CLAIMS

1. A tobacco cut filler for a smoking article comprising at least 10% by weight of cut rolled tobacco stems having been rolled to a mean thickness of 0.6 mm to 0.8 mm, having a mean cut width of 0.1 mm to 0.2 mm and a mean cross-sectional area of 0.12 to 0.15 square millimetres.

2. A tobacco cut filler according to claim 1 comprising at least 20 % by weight of cut rolled stems.

3. A tobacco cut filler according to claim 1 or 2 comprising between ~~5~~ 10% and 40 % by weight of cut rolled stems.

~~4. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim wherein the cut rolled tobacco stems have a mean thickness of 0.8 mm to 1.0 mm.~~

~~5~~4. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim ~~4~~ wherein the cut rolled tobacco stems have a mean thickness of 0.9 mm.

~~6~~5. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim wherein the cut rolled tobacco stems have a filling power of at least 6.3 cubic centimetres per gram at a reference moisture value of 12.5 % oven volatiles.

~~7~~6. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim wherein the cut rolled tobacco stems have less than 7.5 % by weight of particles having a particle size of less than 500 micrometers.

~~8~~7. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim wherein the cut rolled tobacco stems have less than 0.3 % by weight of particles having a particle size greater than 3.35 mm.

~~9~~8. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim wherein the cut rolled tobacco stems have a substantially intact epidermal cellular structure.

~~10. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim comprising between 5% and 40% cut rolled tobacco stems.~~

~~11~~9. A tobacco cut filler according to any preceding claim comprising at least 60% by weight tobacco lamina having a mean cut width of 0.8 mm to 1.1 mm and a mean thickness of about 0.2 mm.

~~12~~10. A tobacco cut filler according to claim ~~11~~ 9 wherein the mean cut width of the cut rolled tobacco stems is within 0.05 mm of the mean thickness of the tobacco lamina.

~~13~~11. A smoking article comprising a rod of the tobacco cut filler according to any of claims 1 to ~~12~~10.