

| Brand and name (in alphabetical order within groups) | 1 Origin | Manufacturer / distributor | Pesticide residues (ppm) |
|--|--|----------------------------|--|
| BLACK TEA WITH PESTICIDE RESIDUE | | | |
| BILLY TEA 100 Tea Bags | Mainly Indonesia and PNG | Tetley | Fenvalerate 0.03; bifenthrin 0.01 |
| BLACK & GOLD Tea Pot Bags | Australia, other countries | AAPW | Permethrin 0.06 |
| BUSHHELLS Blue Label Tagged Tea Bags | Various countries, mainly Indonesia (A) | Unilever | Fenvalerate 0.01; dicofol 0.03 |
| FARMLAND Cup or Pot | Imported (B) | Coles Myer | Bifenthrin 0.01 |
| FORMOSAN Natural Formosan Tea | Taiwan | Formosan Tea Australia | Cypermethrin 0.22; fenvalerate 0.07; dicofol 0.01; endosulfan sulphate 0.01; phosalone 0.02 |
| IGA Tea Bags | Imported (B) | AAPW | Bifenthrin 0.01 |
| LAN CHOO Choice Small Leaf 100 Tagged Tea Bags | Various countries, mainly Indonesia (A) | Unilever | Fenvalerate 0.05 |
| SAVINGS 100 Tea Cup Bags | Sri Lanka | Coles Myer | Ethion 0.008 |
| BLACK TEA – ALL CLEAR | | | |
| DAINTREE Tea | Australia | Daintree Tea Co | Nothing detected |
| DILMAH Tea Cup Bags | Sri Lanka | Dilmah | Nothing detected |
| HARRIS Gold | Imported (B) | Douwe Egberts | Nothing detected |
| HOME BRAND 200 Tea Cup Bags | Imported (B) | Woolworths | Nothing detected |
| LIPTON Quality Number 1 Tea | Various countries, mainly India (A) | Unilever | Nothing detected |
| MADURA TEA Premium Blend | Sri Lanka, Australia | Madura Tea Estate | Nothing detected |
| NATURE'S CUPPA Organic Pure Ceylon Tea | Sri Lanka | Eat Rite | Nothing detected |
| NERADA 50 Tea Cup Bags | Australia | Nerada Tea | Nothing detected |
| NO FRILLS 100 Tea Cup Bags | Australia, other countries | Franklins | Nothing detected |
| TETLEY Tea Cup Bags | Imported (B) | Tetley | Nothing detected |
| TWININGS English Breakfast | Imported (B) | Manassen Foods | Nothing detected |
| TWININGS Lapsang Souchong Tea | China | Manassen Foods | Nothing detected |
| GREEN TEA WITH PESTICIDE RESIDUE | | | |
| BUTTERFLY China Green Tea | China | Fujian Holdings | Cypermethrin 0.07; fenvalerate 0.14; dicofol 0.04; bifenthrin 0.02 |
| DILMAH Jasmine Pure Green Tea | China (C) | Dilmah | Cypermethrin 0.06; fenvalerate 0.14; dicofol 0.06; op-DDT 0.01; endosulfan sulphate 0.01 |
| FORMOSAN Natural Chinese Green Formosan Tea | Taiwan | Formosan Tea Australia | Ethion 0.1; cypermethrin 0.24; fenvalerate 0.29; dicofol 0.08; bifenthrin 0.06; permethrin 0.76 |
| NAKED FOODS Green Tea Lemon Grass & Rosehip | Imported (B) | Naked Foods | Chlorpyrifos 0.01; chlorpyrifos methyl 0.03; profenophos 0.15 |
| NUTRILEAF NUTRI HEALTH FOODS Japanese Style Green Tea Sen-Cha | Imported (B) | Nutri Health Food Centre | Chlorfenvinphos 0.03; cypermethrin 0.03; fenvalerate 0.18; dicofol 0.02; bifenthrin 0.01 |
| RED SEAL Green Tea | China, Japan | Ancient Distributors | Cypermethrin 0.25; fenvalerate 0.06; dicofol 0.02; endosulfan sulphate 0.01 |
| SEN-CHA Green Tea | Japan | Jun Pacific Corporation | Isoxathion 0.01; chlorpyrifos 0.03; fenitrothion 0.01; fenvalerate 0.12; bifenthrin 0.04; prothiophos 0.13 |
| GREEN TEA – ALL CLEAR | | | |
| HEALTHERIES Green Chai Tea | Germany | Healtheries | Nothing detected |
| LIPTON Organic Green Tea | India (organic estate) (A) | Unilever | Nothing detected |
| MADURA TEA Green Tea | Asia, Australia | Madura Tea Estate | Nothing detected |
| NATURE'S CUPPA Organic Green Tea | Sri Lanka | Eat Rite | Nothing detected |
| NERADA Organic Green Tea | Indonesia (A) | Nerada Tea | Nothing detected |
| PLANET ORGANIC Green Tea | Sri Lanka (A) | Planet Tea | Nothing detected |
| TEAS OF CEYLON The Australian Tea Company Green Tea | Sri Lanka | Oppidan | Nothing detected |
| TETLEY Emperor's Garden Wisp Of Jasmine Green Tea | Imported (B) | Tetley | Nothing detected |
| TOYONO Japanese Style Green Tea | China | Oriental Merchant | Nothing detected |
| TWININGS Java Green Tea | Indonesia (Java) | Manassen Foods | Nothing detected |

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|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| HERBAL INFUSION WITH PESTICIDE RESIDUE | | | |
| HEALTHERIES Echinacea Tea | Germany | Healtheries | Ethion 0.007 |
| LIPTON Herbal Infusions Ginseng & Lime (D) | Various countries (A) | Unilever | Chlorpyrifos 0.02; cypermethrin 0.06; fenvalerate 0.02; prothiophos 0.01; phosalone 0.23 |
| LIPTON Herbal Infusions Lemon Soother | Various countries (A) | Unilever | Ethion 0.005; chlorpyrifos 0.01; dicofol 0.04; prothiophos 0.005 |
| LIPTON Herbal Infusions Orange Refresher | Various countries (A) | Unilever | Ethion 0.01; chlorpyrifos 0.03; methidathion 0.03; malathion 0.006; dicofol 0.02; |
| RED SEAL Lemon & Ginger Sensation (E) | New Zealand | Ancient Distributors | Chlorpyrifos 0.01 |
| TWININGS Cranberry, Raspberry & Elderflower Herbal Infusions | Imported (B) | Manassen Foods | Triazophos 0.01; pentachlorophenol 0.02 |
| HERBAL INFUSIONS – ALL CLEAR | | | |
| CELESTIAL SEASONINGS Lemon Zinger | USA | Stuart Alexander & Co | Nothing detected |
| HEALTHERIES St John's Wort Tea with Blended Berries | Germany | Healtheries | Nothing detected |
| KIN KIN TEA Lemon Grass Herbal Tea | Australia (F) | Moran Group Herbs | Nothing detected |
| NATURELAND Night Cup Herb Tea Bags | Various countries (B) | Cantarella Bros | Nothing detected |
| NATURELAND Rosehip Herb Tea Bags | Various countries (B) | Cantarella Bros | Nothing detected |
| NERADA Echinacea Herbal Infusion | Egypt (A) | Nerada Tea | Nothing detected |
| NUMULGI Lemongrass Tea | Australia (F) | Moran Group Herbs | Nothing detected |
| ONNO BEHREND'S TEE Rosehip Tea | Germany | Abel Lemon Dist. | Nothing detected |
| SUPERB Rosehip Herbal Tea | Macedonia | Spiroski Food Imports | Nothing detected |
| TASTY Rosehip and Hibiscus Tea | Germany | Menora Foods | Nothing detected |
| TWININGS Lemon & Ginger Herbal Infusions | Imported (B) | Manassen Foods | Nothing detected |
| TWININGS Raspberry & Peach Fruit Infusions | Imported (B) | Manassen Foods | Nothing detected |

ppm Parts per million (mg/kg).

AAPW Australian Asia Pacific Wholesalers.

- (A) Label only says 'imported'; this is what the companies told us.
- (B) No further country of origin information was given to us.
- (C) The label says only 'packed in Sri Lanka'; the company told us the tea is from China.
- (D) This product has been reformulated since our test and the apple ingredient removed.
- (E) This product has been discontinued since our test but you might still find old stock on shelves.
- (F) The lemongrass comes from two certified organic farms in Queensland.

1 Origin

A number of the products didn't specify where the tea or herbal infusion ingredients came from. This is legal because of weak country of origin labelling regulations that only require the label to say the product is made from 'imported ingredients'. CHOICE is pushing for much stronger laws, where manufacturers will have to disclose the country/countries the ingredients come from.

GO ORGANIC?

While not an absolute guarantee, eating certified organic foods (including tea) should greatly reduce how much pesticide you eat and drink. For more on organic food as well as what 'certified organic' means, see CHOICE, September 2000, or go to www.choice.com.au and type 'organic food' in the search box (access to this article is free).



The label proudly claims the tea is "grown without residual pesticides". Setting aside the nonsensical English (you don't grow tea with 'residual pesticides', you get the residues afterwards), this seems pretty ironic in view of our findings. This tea contained a cocktail of pesticides.