

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO
9884-1

First edition
1994-12-01

Tea sacks — Specification —

Part 1:

Reference sack for palletized and
containerized transport of tea

Sacs à thé — Spécifications —

*Partie 1: Sac de référence pour le transport palettisé et conteneurisé du
thé*



Reference number
ISO 9884-1:1994(E)

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 9884-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Agricultural food products*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Tea*.

ISO 9884 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Tea sacks — Specification*:

- *Part 1: Reference sack for palletized and containerized transport of tea*
- *Part 2: Performance specification for sacks for palletized and containerized transport of tea*

Annex A forms an integral part of this part of ISO 9884. Annex B is for information only.

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Printed in Switzerland

Introduction

The plywood tea chest was for many years the preferred and standard shipping unit for tea. However, the growing scarcity and cost of plywood in many producing countries has led in recent years to the use of alternatives based on more freely available and cheaper materials, such as paper and cardboard.

Amongst the various alternative forms of bulk packing tested, multi-ply kraft paper sacks have found wide and growing acceptance for the palletized and containerized transport of tea. One particular type of multi-ply paper sack with a polyethylene-bonded aluminium moisture and odour barrier has been developed following a number of transport and storage trials. It has been clearly shown to:

- withstand the handling and stresses involved in palletization, containerization, shipping and unpacking;
- adequately protect tea from the deleterious effect of moisture uptake and exposure to taint;
- load efficiently on to standard four-way entry pallets and into standard freight containers.

This part of ISO 9884 specifies the materials, construction and dimensions of this sack, which is intended to act as a performance reference sack against which sacks of different materials and construction may be tested. Minimum requirements and performance tests for sacks intended for palletized and containerized transport of tea are specified in ISO 9884-2¹⁾.

It is anticipated that stronger, puncture-resistant materials (for example, cross-laminated high-density polyethylene) will permit the development and future specification of a reference sack capable of withstanding the stresses involved in handling and transport prior to palletization and containerization.

1) To be published.