

Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka

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As part of The Tea House Times' continuing coverage leading into the 150th Anniversary celebrations of Ceylon tea in Sri Lanka, this week we share information about the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka along with a short video taken during our visit with TRI Director/CEO, Dr. Sarath Abeysinghe. Enjoy!



TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA (TRI)

TRI was first established in 1925 as an arm of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, in order to enrich the tea industry through professional research findings. The institute had its early beginnings in Nuwara Eliya and then transferred to the present location, the St. Coombs Estate in Talawakelle, in December 1929. Gradually TRI spread into all tea growing areas of the country by establishing regional centres. The two estates, St. Coombs in Talawakelle and St. Joachim in Ratnapura, which are operated under TRI, also provide facilities to undertake

research in cultivation and processing while making some earnings to the institute.

TRI is presently governed by the Tea Research Board of Sri Lanka which is under the purview of the Ministry of Plantations Industries. Tea Research Board consists of scholars of the field of research, management and economics.

The Tea Research Institute, low-country station, Ratnapura, was established in 1963 at St. Joachim estate, Ratnapura, to cater the technological and extension needs of tea growers in the low-country tea planting districts representing about 50% of the total extent of tea lands in the island. Its advisory and extension services cover three major tea growing districts viz. Ratnapura, Kalutara and Kegalle with over 150,000 smallholdings. Some

research divisions of TRI low country include: Agronomy, Plant Breeding, Entomology and Technology and an Advisory and Extension section. The TRI, low-country station is equipped with basic laboratory and related facilities for scientific research and also with audio-visual equipment and seminar halls for extension and farmer training programs.



The Tea Research Institute (TRI), since its inception in 1925, has been the only national body in Sri Lanka for generating and disseminating new technologies related to tea cultivation and processing. The TRI has always been the driving force behind the numerous successes achieved towards development of the Sri Lankan tea industry over the years. The highly competent staff of the Institute is capable of dealing with ever-changing problems of the industry as they arise.





The institute was able to publish the first local scientific journal on tea research, the Tea Quarterly, in 1928. More publications and documents are available through the Institute.

The Tea House Times meeting with Dr. I Sarath B Abeysinghe, Director/Chief Executive Office, Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka. For more info, visit <http://www.tri.lk>

Video points: The Tea Research Institute was established to cater to tea stakeholders/tea plantations in the country of Sri Lanka. The Tea Research Institute main-station and substations in various parts of the tea growing areas serve the main purpose of disseminating technology and findings of the Tea Research Institute to tea stakeholders. The divisions are as follows:

Major Research Areas

- › **Breeding for crop improvement**
- › **Alternative energy sources and energy-saving techniques**
- › **Soil fertility improvements**
- › **Mechanization**
- › **Factory development and quality improvement**
- › **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**
- › **Value addition and by-products**
- › **Productivity improvement**
- › **Technology Transfer**
- › **Socio-Economics**

Find more information about the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka by visiting their website here: <http://www.tri.lk>

Our Vision



To achieve excellence in tea research and to provide technological guidance to the tea industry, in order to make Sri Lankan tea the most preferred tea in the world, at a competitive price.

Our Mission



To generate and transfer scientific knowledge and technologies appropriate for the stakeholders to improve productivity and quality of Sri Lankan tea in a most profitable manner.

Keep watching this blog for more about Ceylon tea.

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LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR TRIP TO SRI LANKA & CEYLON TEA

Sri Lanka Tea Board:

Sri Lanka Tea Board Website: <http://www.pureceylontea.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sri-Lanka-Tea-Board/181010221960446>