

## **CROWN BUDDING : PROSPECTS AND EARLY RESULTS IN VIETNAM**

Lai Van Lam and Tran Trung Hai

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Seven crown budding trials conducted at Rubber Research Institute of Vietnam have shown that crown could exert influence on the trunk clone : both positive and negative. Important trunk characters modified by crown clones are vigour, yield, diseases and latex characteristics. A proposal is made to adopt crown diversified three-part-plants for commercial planting so as to make use of the beneficial effects of crown on trunk.

**Key words :** *Hevea*, Crown budding, Vietnam.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Crown budding was first adopted in Indonesia (Java) in 1928 to control *Oidium* (Young, 1952). In the 1930s it was used in South America to reduce damages caused by South American Leaf Blight (Sorensen, 1942). Various aspects of crown budding have been studied in detail by the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia in later years. Rubber Research Institute of Vietnam (RRIV) carried out crown budding in 1976 for controlling pink disease on RRIM 600. Rubber plantations in Vietnam are spread over different regions having varying ecological conditions with serious disease problems and, therefore, there is good scope for crown budding as a method to control crown diseases.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Seven crown budding trials were taken up during 1975-'87 period to identify

potential trunk crown combinations. Trunk clones used were : RRIM 600, PB 235, PB 310 and PB 311 - all high yielders. (Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia, 1989). A total of 53 clones from different sources. (RRIM 600, RRIM 623, RRIM 712, IAN 2878, IAN 2903, IAN 6721, PB 5/51, PB 260, PB 312, PR 107, PR 261, GT 1, FDR 1305, RRIC 101, RRIC 102, RRIC 104, RRIC 110, RRIC 117, RRIC 121, RRIC 123, RRIC 130, RRIC 132, L.H.I. 1, L.H.I. 9, L.H.I. 75, L.H.I. 92, L.H.I. 122, L.H.I. 130, L.H.I. 156, L.H.I. 159, L.H.I. 162, L.H.I. 171, L.H.I. 194, L.H.I. 198, L.H.I. 231, MT 48/47, MT 57/54, MT 22/32, RO 3/94, RO 3/483, RO 20/115, BK 18, BK 28, BK 32, BK 50, GU 176, VT 1, VT 2, VT 3, VT 4, VT 5, AC 21/100 and VM 518) were used as crown. Number of trunk clones included in different trials varied from 1-3 and those of crown clones ranged between 4-40. Some trials were of small scale nature having plot size of 10-12 plants while some others were large scale trials with 40