

RUBBER PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS 1969-1970

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Recommendations on choice of clones and clonal seed suited to Papua and New Guinea conditions were published in *the Papua and New Guinea Agricultural Journal*, Volume 17, No. 4. The article gave a brief description of each recommended clone, together with the price of its budwood (which is available from Bisianumu). Copies are available on request from the Director, Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Konedobu, Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

The following notes provide revised recommendations in the light of subsequent experience. However, it should be noted that, although most of the recommended clones are now in tap locally, yield trials at Bisianumu have only recently begun producing and indications of yield potential are based mainly on overseas performance.

CLASS I—FOR LARGE-SCALE PLANTING

Clones: PR 107, RRIM 600, 623.

Clonal seedlings: Prang Besar Gough Garden No. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Bisianumu Clonal Seed Garden (limited quantities of clonal seed will be available).

CLASS II—FOR MODERATE-SCALE PLANTING

Clones: RRIM 605, 607, 628, 701, 703, 705, 706, PB 5/51, PB 217, GT 1, LCB 1320, Ch 26.

Clonal seedlings: Prang Besar Gough Gardens No. 5 and 6.

CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS CLONE RECOMMENDATIONS

RRIM 513 has been withdrawn because of generally poor local performance and susceptibility to wind damage.

Ch 30 and PB 213 have been withdrawn because their performance has been generally below expectation.

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PB 5/51 has been downgraded to Class II because of susceptibility to *Gloeosporium* and *Oidium* leaf diseases and above average incidence of brown bast in later years.

RRIM 703, 705 and 706 have been added to Class II because of their above average vigour and high yield in Malaysian trials.

DESCRIPTION OF RECOMMENDED CLONES

Most of the clones were described in the earlier paper and only the three newly recommended clones are described here.

RRIM 703

Average to above average in vigour. Late upright branching. Wind damage average. Average to above average susceptibility to *Gloeosporium*, but leaves are often retained. Virgin bark very thick, good but slightly bumpy bark renewal. Very precocious yielder, outyielding RRIM 605 by one third over first three years in Malaysian trials.

RRIM 705

Very vigorous, heavy crown, dense canopy, high and wide-angled branching. Stem has a tendency to bend during immaturity. Susceptible to *Gloeosporium* and *Oidium*. Virgin bark above average thickness. Yield in first year above average.

RRIM 706

Very vigorous. Late branching. Oval-shaped heavy crown with dense foliage. High incidence of stem-bending during immaturity. Average susceptibility to *Gloeosporium* and *Oidium*. Virgin bark above average thickness. Yield in first year average.