SRI LANKA STANDARD 267 : 1974
UDC : 663.974

SPECIFICATION FOR

FLUE CURED VIRGINIA TOBACCO

BUREAU OF CEYLON STANDARDS

SPECIFICATION ON FLUE-CURED VIRGINIA TOBACCO

SLS 267 : 1974

[redacted]
Gr.4

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Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka Standards are subject to periodical revision in order to accommodate the progress made by industry. Suggestions for improvement will be recorded and brought to the notice of the Committees to which the revisions are entrusted.

This Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract.

SRI LANKA STANDARD

SPECIFICATION ON FLUE-CURED VIRGINIA TOBACCO

FOREWORD

This Sri Lanka Standard Specification has been prepared by the Drafting Committee on Processed Tobacco. It was approved by the Agricultural and Chemicals Divisional Committee of the Bureau of Ceylon Standards and was authorised for adoption and publication by the Council of the Bureau on 1974-05-21.

Tobacco used for smoking has its values which lie in the products of its combustion whose utility value is very subjective. This standard specification also includes the requirements for export tobacco and will enable the export of quality tobacco and will strengthen the agreements between the buyer and the seller.

This standard will minimise the delay of clearance by providing satisfactory evidence for the Customs authorities regarding the quality of a particular consignment in case of export tobacco.

For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final values, observed or calculated expressing the result of a test, shall be rounded off in accordance with CS 102*.

**CS 102 Presentation of numerical values.*

The number of figures to be retained in the rounded off value shall be the same as that of the specified value in the standard.

1 SCOPE

This standard prescribes the requirements, and the permitted grades of unmanufactured flue-cured virginia tobacco and also includes the requirements for tobacco exported.

2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 blemish: Sponged, scorched, moisture-stained or bruised leaf normally, 'frog-eye' spot (Barn spot) is not classified as blemish unless it exceeds 10 per cent of the leaf lamina area.

2.2 flue-cured: Tobacco cured from indirect heat conducted through flues.

2.3 frog-eye: Spots caused by fungus *Corcospora nicotiana*.

3 GRADE DESCRIPTION

3.1 Grade 1/V

Orange coloured, full bodied leaf of good texture, free from blemish and spot. A ripe leaf with no green.

3.2 Grade 2/V

Lemon or orange coloured leaf, similar to leaf of grades 1/V or 3/V, with up to 10 per cent blemish. This grade must be of good body, with no green.

3.3 Grade 3/V

Light bodied, bright lemon yellow leaf with up to 10 per cent blemish, with no green.

3.4 Grade 4/V

Semi bright leaf, orange to yellowish brown, can carry blemish, but must be of reasonable body and texture with no green.

3.5 Grade 5/V

As for grades 1/V, 2/V and 3/V, free from blemish but with green tinge on the lamina.

3.6 Grade 6/V

Scrap in grades 1/V, 2/V, 3/V, 4/V and 5/V, perished leaf, sucker leaf, stems and pieces that will pass through a 0.5 in (11.2 mm) mesh cannot be accepted.

3.7 Grade 7/V

Green leaf running to yellow or orange with characteristics of grade 4/V. Can carry blemish. No perished leaf can be accepted.

3.8 Grade 8/V

Leaves of reasonable body, varying from light brown to dark brown. No air cured perished or dead green leaf can be accepted.

3.9 Grade 9/V

As for grade 8/V, but heavy bodied leaf of good texture.

3.10 Grade 10/V

Scrap of grades 7/V, 8/V and 9/V. Dead green perished and sucker leaf, stems and pieces that will pass through a 0.5 in (11.2 mm) mesh cannot be accepted.

NOTE - A tolerance of 5 per cent will be acceptable between one grade and its lower equivalent.

4 REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Freedom from tobacco beetle attack

The material shall be free from any tobacco beetle attack when examined by the method prescribed in SLS 309*.

4.2 Freedom from harmful substances and additives

The material shall not contain any plant protective products consisting of substances as stipulated by the Director of Agriculture.

4.3 The leaf shall be free from:

a) Foreign matter (non tobacco products like jute, straw etc.)
b) Dead green leaf.
c) Perished leaf.
d) Any leaf with mouldy growth or funked, i.e. with a fruity smell.

5 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The following additional requirements shall apply for flue-cured virginia tobacco exported.

5.1 Chemical requirements

The material shall also comply with the requirements specified in Table 1.

5.2 The leaf shall be free from:

a) Moisture stained leaf.
b) Scorched and cherry-red leaf.
c) Heavily spotted and sponged leaf.
d) Bits of stem.
e) Saline leaf.

**SLS 309 Test methods for tobacco in tobacco products : Part 1.*

TABLE 1 Chemical requirements

Item No.	Characteristics	Requirements	Method of test
1	*Moisture % by mass	10.0 to 11.4	SLS 309**
2	*Chlorine content % by mass max.	1.0	SLS 309**

6 SAMPLING FOR EXPORT

6.1 General requirements for sampling

6.1.1 In drawing, preparing, storing and handling samples, the following precautions and directions shall be observed.

6.1.2 Precautions shall be taken to draw the samples so as to protect the samples, the material being sampled and the sample containers from loss or gain of moisture and from adventitious contamination.

6.1.3 The samples shall be placed in clean and dry sample containers. The sample containers shall be sealed air tight after filling and marked with full details of sampling, date of packing, name of the exporter and other particulars.

6.1.4 Samples shall be stored in such a manner that the conditions of storage do not unduly affect the quality of the material.

**However the value will be subject to alterations based on the agreements between the buyer and the exporter.*

***SLS 309 Test methods for tobacco in tobacco products : Part 1.*

6.2 Scale of sampling

6.2.1 All the cases in a single consignment of the material belonging to the same blend or grade shall constitute a lot. If the consignment is declared to consist of different blends or grades, the cases belonging to the same blends or grades shall be grouped together to constitute separate lots.

6.2.1.1 The samples shall be tested from each lot for ascertaining the conformity of the material to the requirements of this specification.

6.2.2 The number of cases to be selected from the lot shall depend on the size of the lot, and shall be in accordance with Table 2.

TABLE 2 Number of cases to be selected for sampling

Lot size	No. of cases to be selected
(N)	*(n)*
20 to 25	2
26 to 150	3
151 to 300	4
301 to 500	5
501 to 1000	7
1001 and above	10

6.2.3 These cases shall be chosen from the lot at random and for this purpose some random number tables as agreed between the purchaser and the supplier shall be used. In case such a table is not available, the

following procedure shall be adopted:

Starting from any case in the lot in one order, count them as 1,2,.....up to *r* and so on. Every *r*th container so counted shall be withdrawn so as to give sample for test, where $r = N/n$, *N* being the number of cases in the lot and *n* the number of cases to be chosen. If *r* comes out to be fractional number its value shall be taken as equal to the integral part of it.

6.3 Test samples and referee samples

6.3.1 From each selected case remove about 200 g of the material. The materials so taken shall be mixed together and shall be divided into four equal parts. Three of these portions shall be transferred immediately to thoroughly cleaned and dry sample containers and sealed air tight. One of them shall be marked for the exporter, another for the vendor and third for the referee and all shall bear the seals of the exporter and the vendor. They shall be labelled with the particulars given under 6.1.3.

6.3.1.1 Additional 450 g from each lot is removed for visual examination and kept in a sealed polythene bag and kept under control conditions for 3 months after the last consignment is left.

6.3.2 *Referee sample*

Referee samples shall consist of a set of individual samples (see 6.3.1.1) and composite sample (see 6.3.1) marked for this purpose and shall bear the seals of the purchaser and the exporter. These shall be kept at a place agreed to between the two.

7 SAMPLING FOR MOISTURE TESTING FOR EXPORT

7.1 Method of sampling re-dried export leaf strips for moisture testing

7.1.1 Drill approximately 2 ft (600 mm) deep into the compressed cake of tobacco, using an auger fitted to an electric drill.

7.1.2 Two such drillings should be made approximately 11½" (300 mm) from the two corners of the case, along any diagonal.

7.1.3 Transfer the tobacco obtained from these two drillings into a polythene bag, or any air tight container.

7.1.4 Mill this tobacco to fine particles and mix thoroughly in an air tight container, prior to testing.

7.2 Method of sampling of leaf 'hands' for moisture testing

7.2.1 Remove case lid.

7.2.2 Turn the case over (upside down), and rest it on the removed lid.

7.2.3 Remove case only, by sliding it upwards, leaving the polythene covered 'cake' of tobacco on the floor. (This is best done by loosening a few nails, along two diametrically opposite corners of the case prior to removal).

7.2.4 Remove polythene covering from the *cake* of tobacco.

7.2.5 Extract two *hands* of leaf from the geometric centre of the *cake* (This is best done by piercing

two iron bars into one side, along the horizontal centre line and then separating the cake in half, till the *hands* are extracted).

7.2.6 Remove the tie leaves from each of these *hands* select eight leaves from the centre of each *hand* and transfer immediately into a polythene bag or any air-tight container.

7.2.7 Mill these sixteen leaves and mix the ground sample thoroughly in an air-tight container, prior to testing.

7.2.8 Replace polythene cover and re-pack the case, immediately after extracting the sample.

8 PACKING IN CASES FOR EXPORT

8.1 Tobacco for export shall be packed in rectangular cases conforming to 8.2.

8.2 Packing sizes

The cases shall be of 4½ x 2½ x 2½ cu. ft. (1.22 x 0.76 x 0.76 m^3) for rectangular cases.

8.3 Inner lining

A polythene lining of 500 gauge thickness, bituminous kraft paper of the international dimensions as that of the case may be used.

8.4 Packing procedure

8.4.1 *For hands*

Spread the re-dried tobacco in layers one upon the other in the cases with lining as in 8.3.

8.4.2 *For strips*

May be delivered mechanically into cases by a conveyor belt, uniformly spread over and pressed. Press the tobacco to a level of 6 inches to 4 inches (150 mm to 100 mm) below the edge of the case.

8.4.3 These cases shall be sealed moisture tight and wrapped with wire.

9 MARKING FOR EXPORT

9.1 Cases or bales shall be marked on at least two opposite sides, with indelible ink, with the following particulars:

a) Leading mark (Consignee's name or initials);

b) Port of entry and destination;

c) Serial number of the package;

d) Gross mass and net mass of the package;

e) The words "Produce of Sri Lanka (Ceylon)";

f) Any other information required by the buyer or by the law in force.

9.2 All marking shall be stencilled; writing with hand shall not be permissible.

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The Sri Lanka Standards Institution is the owner of the registered certification mark shown below. Beneath the mark, the number of the Sri Lanka Standard relevant to the product is indicated. This mark may be used only by those who have obtained permits under the SLS certification marks scheme. The presence of this mark on or in relation to a product conveys the assurance that they have been produced to comply with the requirements of the relevant Sri Lanka Standard under a well designed system of quality control inspection and testing operated by the manufacturer and supervised by the SLSI *which includes surveillance inspection of the factory, testing of both factory and market samples.*

Further particulars of the terms and conditions of the permit may be obtained from the Sri *Lanka Standards Institution, 17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08.*

Printed at SLSI (Printing Unit)

SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION

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Printed at the Sri Lanka Standards Institution, 17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08.