must be equal to standard, but the flavor may be that of a different district, as long as it is equally fit for consumption. As an illustration, a Teenkai may be equal to a Moyune, but a distinctly smoky or rank Fychow or Wenchow of sour character is not considered equal to the first two mentioned.

(b) Tea dust, fannings, siftings, and offgrades, including broken tea (BT), broken mix (BM), and Bohea when so marked and for which there is no specific standard, should be tested for quality, purity, and fitness for consumption in comparison with their respective leaf standards.

§ 1220.62 Testing quality of infused leaf.

In order to test the quality of the infused leaf in comparison with the standard, a second drawing should be made of double weight. Before pouring off the water, examine for an excess of "floaters" (woody stems which remain floating after the leaf is thoroughly infused) to determine whether they are in sufficient quantity to reduce the quality of the infusion below that of the standard. After pouring off the water the infused leaf should be taken out so as to exhibit the lower side which rested against the cup. Should the mass show a larger quantity of exhausted or decayed leaf than the standard, it affords sufficient evidence to be judged inferior in quality and consequently to be rejected.

§ 1220.63 Test for paraffin and similar substances.

If the examiner suspects the presence of paraffin or any similar substance, he should make the following test in comparison with the standard: Spread the tea between two sheets of unglazed white paper. Place thereon a hot iron. The greasy substance, if any, will appear on the paper, and if not equal to the standard the tea would justly be rejected.

§ 1220.64 Tests for impurities.

(a) To examine for impurities the following tests may be used in comparison with the standard:

(1) Read test, with additions and modifications, and the cup test, doubleweight. Place 2 ounces of tea in a sieve 5 or 6 inches in diameter, having 60 meshes to the inch and provided with a top. Sift a small quantity of the dust onto a semiglazed white paper about 8 by 10 inches. The amount of dust placed on the paper should be approximately 1 grain. To get the requisite amount of dust it is sometimes necessary to rub the leaf gently against the bottom of the sieve, but this must not be done until the sieve has been well shaken over the test paper. Pour the dust thus collected from the paper into the scales, weigh out 1 grain, and return this quantity to the same paper, distributing it well over the surface of the paper. Then place the paper on a plain, firm surface, preferably glass or marble, and crush the dust by pushing over it, with considerable pressure, a flat steel spatula about 5 inches long. Do this repeatedly until the tea dust is ground almost to a powder and the particles of coloring matter or other impurities, if any, are spread or streaked on the paper, so as to become more apparent. Brush off the loose dust and examine the paper by means of a simple lens magnifying $7\frac{1}{2}$ diameters. In distinguishing these particles and streaks bright light is essential.

(2) The crushed leaf in either black or green tea appears in such quantity that there is no chance of mistaking the leaf for artificial coloring, facing material, or other impurities.

(3) The test is performed in comparison with the standard, and, if the tea is clearly equal to the standard with respect to artificial coloring, facing matter, or other impurities, the operation need not be repeated. If particles of artificial coloring, facing, or other impurities are found in the sample under comparison with the standard repeat this operation a sufficient number of times to be sure whether or not the tea contains impurities in excess of the standard.

(4) Repeat the operation, using semiglazed black paper instead of the white paper. This black-paper test shows the presence of facing and other impurities, such as talc, gypsum, barium sulfate, clay, and kaolin.