

**SRI LANKA TEA BOARD**  
**Tea Commissioner's Division**  
**No 574, Galle Road, Colombo 03**

Ref: TB/TC/Productivity/383

29<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Owners of Estates of more than 10 Acres

Sirs,

**DISTRIBUTION OF pH METERS AMONG TEA FACTORIES TO FACILITATE TEA GROWERS TO ENHANCE TEA LAND PRODUCTIVITY - 2024**

**1.0 Introduction :**

The Sri Lanka Tea Board decided to distribute pH meters among tea factories to facilitate tea growers to test their soil samples from the tea factory to which they supply green leaf. Accordingly, Tea factories can provide a report of pH values to tea growers in order to carry out their agriculture practices such as fertilizing with a view to enhance land productivity,. A budgetary provision of the Sri Lanka Tea Board funds will be used to purchase pH meters for the year 2024.

Under this program as brief below, 200 brand-new pH meters are intended to distribute during the year 2024, with a purpose of improving soil conditions, fertilizer absorption and the use of suitable fertilizer dose as per the guidelines of the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka.

Development program	Objective	Distribution of pH Meters
Maintain the soil pH between 4.5 - 5.5	Improve soil condition and fertilizer absorption.	A brand new pH meter worth of approximately Rs.200, 000.00 will be distributed among tea factories.

**2.0 Method of application:**

- (i) Application for obtaining a pH meter under this program should be made available in the prescribed application form No.TB/TC/Productivity/383/2024
- (ii) It is compulsory to provide all the information as required by the application form. Failure to furnish the required information will lead to the rejection of the application. Duly completed applications should be submitted by the factory to the relevant Assistant Tea Commissioner of the region. **on or before 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**. As the funds are limited, the applications will be entertained on a "First come first Serve" basis.
- (iii) Only the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Plantation Company or the Registered Tea Manufacturer in case of a private tea factory or persons authorized by them in writing is authorized to sign the application. (The letter should be attached)

**3.0 Methods for Distribution of pH Meters:**

- (i) Only tea factories that perform in accordance with sections 8 (2) and 11(a) of the Tea Control Act No. 51 of 1957 to the satisfaction of the Tea Commissioner will be eligible to receive pH meter.
- (ii) Brand new pH meters will be distributed. The meter should not be disposed without a written approval from the Tea Commissioner.
- (iii) Once the application is received by the relevant SLTB office of the region, arrangements will be made to conduct a necessary inspection to verify the information provided by the application. Accordingly successful applications will be forwarded to the Tea Commissioner for the approval. The pH meter will be handed to respective applicant/tea factory upon the receipt of the approval.
- (iv) A record of a list of tea growers who test soil samples and the instructions given to them should be maintained



- 4.0 Applicants are required to furnish true and accurate information and need to assist tea inspectors at the time of inspection and whenever they need additional information regarding the applications.

Providing false or information known to be false is a punishable offense under section 41 of the Tea Control Act No. 51 of 1957 as amended. Apart from being liable to furnish under the aforesaid act, providing false information will immediately disqualify the company from current and any future subsidy schemes and will be liable to refund any subsidies already paid. Such companies may also become liable to be punished under the penal code for the embezzlement of state funds.

- 5.0 The Regional Assistant Tea Commissioners and their areas of authority are as follows.

Regional Assistant Tea Commissioners	Areas of authority
1. Assistant Tea Commissioner Visaka Mawatha, New Badulla Road, Bandarawela. Tel/Fax 057-2222812	Badulla / Monaragala Districts
2. Assistant Tea Commissioner Walahanduwa Watta, Walanduwa, ,Galle. Tel/Fax 091-2232052	Galle District (Except Elpitiya Divisional Secretariat area)
3. Assistant Tea Commissioner No 140, Ambagamuwa Road, Gampola. Tel/Fax 081-2352279	Kandy/Matale Districts
4. Assistant Tea Commissioner N0 23, New Lane, Uyanwatta, Matara. Tel/Fax 041-2222636	Matara District Hambanthota District
5. Assistant Tea Commissioner 61/1, New Town, Rathnapura. Tel/Fax 045-2222136	Ratnapura District Kegalle District
6. Assistant Tea Commissioner Wathurana Road, Baduraliya. Tel/Fax: 034-2247444	Kalutara Galle Districts (Elpitiya Divisional Secretariat area)
7. Assistant Tea Commissioner No 10, Nanuoya Road, Kelegala, Nuwara Eliya. Tel : 0522234695/Fax: 0522234686	Nuwara Eliya District

- 6.0 Information regarding this subsidy scheme could be obtained from the Deputy Tea Commissioner - (Development) at the SLTB head office.

- i. Deputy Tea Commissioner (Development)  
Sri Lanka Tea Board  
No 574, Galle Road, Colombo 03  
Tel : 0112580152/ 0112582121 Fax: 0112580161  
E mail : development@pureceylontea.com

  
K.A.M.K. Jayawardene  
Actg. Tea Commissioner

- Copies: : (1) Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries  
(2) Chairman/ Director General, Sri Lanka Tea Board.  
(3) Chairman, SLPTFOA  
(4) Chairman, Planter's Association of Ceylon  
(5) Chairman, Colombo Tea Traders' Association  
(6) Chairman, Colombo Brokers Association  
(7) Chairman, TSHDA. (Pl. copy this to your Regional Managers)  
(8) Chairman, JEDB  
(9) Chairman, SLSPC  
(10) Chairman, Tea Research Institute  
(11) Director, Tea Research Institute  
(12) CEO's of all the Plantation Management Companies  
(13) Chief Internal Auditor, SLTB  
(14) Superintendent - Government Audit Division  
(15) All Assistant Tea Commissioners/- Please issue copies to Tea Instructor/Inspectors