



The Rubber Board NEWS BULLETIN

Rubber Products Incubation Centre starts functioning at RRII

Dr K.N Raghavan IRS, Chairman and Executive Director, Rubber Board inaugurated the Rubber Products Incubation Centre (RPIC), at Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII). In his inaugural address he said that RPIC is intended to cater to the interests of non tyre manufacturing sector amongst natural rubber consuming industry, which is a very vibrant sector with more than 4000 registered units and export earnings of 11700 crores. RPIC is intended as a centre where ideas and innovations could find expressions and get converted in to marketable products of rubber. He further stated that RPIC would serve to increase uses and consumption of NR and build up rubber products as a viable alternative to plastic. He ended his address by expressing the hope that a hundred ideas bloom and attain functions through RPIC.

Dr. James Jacob, Director (Research) RRII said that an incubation centre is a place for ideas and concepts and hoped that the next generation of rubber growers may come to the Centre with ideas and convert their ideas to tangible products by utilizing the services rendered there. Entrepreneurs from non tyre rubber products, Mr. Siby Sebastian and Mr. Sudeendran also spoke on the occasion.

Many of the small players in the Medium Small and Micro Enterprises (MSME) sector lack expertise and in-house R&D facilities for product manufacturing which hampers timely technological up-gradation and compromises the competitiveness of the sector, both in domestic and export markets. RPIC will act as a hub for converting ideas and innovations of entrepreneurs in to quality rubber products,

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Dr. K.N. Raghavan, Chairman and Executive Director, Rubber Board inaugurating the Rubber Products Incubation Centre at RRII

Highlights

● Grower's Corner

Keep cups inverted

RubSIS

Cultural operations

- Seedling nursery

- Field planding

- crop protection

● Training Programmes

Online training in latex goods manufacture

Training in production of root trainer plants

● Rubber Price

And more

Keep cups inverted after latex collection



Rainy season is to begin in Kerala soon. In this context the Rubber Board requests all rubber growers to ensure that the latex collection cups in their holdings are kept in inverted position after collecting latex in the rainy season. This is because rainwater getting collected in the cups is a good medium for breeding of mosquitoes.

When tapping is carried out uninterruptedly, at least once every week, there is little chance for the water to remain in the cups for long. But as the monsoon sets in, tapping operations may be disrupted for longer periods, leading to

proliferation of mosquitoes. Rainwater may also get collected in the folds of plastic rainguards fixed on the trees, in the old and damaged collection cups, other utensils and old plastic sheets lying discarded in the plantations. The Board requests all rubber growers and tappers to be careful to avoid such circumstances.

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meeting the required technical specifications. Scientists and engineers attached to RPIC would handhold individual entrepreneurs through various stages of product development while providing access to machines and holding equipments available here. Entrepreneurs would also be able to gain access to technical books and journals available in library in Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII). Ideas and innovations can be in the field of rubber farming, processing, product development, recycling/reuse of products and control of pollution/environmental degradation.

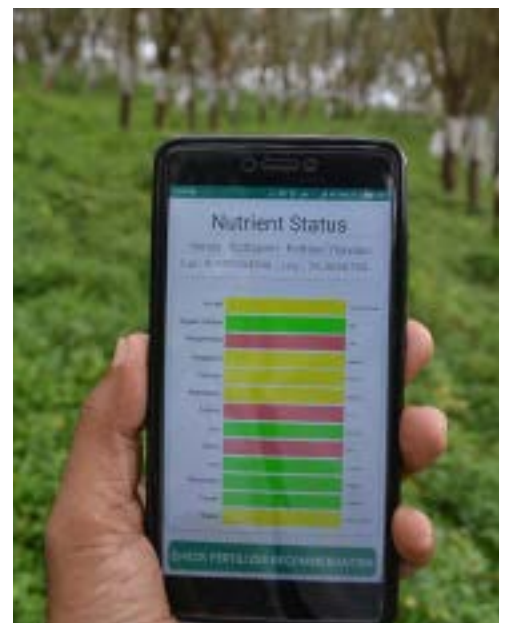


The ultimate goal is to develop a strong and vibrant rubber product manufacturing industry working together with growers of natural rubber to add value at each cog of the supply chain so as to enrich the entire sector.

RPIC is housed at the ground floor of Advanced Centre for Rubber Technology complex at RRII Campus, Puthupally.

Online fertilizer recommendation- Rubber Soil Information System (RubSIS)

Based on the geo-statistically derived thematic information on soil fertility as well as soil depth data and following the guidelines of discriminatory fertilizer recommendation, web based online fertilizer recommendation for rubber



estates in South India was developed. Certain web map services including 'Google Map' were integrated in the programme, so that the farmers can easily identify their estates and obtain the fertilizer requirement. Farmers can access online fertilizer recommendation through mobile app RubSIS (Android) and <http://rubsis.rubberboard.org.in>.

Important farm activities in July

Raising seedling nurseries

In South India, the fruits of Hevea ripen by the end of July and the dry fruits dehisce and the seeds are collected. The rubber seeds have shorter viability, however, the viability can be prolonged up to two months by mixing with moist charcoal powder and then packed in gunny bags lined with perforated polythene sheet or double gunny bags. Germination beds may be prepared in advance so that seeds can be sown for germination without much delay. The seeds are washed thoroughly and then sown in single layer touching one another and pressed firmly into the sand, with the surface of the seeds just visible above. Germination starts within six to seven days after sowing.

Seeds sprouted each day should be picked and planted in the nursery or in the fields as the case may be. Delay in transplanting may cause damage to the tender roots. Seeds which do not germinate within 2-3 weeks may be discarded.

Field planting



If weather is favourable, planting can be carried out during this month also.

Seedlings and budded stumps

Planting of seedling stumps and budded stumps should be done immediately after pulling out. While planting budded stumps, the bud patch should be just above the ground level to reduce the effects of elephant foot and infection by soil-borne pathogens.

Polybag plants

At the time of planting, the top whorl of leaves of the plant should be fully mature. A planting hole slightly bigger than the size of the polybag is made. The tip of the tap root, if grown out of the bag, should be removed. The bottom of the bag is cut and the bag along with the plant is placed in the hole, gradually filling the hole while keeping the soil core intact. The cut is continued as the bag is slit open and carefully removed. The soil is then packed firmly around the plants.

Root trainer plants

At transplanting, the root plug can be separated from the container without any damage by inverting it and giving a gentle tap of the rim of the root trainer cup to any hard surface. A planting hole can be made in the refilled planting pit by pressing the empty root trainer cup into soil. The root plug is carefully inserted into the planting hole and the soil around it is compacted. The root trainer plants show early establishment due to its well developed root system.

Weed control

Weeding should be carried out by adopting either manual methods or by use of herbicides in the rubber plantations. The weeds removed manually may be kept in plant rows which when dried can be used for mulching the plant base.

Disease control

Spraying Bordeaux mixture (1%) may be carried out at fortnightly intervals to protect young plants in the nursery as well as in the field against shoot rot disease.

Periodic inspection for detecting pink disease affected plants may be undertaken on sunny days as the disease is prevalent during southwest monsoon period. The main seat of infection is usually the fork region. Initially white



or pink coloured cobweb mycelial growth on the bark surface may appear with streaks of latex oozing out from the lesions. Rotting, drying up and cracking of the affected bark will follow. In the early stages of infection Bordeaux paste has to be applied on the infected parts extending up to 30 cm above and below the affected areas. When the infection is in its advanced stage cracks are formed in the bark and exudation of latex occurs. In such cases Bordeaux paste may be applied initially and after drying, the affected region may be scraped to remove all the rotting bark and mycelium and then the paste is applied again as done earlier. Dried branches after disinfection should be pruned off and burnt. Application of fungicides like Thiride was found effective in containing the disease when incorporated (10g/kg) in a petroleum wound dressing compound.

If tapping is continued during the rainy season use of an effective panel protectant is essential to protect the tapping panel from bark rot which may occur during the season. If any leakage is found in the rainguards it should be rectified and if necessary it may be replaced with new ones.

Fungicide like Indofil M-45/Dithane M-45 (5 gm/l of water) or Akomin/Phosjet (2ml/litre) may be applied at weekly intervals on the tapping cut against bark rot disease. In trees where the infection is advanced and the panel is rotten, the surface may be scraped to remove the decaying tissues and washed with effective fungicide solution and then any of the wound dressing compounds like Rubberkot, Sopkot, Treseal etc. may be applied to the panel.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES OF THE RUBBER BOARD

The following training courses will be conducted by the Rubber Training Institute during July 2020

1. Online training in latex goods manufacture

The Rubber Board organizes a three day online training programme in latex goods manufacture for entrepreneurs and other interested persons, from 15 to 17 July 2020. The training will start at 10 am and close at 1.00 pm every day. The training includes scope of latex based industries, latex compounding and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) schemes. The fee prescribed for this training is Rs.900/- (exclusive of taxes). The trainees can pay the fee directly to account No. 1450300184 of Central Bank of India (IFS Code-CBIN 0284150 in favor of Director, Training, Rubber Board, Kottayam. 2.

Training in production of root trainer plants

The Rubber Board organizes a training programme in production of root trainer plants at Rubber Training Institute, Kottayam on 16 July 2020. The course content includes brown budding, green budding and the production of root trainer plants. The training fee is Rs. 500/- (18 per cent GST extra). The training will be conducted in accordance with the SOP issued by DoP&T in connection with the containment of COVID-19 pandemic.

SC/ST participants are eligible to get 50% concession in course fee on production of caste certificate. Payment can be made by direct remittance to the Board's account with Central Bank of India, RB, Kottayam, IFS Code CBIN0284150 A/C No. 1450300184. For details contact 0481 2353127, 2353326, 2351313, 2353325. Fax No. 0481 2353187. E-mail: training@rubberboard.org.in

DAILY NATURAL RUBBER PRICE - JUNE 2020 - [Price/Rs/Qtl]							
DATE	Domestic			International			
	Kottayam			Kochi		Bangkok	
	RSS-4	RSS-5	60%LATEX	RSS-4	RSS-5	RSS-3	RSS-4
01-06-2020	11800	11300	8295	11700	11300	10851	10780
02-06-2020	11900	11400	8350	11900	11400	10916	10845
03-06-2020	12000	11500	8455	12000	11500	Holiday	Holiday
04-06-2020	12000	11500	8560	12000	11500	10987	10915
05-06-2020	12000	11600	8665	12000	11600	11064	10993
06-06-2020	12000	11600	Holiday	12000	11600	Holiday	Holiday
07-06-2020	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
08-06-2020	12100	11700	8665	12100	11700	11320	11248
09-06-2020	12100	11750	8665	12100	11750	11329	11257
10-06-2020	12150	11750	8665	12150	11750	11511	11438
11-06-2020	12250	11850	8665	12250	11850	11470	11397
12-06-2020	12250	11900	8665	12250	11900	11497	11424
13-06-2020	12250	11900	Holiday	12250	11900	Holiday	Holiday
14-06-2020	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
15-06-2020	12300	11900	8665	12300	11900	11546	11472
16-06-2020	12250	11850	8665	12250	11850	11594	11520
17-06-2020	12150	11800	8610	12150	11800	11556	11483
18-06-2020	12050	11700	8505	12050	11700	11509	11436
19-06-2020	12000	11600	8455	12000	11600	11593	11519
20-06-2020	12000	11500	Holiday	12000	11500	Holiday	Holiday
21-06-2020	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
22-06-2020	12000	11500	8400	12000	11500	11649	11576
23-06-2020	11900	11500	8400	11900	11500	11683	11609
24-06-2020	11900	11500	8400	11900	11500	11674	11600
25-06-2020	11800	11450	8400	11800	11450	11680	11607
26-06-2020	11800	11450	8400	11800	11450	11673	11600
27-06-2020	11800	11450	Holiday	11800	11450	Holiday	Holiday
28-06-2020	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
29-06-2020	11800	11450	8350	11800	11450	11553	11480
30-06-2020	11800	11450	8350	11800	11450	11539	11466
Average	12013	11610	8511	12010	11610	11438	11365