

Realizing the Tea Promise

# KENYA TEA INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS FOR AUGUST 2023

#### **PRODUCTION**

Tea production for the month of August 2023 was higher by 9.51 Million Kgs from 36.06 Million Kgs recorded during the same period of last year to 45.57 Million Kgs. Production was also marginally higher compared to 44.69 Million Kgs recorded in July this year. Improved production during the month of August was attributed to occasional rainfall coupled with generally warmer weather conditions experienced in the country. During the month, the highlands West of the Rift Valley, the Central and South Rift Valley, and a few areas over the highlands East of the Rift Valley experienced occasional rainfall.

In the tea growing areas, occasional rainfall ranging from moderate to high was received in the West of Rift during the first week of the month with Kericho recording daily precipitation averaging 28 mm while the rest of the tea growing areas (Bomet, Kisii/Nyamira and Nandi) recorded average rainfall of 53 to 141 mm. In the East of Rift, low to moderate rainfall averaging 12 to 41mm daily was recorded during the first half of the month. Consequently, output in the West of Rift during the month of August this year was higher by 6.42 Million Kgs from 29.23 Million Kgs recorded during the same month of 2022 to 35.65 Million Kgs. Similarly, production within the East of Rift in the month of August also surpassed that of the same

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period last year by 3.09 Million Kgs from 6.82 Million Kgs to 9.92 Million Kgs.

Across the sub-sectors, Output in the plantation sub-sector was higher by 4.87 Million Kgs from 22.57 Million Kgs to 27.45 Million Kgs. Similarly, production within the smallholder sub-sector was higher by 4.63 Million Kgs from 13.48 Million Kgs recorded during the corresponding month of 2022 to 18.12 Million Kgs.

Due to favourable weather conditions in the months of April to August, cumulative output for the eight-month period of 2023 was higher by 22.54 Million Kgs to stand at 363.91 Million Kgs against 341.36 Million Kgs for the same period of last year.



Table 1: Production by Sub-Sector and Region (2023 vis-à-vis 2022)

Sector	Region	August 2023	August 2022	Variance +/-	Var.(%)	Jan - August 2023	Jan - August 2022	Variance +/-	Var.(%)
Plantation	West of Rift	25,940,851	21,656,433	4,284,418	19.78%	175,825,344	154,821,940	21,003,404	13.57%
	East of Rift	1,511,379	918,856	592,523	64.48%	12,412,926	10,893,479	1,519,447	13.95%
	Total	27,452,230	22,575,289	4,876,941	21.60%	188,238,270	165,715,419	22,522,851	13.59%
	West of Rift	9,715,501	7,574,992	2,140,509	28.26%	78,184,200	80,530,501	- 2,346,301	-2.91%
Smallholder	East of Rift	8,409,922	5,910,544	2,499,378	42.29%	97,495,238	95,122,990	2,372,248	2.49%
	Total	18,125,423	13,485,536	4,639,887	34.41%	175,679,437	175,653,490	25,947	0.01%
	West of Rift	35,656,352	29,231,425	6,424,927	21.98%	254,009,544	235,352,441	18,657,104	7.93%
Plantation &	East of Rift	9,921,301	6,829,400	3,091,901	45.27%	109,908,163	106,016,468	3,891,695	3.67%
Smallholder	Total	45,577,653	36,060,825	9,516,828	26.39%	363,917,707	341,368,909	22,548,799	6.61%

#### TEA SALES

#### AUCTION

During the month of August, auction sales volume for Kenya tea stood at 61.16 Million Kgs, which was higher compared to 26.77 Million Kgs in July and 52.94 Million Kgs in June. It was also higher compared to 39.02 Kgs Million recorded in the corresponding month of last year on account of resumed buying interests by some markets. The average auction price for Kenya tea in the month of August was lower at 2.25 USD per Kg compared to 2.39 USD realized during the same period of 2022 USD but higher against 2.06 USD in July and 2.09 USD in June. However, for each specific grade, the price followed demand and quality (leaf appearance and leaf infusion as well as liquoring characteristics). For smallholder tea factories, whose quality categorization ranges from "good medium" to "best", tea offered for sale fetched relatively higher prices at an average of 2.81 USD per Kg for the main grades compared to 2.64 USD for the same period of 2022 and 2.70 USD recorded in July.

During the eight-month period of 2023, the average auction price for Kenya tea stood at 2.26 USD per Kg, which was lower compared to 2.53 USD per Kg for the same period of 2022. The auction prices have been depressed since the second quarter of 2022 owing to less demand occasioned by continued

economic recession facing the global markets, which is largely attributed to effects of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine crisis and the recent armed conflict in Sudan. However, after several months of absence, exporters to Sudan resumed tea buying at the auction during the month of August. There was also improved buying participation by exporters to Russia and Iran.

## **EXPORTS**

The total export volume for the month of August was higher by 63% (17.98 Million Kgs) from 28.37 Million Kgs recorded in the same period of last year to 46.35 Million Kgs. It was also higher compared to 33.80 Million Kgs in July and 31.72 Million Kgs recorded in June 2023 owing to improved by traditional markets such as Pakistan, Egypt. Afghanistan, UK, China and Russia. Several other markets that recorded improved performance included India, Jordan, Ireland, USA, Oman and Sudan. During the month, Pakistan maintained its position as the leading export destination for Kenya tea having imported 21.54 Million Kgs, which was a significant improvement compared to 17.74 Million Kgs in July and 14.84 in June. This follows Pakistan Government intervention to prioritize forex allocation for importation of tea as an essential food item. Similarly, Sudan, which has been facing market access challenges occasioned by the ongoing armed conflict in the country, recorded increased imports at 1.43 Million Kgs compared to 0.775 Million Kgs in July and 0.288 Million Kgs in June.

During the month on August, Kenya tea was shipped to fifty-one (51) export destinations compared to forty-four (44) for the same period of last year with Pakistan accounting for 46% of the total export volume. Other key export destinations for Kenya tea were Egypt (6.00 Million Kgs); UK (3.48 Million Kgs); UAE (2.20 Million Kgs); Yemen (1.54 Million Kgs); Sudan (1.43 Million Kgs); Poland (1.11 Million Kgs); Afghanistan (1.10 Million Kgs); Russia (1.03

Million Kgs); and China (0.70 Million Kgs). The top ten export destinations, majority of which are traditional markets for Kenya tea accounted for 87% of Kenya tea export volume.

There were also a few shipments to seasonal markets such as Chad; Peru; Vietnam; Ghana; Hong Kong; Lebanon; Mauritania; Myanmar; Israel; Iraq; Singapore; Malta; and Djibouti.

### LOCAL TEA SALES

Local tea sales for August 2023 stood at 3.71 Million Kgs against 2.80 Million Kgs for the corresponding period of 2022 while cumulative tea sales for the eight-month period of 2023 stood at 24.20 Million Kgs, which was higher against 20.90 Million Kgs for the same period of 2022 but slightly lower compared to 24.77 Million Kgs for the same period of 2021.

25TH OCTOBER 2023

Table 2: Kenya Tea Exports by Destination (August 2023 vis-à-vis August 2022)

DESTINATION	AUG. 2023- QUANTITY KGS	AUG. 2022 - QUANTITY KGS	QUANTITY VARIANCE KGS	%AGE VARIANCE
PAKISTAN	21,547,516	12,469,231	9,078,285	73%
EGYPT	6,001,098	2,358,106	3,642,992	154%
UK	3,489,359	2,828,240	661,119	23%
UAE	2,208,250	2,129,558	78,692	4%
YEMEN	1,541,048	1,037,131	503,917	49%
SUDAN	1,431,483	1,255,392	176,091	14%
POLAND	1,119,940	311,587	808,353	259%
AFGHANISTAN	1,101,798	262,730	839,068	319%
RUSSIA	1,030,077	477,595	552,482	116%
CHINA	701,953	92,964	608,989	655%
JORDAN	694,200	357,500	336,700	94%
KAZAKHSTAN	640,014	810,180	-170,166	-21%
INDIA	499,854	160,576	339,278	211%
SAUDI ARABIA	479,982	536,016	-56,034	-10%
IRELAND	382,410	77,640	304,770	393%
JAPAN	353,969	226,752	127,217	56%
SWITZERLAND	315,836	204,449	111,387	54%
IRAN	304,150	565,966	-261,816	-46%
SOMALIA	296,908	149,388	147,520	99%
UKRAINE	264,510	98,880	165,630	168%
OMAN	240,501	53,600	186,901	349%
USA	213,020	20,880	192,140	920%
MALAYSIA	211,126	334,106	-122,980	-37%
NIGERIA	175,125	25,320	149,805	592%
TURKEY	146,277	265,376	-119,099	-45%
CHAD	128,418	203,370	128,418	-43/6
SOUTH AFRICA	103,208	59,880	43,328	72%
CANADA	85,068	51,960	33,108	64%
GERMANY	79,264	7,800	71,464	916%
NETHERLANDS	76,000	12,232	63,768	521%
PERU	52,340	12,232	52,340	321/6
ZAMBIA	49,680	36,241	13,439	37%
UZBEKISTAN	48,000	116,400	-68,400	
SRI LANKA	47,318	84,069	-36,751	-59% -44%
MAURITIUS	40,000	135,000	-95,000	-70%
VIET NAM	39,148	133,000	39,148	-70%
TAIWAN	30,000	24,000	6,000	25%
GHANA	27,900	27,000	27,900	2370
HONG KONG	27,451		27,451	
LEBANON	26,840		26,840	
MAURITANIA	25,800		25,800	
CHILE	22,454	17,209	5,245	30%
MYANMAR	17,861	17,203	17,861	30%
ISRAEL	16,234			
IRAQ	8,292		16,234	
SINGAPORE	7,425		8,292	
MALTA	3,360		7,425	
DJIBOUTI	2,620		3,360	

INDONESIA	2,600	517,103	-514,503	-99%
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	796		796	
SWAZILAND	778		778	
AZERBAIJAN		24,300	-24,300	-100%
BANGLADESH		96,000	-96,000	-100%
BURKINA FASO		10,349	-10,349	-100%
ESTONIA		20,860	-20,860	-100%
GABON		10,349	-10,349	-100%
KYRGYZSTAN		25,500	-25,500	-100%
NEW ZEALAND		12,800	-12,800	-100%
SENEGAL		5,174	-5,174	-100%
TOTAL	46,359,259	28,376,390	17,982,869	63%

Table 3: Kenya Tea Exports by Destination (Jan.-Aug. 2023 vis-à-vis Jan.- Aug. 2022)

DESTINATION	Jan- Aug. 2023- QUANTITY KGS	Jan- Aug. 2022 - QUANTITY KGS	QUANTITY VARIANCE KGS	%AGE VARIANC
PAKISTAN	105,016,432	121,332,624	-16,316,191	-13%
EGYPT	37,328,880	48,227,592	-10,898,712	-23%
UK	25,827,725	23,631,814	2,195,911	9%
UAE	16,378,709	19,584,489	-3,205,780	-16%
YEMEN	13,043,828	12,612,692	431,136	3%
RUSSIA	9,517,052	12,461,516	-2,944,464	-24%
IRAN	8,469,583	3,035,265	5,434,318	179%
AFGHANISTAN	6,552,940	4,748,301	1,804,639	38%
SUDAN	6,040,681	13,054,943	-7,014,262	-54%
POLAND	4,693,578	5,223,481	-529,903	-10%
SAUDI ARABIA	3,966,015	3,811,449	154,566	4%
JORDAN	3,612,119	1,997,000	1,615,119	81%
IRELAND	3,569,304	3,049,414	519,890	17%
KAZAKHSTAN	2,472,349	5,333,432	-2,861,083	-54%
INDIA	2,241,025	1,720,201	520,824	30%
SWITZERLAND	1,864,246	1,655,486	208,760	13%
CHINA	1,711,543	1,098,410	613,133	56%
SOMALIA	1,669,090	636,782	1,032,309	162%
MALAYSIA	1,585,291	1,553,536	31,755	2%
NETHERLANDS	1,393,458	890,010	503,448	57%
JAPAN	1,274,764	1,569,197	-294,433	-19%
USA	1,243,562	1,223,945	19,618	2%
NIGERIA	1,207,267	3,096,215	-1,888,948	-61%
UKRAINE	1,147,891	989,102	158,789	16%
OMAN	1,036,029	487,387	548,642	113%
SOUTH AFRICA	833,480	909,252	-75,772	-8%
CANADA	676,493	270,040	406,453	151%
GERMANY	648,735	474,343	174,392	37%
TURKEY	628,172	1,020,559	-392,387	-38%
QATAR	601,671	781,761	-180,090	-23%
SRI LANKA	542,108	335,654	206,454	62%
UZBEKISTAN	338,853	509,694	-170,841	-34%
PERU	329,938	899,360	-569,422	-63%
CHAD	327,380	132,180	195,200	148%
MAURITIUS	315,464	399,284	-83,820	-21%
BANGLADESH	304,685	549,600	-244,915	-45%
TAIWAN	270,173	86,438	183,735	213%
SPAIN	228,615	*	228,615	
DJIBOUTI	181,191	140,350	40,841	29%
GHANA	169,809	390,847	-221,038	-57%
ROMANIA	164,722		164,722	
INDONESIA	153,373	1,905,423	-1,752,050	-92%
TANZANIA	139,572	21,100	118,472	561%
ERITREA	130,000	130,000	0	0%
HONG KONG	123,369	48,360	75,009	155%

SINGAPORE	112,809	75,580	37,229	49%
VIET NAM	107,313	13,300	107,313	4370
MYANMAR	106,168	159,728	-53,560	-34%
BURKINA FASO	99,519	61,920	37,599	61%
ISRAEL				
	96,011	28,057	67,954	242%
ZAMBIA	74,522	74,415	107	0%
COTE D'IVOIRE	72,446	25,786	46,661	181%
CAMEROON	72,100		72,100	
IRAQ	66,552	12,998	53,554	412%
ITALY	50,247	11,000	39,247	357%
MALI	40,723	19,478	21,245	109%
NEW ZEALAND	39,160	76,800	-37,640	-49%
SOUTH SUDAN	29,015		29,015	#DIV/0!
MEXICO	28,098	48,809	-20,711	-42%
LEBANON	26,840		26,840	
MAURITANIA	25,800		25,800	
CONGO DRC	23,990		23,990	
BRAZIL	23,819	27,084	-3,265	-12%
CHILE	22,454	112,922	-90,468	-80%
TURKMENISTAN	20,100		20,100	
BAHRAIN	16,574	8,496	8,078	95%
KYRGYSTAN	11,500	159,724	-148,224	-93%
SENEGAL	10,979	5,174	5,805	112%
ALBANIA	4,470		4,470	
UGANDA	4,441		4,441	
MALTA	3,360		3,360	
AUSTRALIA	2,300	1,380	920	67%
EPZ	1,802		1,802	
CZECH REPUBLIC	1,046	335	711	212%
SWAZILAND	778	331	447	135%
FRANCE	500	500	0	0%
ANGOLA		6,168	-6,168	-100%
AZERBAIJAN		71,270	-71,270	-100%
ESTONIA		46,700	-46,700	-100%
FINLAND		109,714	-109,714	-100%
GABON	2	10,349	-10,349	-100%
GUINEA		5,472	-5,472	-100%
LITHUANIA		13,085	-13,085	-100%
SOUTH KOREA		116	-116	-100%
TOGO		5,174	-5,174	
1000		5,174	-5,174	-100%
TOTAL	271,166,602	303,207,093	-32,040,490	-11%

