

UNITED TOBACCO COS. (SCOTL.) LTD.

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

REPORT NO. RD 1/70

CHANGES IN THE PH OF CELLULOSE ACETATE FILTERS
UNDER DIFFERENT STORAGE CONDITIONS, by J.B. SIBNEY

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THE UNITED TOBACCO COS. (SOUTH) LIMITED.

Research Department.
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REPORT NO. RD 9/70.

Should we refer to controls
 on a standard procedure before and after?

CHANGES IN THE pH OF CELLULOSE ACETATE FILTERS UNDER DIFFERENT STORAGE CONDITIONS. - J.E. SIMON

A number of apparently anomalous results for the pH values of acetate filters obtained during an earlier investigation suggested that time and/or storage conditions affected the values. To test this hypothesis the pH's of acetate filters were determined as follows:-

- i) from attached filter rods stored unpacked under ambient conditions
- ii) from filters attached to unpacked cigarettes stored under ambient conditions
- iii) from filters attached to packed cigarettes.

The results are shown in the following table:-

Storage time. (weeks)	pH of extracting water.	pH of filters.	Filters from unpacked cigarettes.		pH of extracting water.	Filters from packed cigarettes.	
			West.85	Gold Dollar.		West.85	Gold Dollar.
0	6.4	6.6	6.0	6.2	6.4	5.8	5.9
1	6.3	6.6	4.8	5.0	6.4	4.7	4.9
2	6.4	6.8	5.2	5.3	6.2	4.5	4.8
3	6.4	6.6	5.3	5.5	6.5	4.7	4.9
4	6.2	6.7	5.3	5.9	6.3	4.7	4.9
5	6.6	6.8	5.3	6.1	6.2	4.6	5.0
6	6.4	6.6	5.9	5.8	6.5	4.7	4.9
7	6.4	6.7	5.7	6.0	6.1	4.6	4.8
8	6.2	6.4	5.7	6.0			
9	6.5	6.7	6.0	6.1			
10	6.3	6.6	5.4	6.1			
11	6.4	6.6	6.0	6.3			
12	6.3	6.6		6.3			
13	6.2	6.5		6.3			
14	6.5	6.7		6.4			
15	6.1	6.5		6.3			

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CONCLUSIONS.

It is evident that:-

- i) The pH of unattached acetate filters does not change significantly.
- ii) The pH of filters from unpacked cigarettes falls rapidly and gradually returns to its initial value.
- iii) The pH of filters from packed cigarettes falls rapidly and maintains the lower value unchanged for a least 2 months.

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