

WIDENING THE HEVEA GENETIC BASE : A NEW IRRDB EXPEDITION TO THE AMAZON, PERU

Ramli Othman, PhD

drramli53@yahoo.com

IPCEX 2016 , JOHOR BAHRU, MALAYSIA 02-041116

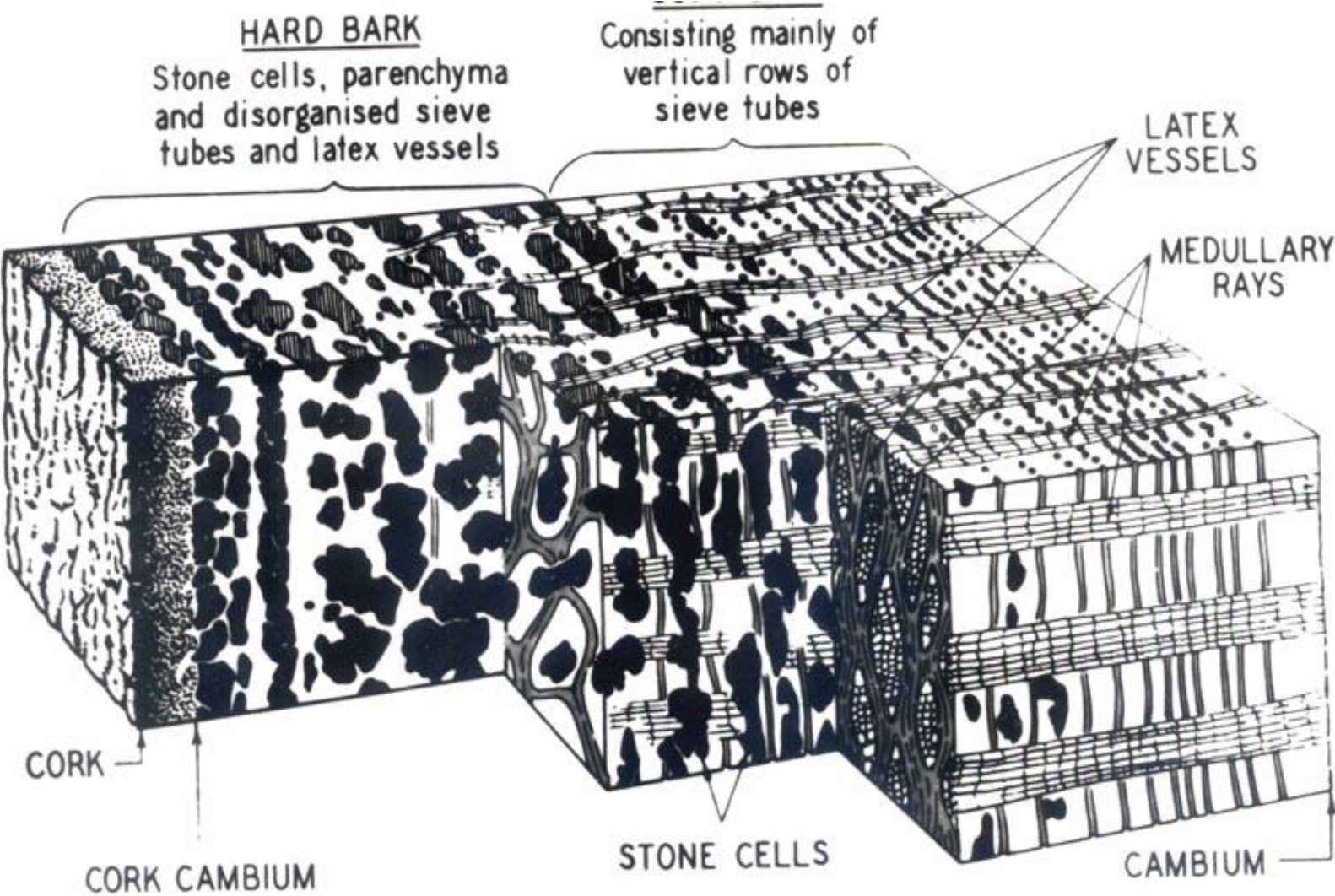
Natural Rubber

- **Family** : *Euphorbiaceae*
- **Genus** : *Hevea*
- **Species** : *H.brasiliensis*, *H.pauciflora*,
H.camargoana, *H.nitida*, *H. spruceana*,
H.rigidifolia, *H.benthamiana*, *H.guianensis*,
H.microphylla, *H.camporum*

LATEX



BARK



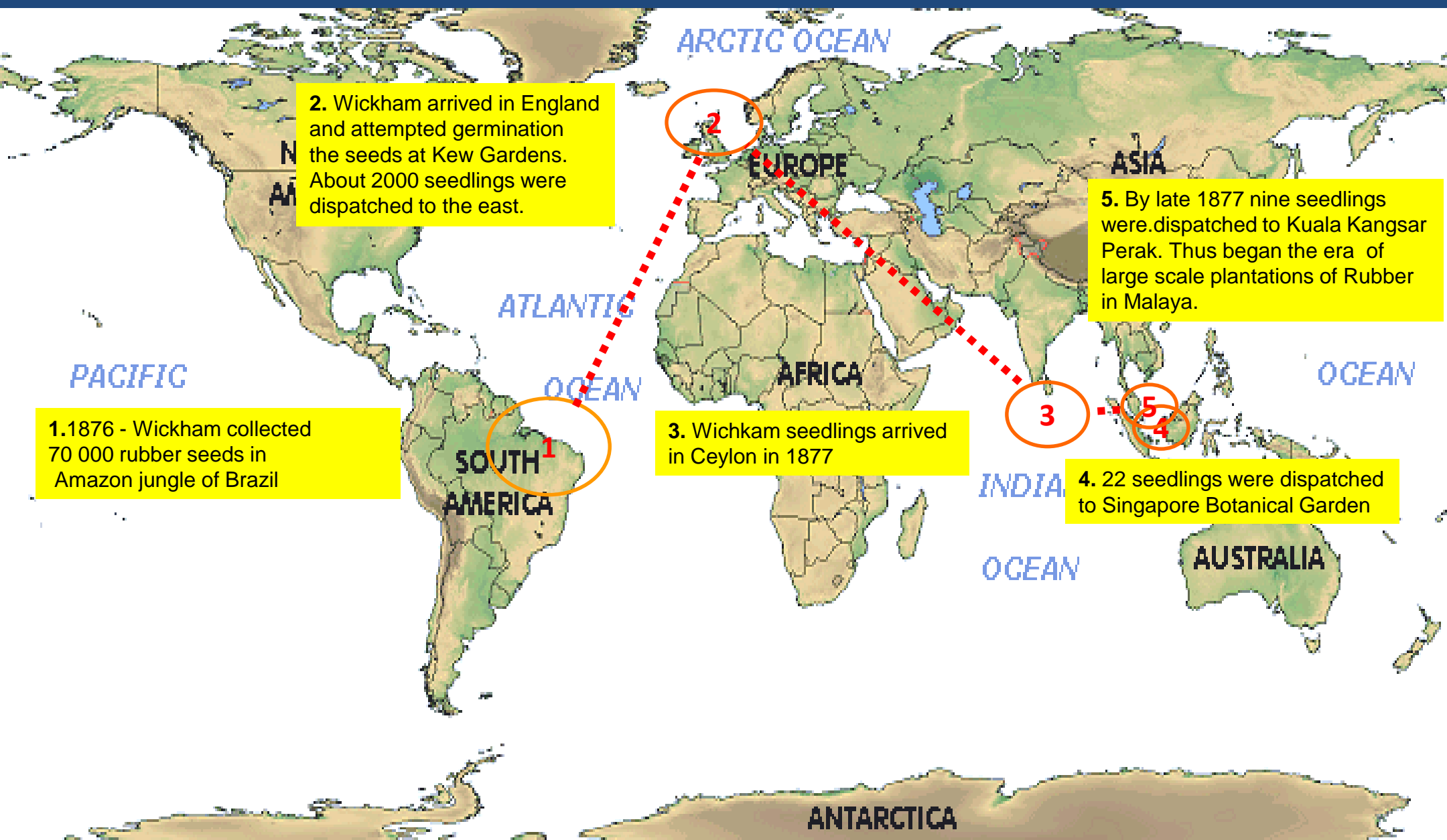
GENUS *HEVEA*



- Grows wild in the Amazon basin in Brazil as the center of diversity
- Different species prefer varying habitats
- Also growing naturally in the neighbouring countries such as Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela.

— Natural distribution of *Hevea brasiliensis*
— Region of origin of genus *Hevea*

Rubber Introduction to Malaysia



2. Wickham arrived in England and attempted germination the seeds at Kew Gardens. About 2000 seedlings were dispatched to the east.

1. 1876 - Wickham collected 70 000 rubber seeds in Amazon jungle of Brazil

3. Wickham seedlings arrived in Ceylon in 1877

5. By late 1877 nine seedlings were dispatched to Kuala Kangsar Perak. Thus began the era of large scale plantations of Rubber in Malaya.

4. 22 seedlings were dispatched to Singapore Botanical Garden

Oldest Rubber Tree - Kuala Kangsar

Planted in 1877

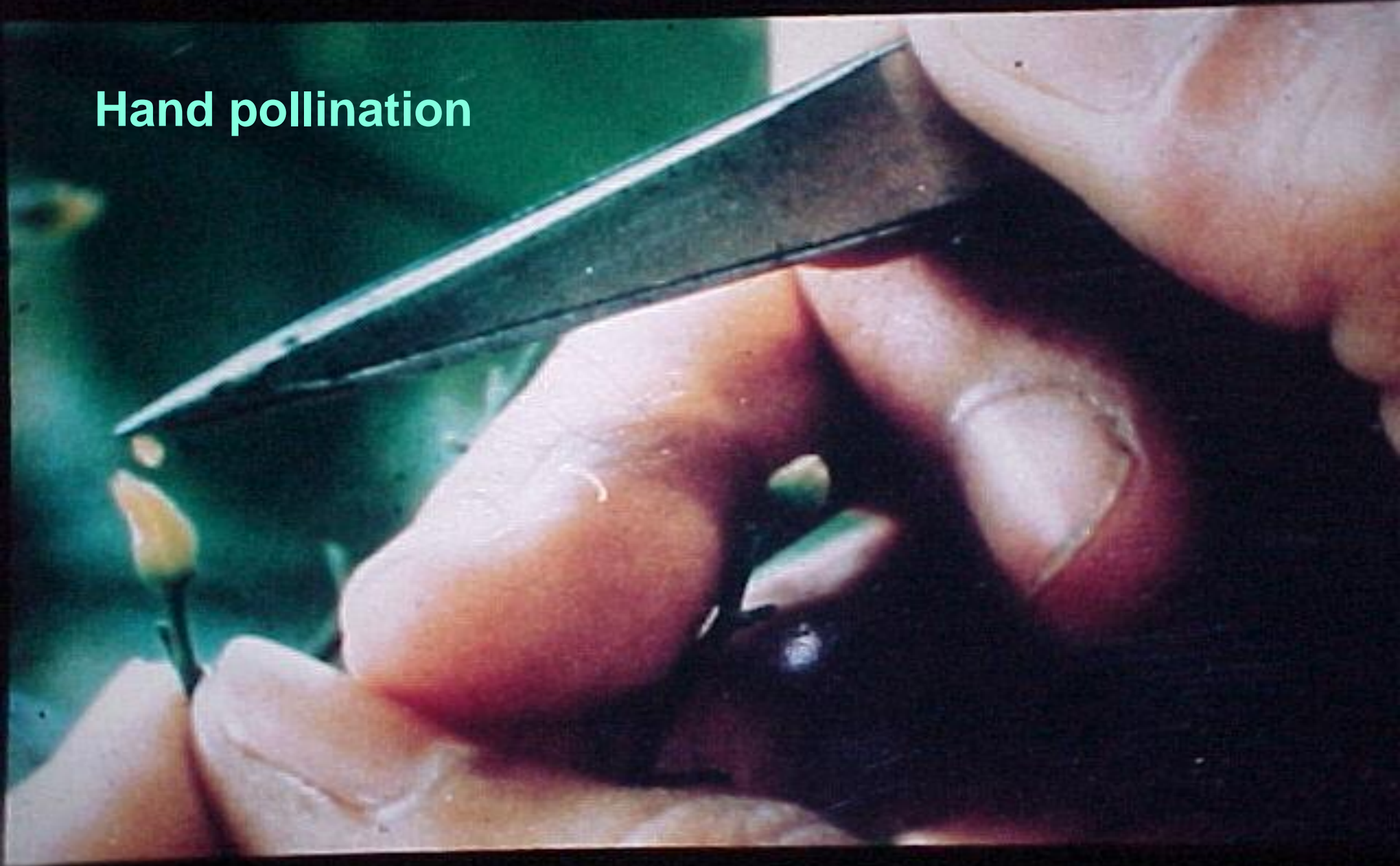




HENRY N. RIDLEY: “FATHER OF THE MALAYSIAN RUBBER INDUSTRY”



Hand pollination



HEVEA BREEDING PROGRAMME

**Planting
Recommendation**

Updating the list of clones recommended for planting

LSCT

- *Replicated trials in different environments*
- *Selection of Group I clones*

SSCT

- *Replicated plots*
- *Selection of potential clones*

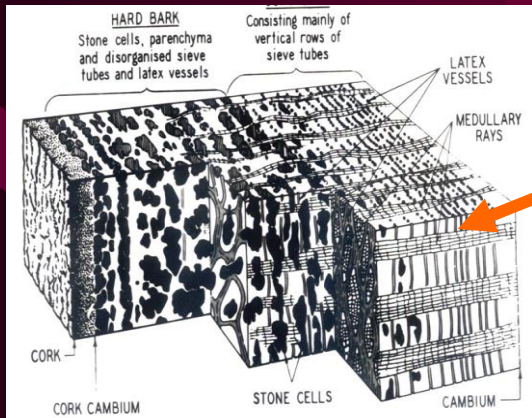
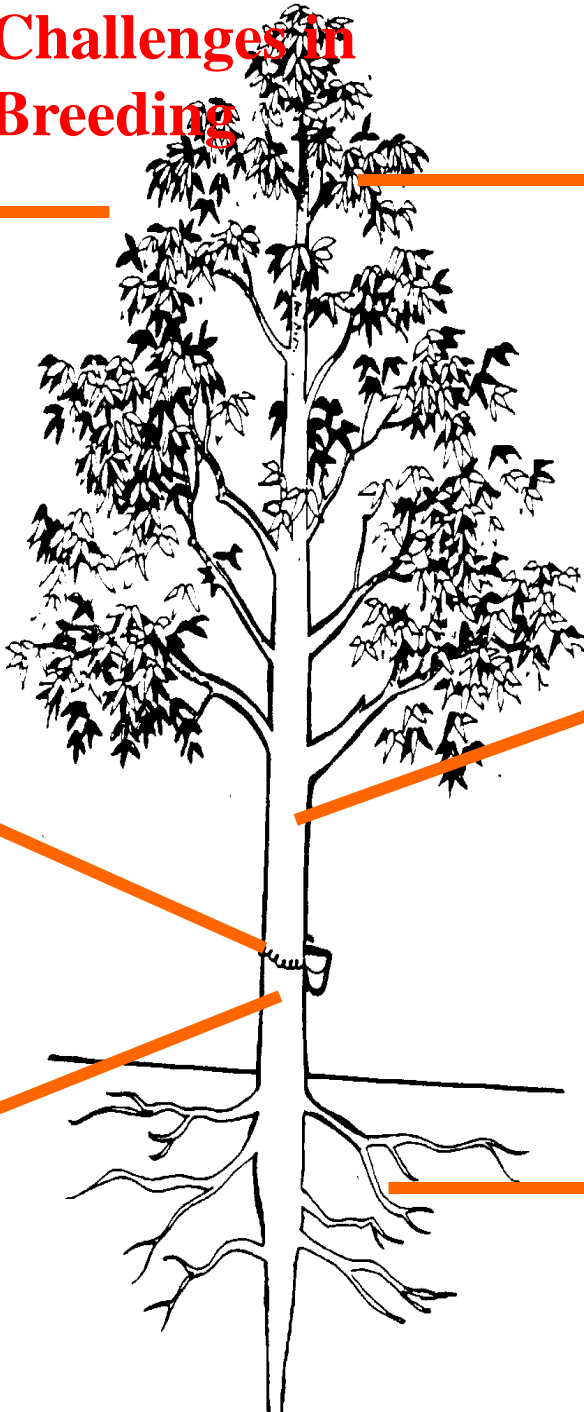
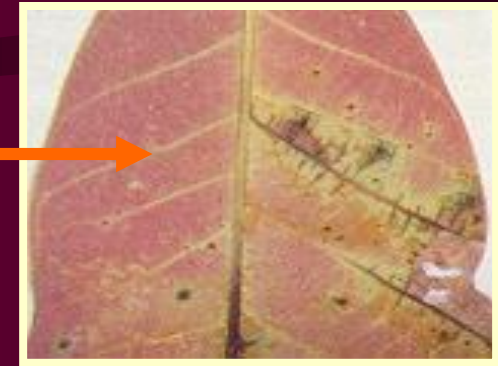
HPST

- *Early evaluation*
- *Selection of promising progenies*

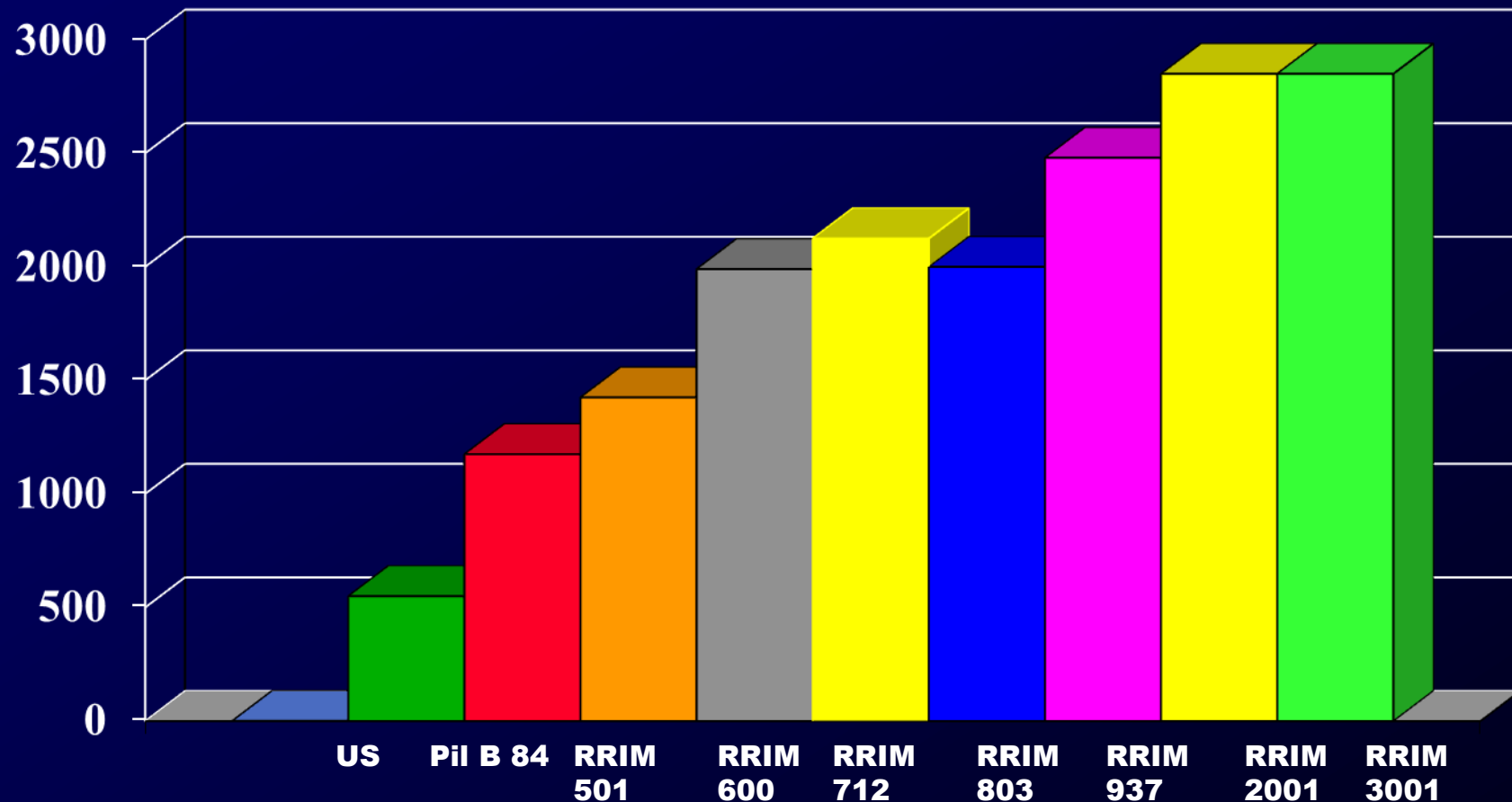
**Hand
Pollination**

- *Crossing between high yielding clones*
- *Incorporating new germplasm in the crosses*

Challenges in Breeding



Increase In Latex Yield Through Breeding



The increase in latex yield from 550 kg/ha/yr by the unselected seedling to 2850 kg/ha/yr by RRIM 2001 indicated the tremendous success of the RRIM rubber breeding programme

RUBBER INDUSTRY 2015

Export: RM 33.30 b (US 8.40 b)

UPSTREAM

Area: 1.07 m ha

Production: 0.72 MT

Yield: 1450 kg/ha/yr

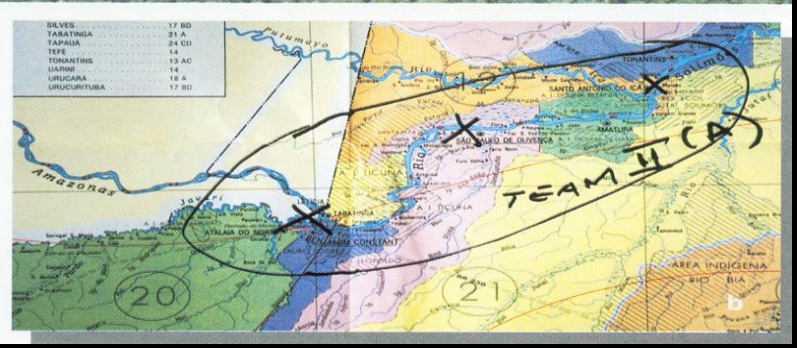
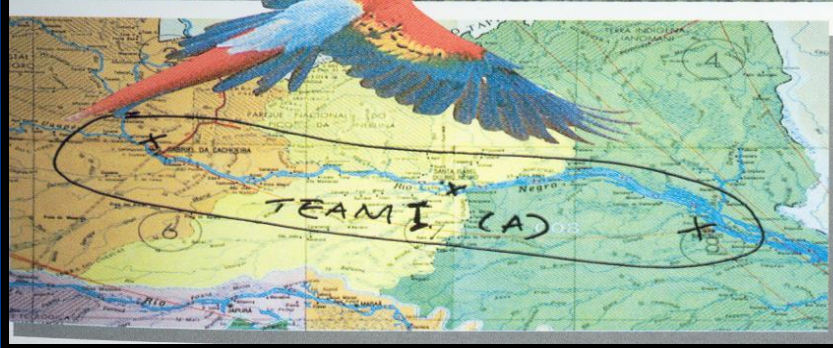


DOWN STREAM



Narrowness of *Hevea* Genetic Base

- A major obstacle towards improving the rubber yield and other important character
- Widely discussed by plant breeders at various forums both national and international



IRRDB 1981 EXPEDITION

AREAS OF COLLECTION - 1981



Boim

Acre

Rondonia

Mato Grosso

Collections

- 64,736 seeds
- 1,522 budsticks from 194 mother trees

Malaysia

- 24,030 seeds
- 15,137 germinated
- 14,316 seedlings quarantine for 3 months
- 13,089 planted IRRDB 1981 Germplasm

(Acre, Rondonia, Mato Grosso)



Germplasm 1981



Conservation of IRRDB 1981 Germplasm

Institute/Country	No. of Genotypes	
	Malaysia	Ivory Coast
1. Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia (RRIM)	13098	-
2. Rubber Research Institute of Vietnam (RRIV)	3672	80
3. Rubber Research Institute of Thailand (RRIT)	3120	-
4. Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII)	4548	-
5. Indonesian Rubber Research Institute (IRRI)	8749	-
6. Chinese Academy of Tropical Agriculture (CATAS)	8000	-
7. CIRAD Côte d'Ivoire	380	2467
8. CIRAD French Guyana	24	300

Utilization

- **Direct Use**

 - *timber production / rubber forest*

- **Hybridization**

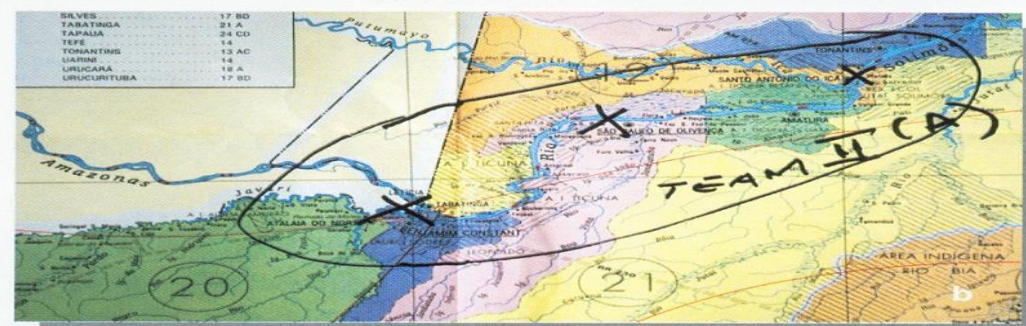
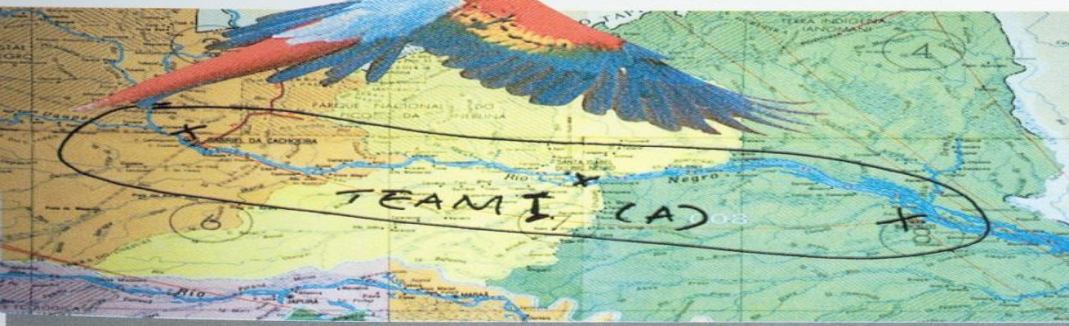
 - *G x W, W x G, BX*

- **Widening the Genetic Base**



The Amazon is the natural habitat of the rubber tree (a). Rubber seeds float in water, and are dispersed by rivers and flood water.

Researchers cover large areas on the ground looking for wild *Hevea* in the rubber seed collection expeditions (b).



RRIM 1995 EXPEDITION TO THE AMAZON

AREAS OF COLLECTION - 1995



Tabatinga

- Rio Solimoes

Benjamin Constant

- Rio Solimoes, Feijoa, Capacete, Guanabara

Atalaia do Norte

- Rio Javari, Rio Itaquai, Santa Cruz, Paumari, Contra Banco

Sao Paulo do Olivencia

- Rio Solimoes, Camatian, Santo Rita do Weil, Santa Clara, Santa Rose, Parana Parao, Campo Alegre, Boa Esperansa, Porto Novo

Objective

- To collect seeds of various *Hevea* species from the Amazonas of Brazil with the purpose of increasing the *Hevea* genetic pool in Malaysia









RRIM 1995 Expedition









Collections ---Malaysia

- 436,845 seeds (*H. brasiliensis*, *H. guianensis*, *H. spruceana*, *H. rigidifolia*, *H. pauciflora*, *H. benthamiana*, *H. nitida* and Interspecific hybrids)
- 72,833 germinated (16.6 %)
- 50,357 planted JPSM Rantau Panjang, Batu Arang, Selangor

Various *Hevea* spp

H. pauciflora

H. spruceana

H. camargoana

H. rigidifolia

H. nitida

H. benthamiana

H. brasiliensis

H. guianensis

H. microphylla

H. camporum



The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



H. brasiliensis

The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



H. benthamiana



H. pauciflora

The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



H. nitida



H. spruceana

The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



Fruit of H. spruceana

The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



H. guainensis & fruit

The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm



The 1995 *Hevea* Germplasm





IRRDB 2017 EXPEDITION: PERU



AREAS OF COLLECTION 1876, 1981 & 1995



Boim/Wickham

Amazonas

Acre

Rondonia

Mato Grosso

Objective

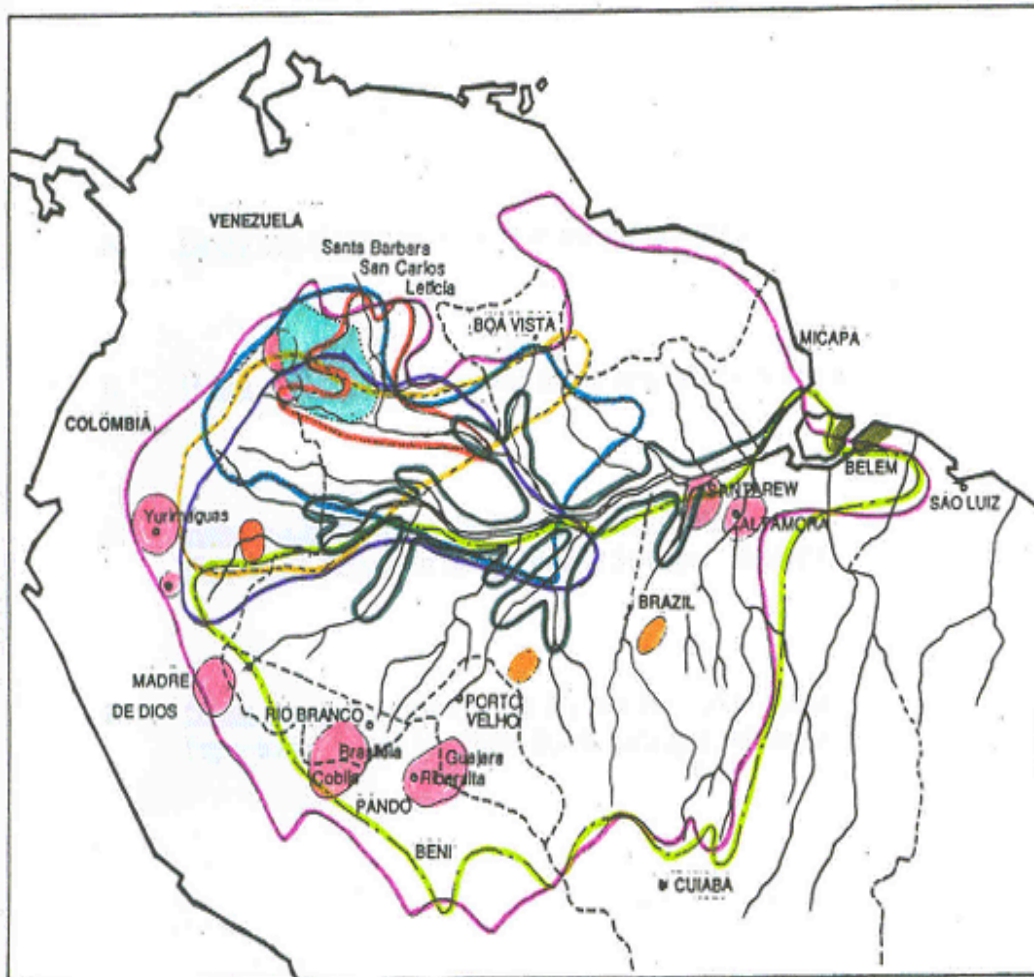
To collect seeds of various *Hevea* species from the Amazon of PERU with the purpose of increasing the *Hevea* genetic pool in the IRRDB member countries...Towards Enhancing *Hevea* Genetic Improvement

Justification for Expedition

- **Continuing and widespread destruction of the wild genetic resources due to conversion of the native habitat to agriculture in a number of countries in South America.**
- **Further progress in Hevea breeding for better yields for both latex and timber can be achieved through the widening of the narrow genetic base of the crop.**
- **There is evidence that genes for disease resistance and other desirable traits such as tolerance to low temperature maybe found in the *Hevea* species in Peru.**
- **Advances in biotechnological research has opened up opportunities for plant breeders to shorten the time to produce cultivars with desirable traits.**

MAP 1

MAP OF SOUTH AMERICA SHOWING THE CENTRE OF DIVERSITY FOR HEVEA



Species Distribution

- *H. brasiliensis* – South of Amazon river (Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador & Peru) and some parts of northern region of the Amazon River, west of Manaus and small area south of Colombia.
- *H. guianensis* – throughout the geographical range of the genus (Brazil, Venezuela, Bolivia, French Guiana, Peru, Colombia, Surinam & Ecuador)
- *H. pauciflora* – north and north west of Amazon river (Brazil, Guianas & Peru)
- *H. nitida* – between rivers of Uaupes & Icana, tributaries of the upper Negro river (Brazil, Peru & Colombia)
- *H. rigidifolia* – among Negro river and its affluents, Vaupes and Icana rivers (Brazil, Colombia & Venezuela)
- *H. spruceana* – banks or the Amazon river, start at confluence with Rio Putumayo (borders of Colombia & Peru) and extend eastward to sea coast
- *H. camargoana* – restricted to Marajo island of the Amazon river delta (Brazil)
- *H. camporum* – south of Amazon between Marmeloos and Manicore rivers, tributaries of Madeira river (Brazil)
- *H. microphylla* – middle and upper reaches of Rio Negro (Venezuela)



Hevea Species

H. pauciflora

H. spruceana

H. camargoana

H. rigidifolia

H. nitida

H. benthamiana

H. brasiliensis

H. guianensis

H. microphylla

H. camporum





AMAZON PERU

- From east of Andes to borders with Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil & Bolivia
- Comprise 60 % of Peru
- Second largest portion of the Amazonian rainforest after Brazil rainforest (16.13 % of whole rainforest)
- Dense jungle with large degree of Biodiversity

Amazon Peru – 2 eco regions

1. Lowland Jungle Amazonian Rainforest

- Altitude 80 – 1000 m asl**
- Temperature av. 28°C**
- High relative humidity (>70 %)**
- Rainfall 260 cm /year**

Amazon Peru – 2 eco regions

2. Highland Jungle

- Eastern foothills of Andes**
- Altitude 1000 – 3800 m. asl**
- Temperature are warm in lowlands and cooler in higher altitudes.**

Rivers in Amazonian Peru

- **Apurimac**
- **Montaro**
- **Amazon**
- **Urubamba**
- **Ucayali**
- **Huallaga**
- **Maranon**
- **Putumayo**
- **Yavari**
- **Napo**
- **Madre de Dios**
- **Pastaza**
- **Manu**
- **Purus**
- **Tigre**



Primary Cities in Amazonian Peru



- Iquitos (500,000 p)
- Pucallpa (380,000 p)
- Yurimaguas (140,000 p)
- Puerto Maldonado (104,000 p)
- Tarapato (181,000 p)
- Jaen (86,000 p)
- Moyobamba (77,000 p)
- Bagua (65,000 p)
- Rioja (60,000 p)



Areas of Prospection in Peru

- The quadrangle bounded by Iquitos, Lecitia and Rio Putumayo
- Madre de Dios around Puerto Maldonado
- San Guan de Oro near the border of Bolivia
- North of Pucallpa along Rio Ucayali
- Tocache Nuevo are which is situated on the North-West of Tingo Maria
- San Ramon and Puerto Bermudez which is South of Tingo Maria
- The area west of Rio Yurimaguas



Amazon Rainforest Peru



Amazon Rainforest Peru



Amazon Rainforest Peru



Amazon Peru



Putumayo River



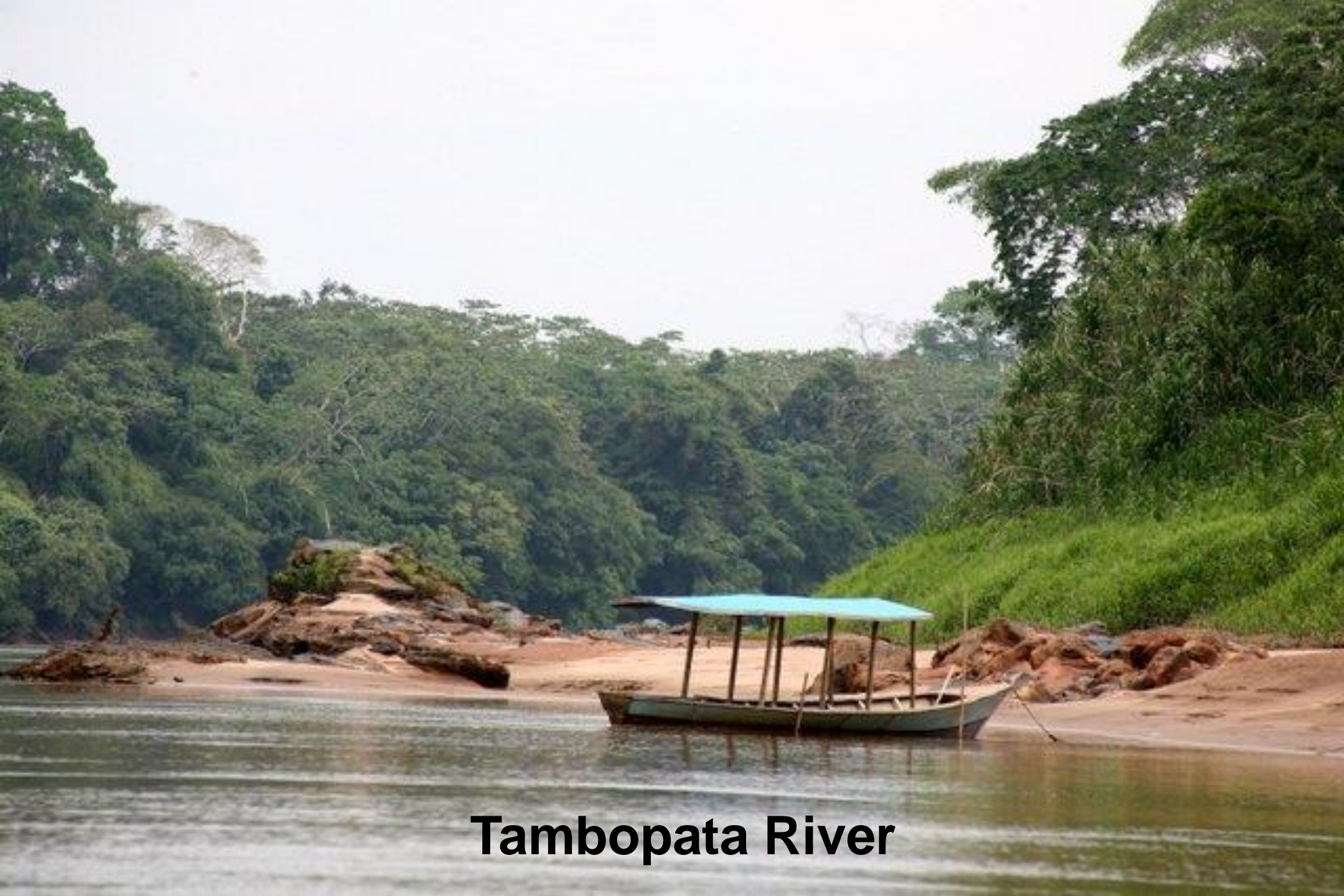
Madre de Dios River



Huallaga River



Mayo River



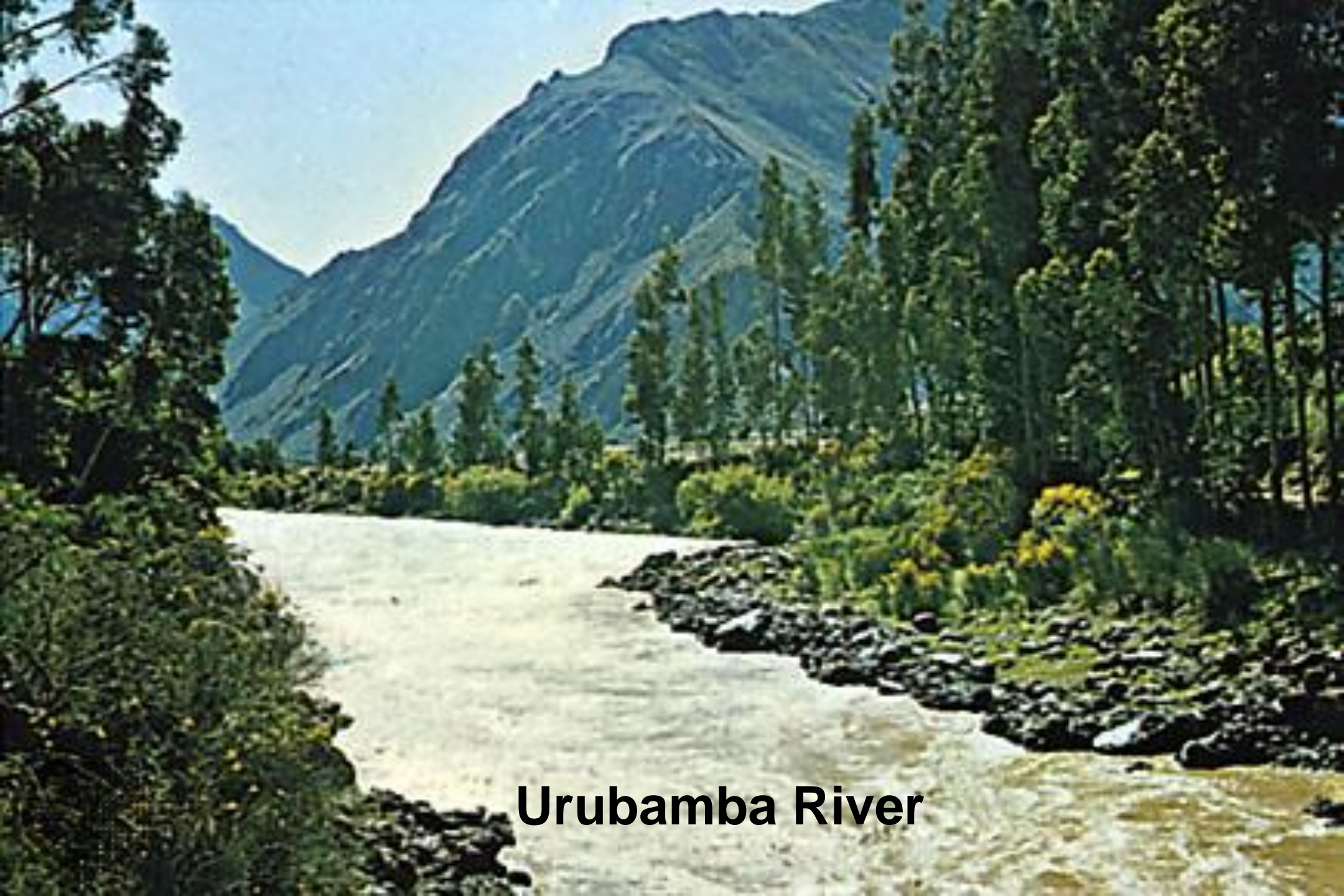
Tambopata River



Amazon Rainforest Peru

PERU... WE ARE COMING





Urubamba River

Andes Mountain







Wild Life in Amazon





Wild Life in Amazon



















ON BONGO
PARIS

















Utilization

- **Direct Use**
- **Hybridization**
 - $G \times W, W \times G, BX$
- **Widening the Genetic Base**



Muchas Gracias
Muito Obrigado

Terima kasih
Thank you