

## ***Hevea brasiliensis* (Rubber tree)**

### **Classification**

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Tracheophytes

Clade: Angiosperms

Clade: Rosids

Order: Malpighiales

Family: Eulhoebiaceae

Genus: *Hevea*

Species: *brasiliensis*



### **PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

**Trunk:** The trunk is cylindrical and may have a swollen, bottle shaped base.

**Leaves:** Leaves: The leaves have three leaflets and are spirally arranged.

**Flowers:** Flowers are pungent, creamy-yellow and have no petals.

**Fruit:** The fruit is a capsule that contains three large seeds.

### **DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT**

The tree requires a tropical or subtropical climate and needs about 1200mm per year of rainfall, and no frost.

### **CULTIVATION AND USES**

It produces latex, which is converted into rubber. It is used as a fuelwood in most of the countries. It can be used to produce paper.

### **INTERESTING FACTS**

A single tree produces 60-150 kg of rubber during its lifetime. It is drought tolerance.