Smokeless tobacco glossary (in alphabetical order)

**Bajjar.** A form of tobacco tooth powder traditionally used in India, in particular by women in state of Gujrat. The product has the appearance of a fine dry powder and is typically applied to the teeth and gums.

**Chewing tobacco.** A sub-category of oral smokeless tobacco products that are chewed during use.

**Chewing tobacco bits.** A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in Scandinavia. The manufacturing process consists of stem removal. Thereafter, the tobacco leaves are spun and “twisted” together by hand into a strand. The strand is cut into pieces. The final moisture content is typically higher than 15%. The product is chewed and subsequently discarded.

**Dissolvable tobacco.** A sub-category of non-traditional oral smokeless tobacco products that are placed in the oral cavity and allowed to dissolve during normal use.

**Dry snuff.** A sub-category of smokeless tobacco products, traditionally used in India, and the US, that are either administered nasally or placed between cheek and gum during normal use. Products have the appearance of a fine brown or black powder. The final moisture content is typically less than 10%.

**European snuff.** A form of nasal smokeless tobacco traditionally used in Europe and currently marketed globally. The products typically contain tobaccos of various origins which are dried and fine-milled into a golden brown powder.

**Gul.** A form of tobacco tooth powder traditionally used in India. The product is typically manufactured from pyrolysed tobacco and has the appearance of a fine dry powder. The product is usually applied to the teeth and gums.

**Gutkha.** A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in India. The product typically contains tobacco, areca nut, and catechu (acacia wood extract). Additional sweeteners and flavorings may be added. The product has a light brown to white granular appearance and is the most popular form of chewing tobacco in India. The product is also available in individual pre-packed portions.
**Khaini.** A form of chewing tobacco product used mainly in India. The product typically consists of tobacco particles mixed with lime and additional flavorings. The product has a brown granular appearance and is available both in loose form and in individual portioned sachets.

**Loose leaf chewing tobacco.** A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in North America and India. Products typically consist of loosely-packed cut or granulated stem-free tobacco leaf to which additional ingredients may be added. The final moisture content is usually higher than 15%. Loose leaf products are often sold in pouches.

**Mawa.** A form of chewing tobacco product used mainly in India. The product typically contains thin shavings of areca nuts, tobacco and slaked lime. It is similar to Gutkha.

**Mishri.** A form of tobacco tooth powder traditionally used in India. The product is typically manufactured by roasting powdered tobacco on a hot plate until it turns black uniformly. The product is usually applied to the teeth and gums.

**Moist snuff.** A sub-category of oral smokeless tobacco products traditionally used in the US. Products may be processed into fine particles (fine cut moist snuff; top image) or strips (long cut moist snuff; bottom image). The final moisture content is typically higher than 40%. The products are usually placed between lower lip and gum and require expectoration during use. The products are available both loose and in individually portioned sachets.

**Nasal smokeless tobacco products.** Smokeless tobacco products that are administered nasally during use.

**Nasal snuff (Western European).** A sub-category of nasal smokeless tobacco products traditionally used in Europe and the US. The products have the appearance of a fine powder, particle size being typically less than 1.25 mm and moisture content less than 30%. These products are principally produced in Western Europe or in other countries using traditional European formulations.

**Naswar.** A form of nasal snuff used in India. The product has the appearance of a dark-brown dry powder.
‘Old-style’ powdered tobacco. A form of nasal smokeless tobacco similar to the type of nasal snuff which has been consumed in Europe since the fifteenth century. The production methods vary considerably. A specific snuff, its consumption and method of production in the eighteenth century, is described by S. Kozlowski.

Oral smokeless tobacco products. Smokeless tobacco products that are placed in the oral cavity during use.

Pan masala. A mixture of catechu, areca nuts, lime flavors and spices, which is intended to be chewed. Pan masala is sometimes mixed with chewing tobacco. The product is traditional to India. The product may be handmade (upper image) or pre-manufactured (lower image).

Plug chewing tobacco. A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in North America. The product typically contains flaked tobacco leaves to which additional ingredients may be added. The final moisture content is typically higher than 15%. The product has the appearance of a compressed tobacco brick wrapped inside a natural tobacco leaf.

Quiwam. A form of oral tobacco paste traditionally used in India. The product typically contains an aqueous tobacco leaf extract mixed with spices and has the appearance of a thick brown paste.

Ready-to-use chewing tobacco mixtures. A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in Asia. Products typically consist of chopped tobacco mixed with other non-tobacco ingredients, such as areca nut or slaked lime. The final moisture content is typically less than 15%.

Schmalzler (German snuff). A form of nasal smokeless tobacco traditionally used in Bavaria, Germany. Products are typically manufactured from Brazilian tobaccos and have black-brown granular appearance.

Scotch snuff. A form of dry snuff, traditionally used in the USA, that is either administered orally or nasally. The product typically contains fermented fire-cured tobacco and has a moisture content between 4 and 6%. The product has the appearance of a fine powder.
Shammah. A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in North Africa and the Middle East. The product typically contains powdered tobacco and slaked lime, to which additional ingredients may be added. The product is available either in powdered form or as a paste. Color varies depending on the ingredients used. Also known as Makla.

Smokeless tobacco. Tobacco products that do not require combustion, or production of tobacco aerosol (smoke) by other means, at the time of use.

Snus. A sub-category of oral smokeless tobacco products, traditionally used in Scandinavia, which are manufactured using a tobacco heat-treatment process. Products are processed into fine particles. The final moisture content is typically higher than 40%. Semi-dry products (less than 40% moisture) are also available. The products are usually placed between upper lip and gum and do not require expectoration during use. Products are available both loose (upper image) and in individually portioned sachets (lower image).

Tobacco heat-treatment process. A step during the manufacture of some forms of smokeless tobacco in which the tobacco is exposed to high temperatures in a process similar to pasteurization.

Paste. A sub-category of oral smokeless tobacco products, traditionally used in Asia, consisting of tobacco extracts, spices, menthol, flavors and other permissible additives. The final moisture content is typically lower than 30%. The paste is usually combined with other ingredients, such as areca nut, slaked lime and catechu. The composite mixture is placed between the lip and gum, or cheek and gum, during normal use.

Tooth powder. A sub-category of oral smokeless tobacco products, traditionally used in Asia, that are applied to the teeth, during use.

Twist/roll chewing tobacco. A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in North America. The product has the appearance of thick rope-like twists of tobacco. The products are available in bulk portion. The final moisture content is typically greater than 15%.

Zarda. A form of chewing tobacco traditionally used in India. It is made from dry, rather coarse tobacco flakes, lime and flavorings such as saffron. It may also contain vegetable dyes. It is sometimes chewed with areca nut. The product has a light brown to white course appearance. Also known as Surti, Dokta, Sukla, Gundi, Pheri and Kharsan

Last update: 26.01.2010