

Perelman's Pocket Cyclopedia of Cigars 2010

HANDMADE CIGARS:

INTRODUCTION

This section provides the details on 1,321 brands of cigars, *actively marketed nationally* in the United States, a net *increase* of 112 brands from the 2009 edition. Each brand listing includes notes on country of manufacture, the origin of the tobaccos used, shapes, names, lengths, ring gauges, wrapper color and a brief description *as supplied by the manufacturers and/or distributors of these brands*. Ring gauges for some brands of cigarillos were not available.

Please note that while a cigar may be manufactured in one country, it may contain tobaccos from many nations. The designation “handmade” indicates the use of long-filler tobacco unless otherwise noted.

Although manufacturers have recognized more than 70 shades of wrapper color, six major color groupings are used here. Their abbreviations include:

- ▶ DC = Double Claro: green, also known as American Market Selection, “AMS” or Candela.
- ▶ Cl = Claro: a very light tan color.
- ▶ CC = Colorado Claro: a medium brown common to many cigars
- ▶ Co = Colorado: reddish-brown.
- ▶ CM = Colorado Maduro: dark brown.
- ▶ Ma = Maduro: very dark brown (also “double Maduro”)
- ▶ Os = Oscuro: black.

Many manufacturers call their wrapper colors “Natural” or “English Market Selection.” These colors cover a wide range of browns and we have generally grouped them in the “CC” range. Darker wrappers such as those from Cameroon show up most often in the “CM” category.

Shape designations are based on our shape chart in section 1.03.

Careful readers will note the freedom with which manufacturers attach names of shapes to cigars which do not resemble that shape at all! For easier comparison, all lengths were rounded to the shortest eighth of an inch, although manufacturers list sizes in 16ths or even 32nds of an inch.

Although 1,321 brands are listed, house brands of cigar lounges or individual tobacco stores do not appear. To qualify for inclusion, a brand must be actively marketed (as opposed to simply available) to retailers through a wholesale distributor *in the United States*. Beginning with the 2007 edition, we have *condensed* the listings of brands we believe to be in production, but for which complete details were not provided. Brands distributed from *outside the U.S.* for import are not listed. Sorry!

Readers who would like to see their favorite listed in the 2011 edition can contact us at www.CigarCyclopedia.com.