

CONTENTS

Temperature corrected ready-reckoner chart for determination of dry rubber content in <i>Hevea</i> latex using the Metrolac <i>K V V S Kudaligama, G V L Nilmini, V H L Rodrigo and R P S Randunu</i>	1
Exogenous nitric oxide donor sodium nitroprusside ameliorates root architecture and growth performance in young budding polybagged plants of rubber (<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>) <i>N M C Nayanakantha, P D Pathirana, A M W K Senevirathna and P Seneviratne</i>	9
Evaluation of the antagonistic effect of different plant species on white root disease causing fungus: <i>Rigidoporus microporus</i> <i>M K R Silva, C K Jayasinghe and B I Tennakoon</i>	25
Rubber in East assures the perceived benefits; a case study showing increased rubber production, amelioration of the climate and improved rural livelihood <i>V H L Rodrigo, S M M Iqbal, E S Munasinghe, B M D C Balasooriya and P M M Jayathilake</i>	33
Availability and leaching of nutrients after biofilm biofertilizer applications into a Red Yellow Podsolc soil <i>R P Hettiarachchi, R S Dharmakeerthi, G Seneviratne, A N Jayakody, E de Silva, T Gunathilake, A Thewarapperuma and C K Maheepala</i>	43
Use of yield-yield correlation for early selection of newly developed <i>Hevea</i> genotypes <i>S P Withanage, H P Peiris, L S Kariyawasam, I D M J Sarath Kumara, T M S K Gunasekara and B W A N Baddewithana</i>	54

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Rubber industry towards a greener economy

Sri Lankan institutes mandated for research on plantation crops, i.e. rubber, tea, coconut and sugarcane, jointly organize the Plantation Crop Research Symposium as a biennial event to present their research findings for the benefits of their stakeholders. It began in 2004 and 5th Symposium was held in Colombo in 2014 with the leadership given by the Sugarcane Research Institute under the theme of "Towards a greener plantation economy". These symposia create a platform for Scientists, Academics, Industrialists, Inventors, Plantation Managers and Policy makers to share the knowledge and experience to work together for the betterment of the country. In view of encouraging the scientists to present their best findings in the 5th Symposium, the Chairmen's and Directors' Forum of four Plantation Crop Research Institutes decided to publish high quality Symposium papers in the peer reviewed journals available at respective research institutes. From RRISL, ten papers presented in line with greener economy including the best paper presentation in the 5th Symposium. Two papers were withdrawn by the authors from publishing in the Journal of the Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka. Despite the reviews made for the Symposium, the rest were peer reviewed once again for the suitability in the Journal as per the criteria given. Ultimately based on referees' comments, six papers were accepted by the Editors and published as one volume in this issue. Editors wish this contributes towards aspirations for a greener rubber industry.