# COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF THE CLONE RRISL 2006

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The *Hevea* breeding programme in Sri Lanka aims to produce high yielding and vigorous rubber clones with good secondary characteristics for adoption by the rubber sector. The full-sib population produced by the 1982 hybridization programme was evaluated at various stages *viz*., nursery, small scale clone trial and estate collaborative large scale trials in different agro-climatic regions. Subsequently, RRISL 2006 (HP 82-140) was identified as a very promising clone with good latex and timber properties. Based on the evaluation, clone RRISL 2006 was recommended as a Group III clone for small scale planting in plantation sector. This paper discusses about various aspects of the clone in terms of its morphological characteristics, biochemical aspects of latex and disease resistance traits.

**Keywords**: Morphology, RRISL 2006, Yield profiles

In Sri Lanka, *Hevea* breeding programme aim to produce high yielding vigorous clones with good secondary characteristics for the rubber sector. In order to enhance yield potential of the cultivated clones continuous attempts are being made to introduce clones from different countries for genetic improvement of the tree. Following the 1982 hybridization programme, the heterogeneous seedling population was initially evaluated in the nursery. Subsequently, the selected hybrids were cloned and evaluated in a phased manner in Small Scale Clone Trials (SSCT) and large scale in Estate Collaborative Trials (ECT) in different agro-climatic regions to assess their region-wise adaptability. After the above evaluation process, RRISL 2006 (HP 82-140) was recommended as a very promising clone with good latex and timber properties (Jayasekara, 1977; Fernando, 1982; Liyanage, 2016; Anushka *et al.*, 2017). This paper mainly describes the various stages of evaluation of the clone RRISL 2006 and its important physiological and morphological properties. Clone RRISL 2006 is a progeny of a cross between IAN 45/710 and PB 28/59, as the female and male parents, respectively (Fig. 1). The parents possess very good latex and timber properties as well as improved disease-resistance characteristics. Therefore, the clone RRISL 2006 possessed high yield, vigourous growth, and important disease-resistance features as transmitted from its parental clones (Fernando, 1982; Liyanage, 2008, Liyanage, 2016).

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