

Ficus elastica

Botanical Name: *Ficus elastica*

Common Name: Rubber plant

Morphological Characters

It is a large tree in the banyan group of figs, growing to 30–40 metres (98–131 ft) (rarely up to 60 metres or 200 feet) tall, with a stout trunk up to 2 metres (6.6 ft) in diameter. The trunk develops aerial and buttressing roots to anchor it in the soil and help support heavy branches. It has broad shiny oval leaves 10–35 centimetres (3.9–13.8 in) long and 5–15 centimetres (2.0–5.9 in) broad; leaf size is largest on young plants (occasionally to 45 centimetres or 18 inches long), much smaller on old trees (typically 10 centimetres or 3.9 inches long). The leaves develop inside a sheath at the apical meristem, which grows larger as the new leaf develops. When it is mature, it unfurls and the sheath drops off the plant. Inside the new leaf, another immature leaf is waiting to develop.



Growing season and Type

- 1) Rubber plants love water when they are growing, but not too frequently. Water them really well once the soil has dried out quite a bit, and then wait until it dries out again.
- 2) Growth of Rubber Tree Plant can probably be described as moderately fast. Many owners summer their plants outdoors which they feel encourages a rapid surge of new leaves.
- 3) Don't over do the sun exposure though and watch out for wet summers. During winter and plants which are incredibly pot bound won't grow.



1

- 1) Flower of *Ficus elastica*
- 2) Leaf of *Ficus elastica*
- 3) Tree of *Ficus elastica*



2



3

Source: www.ourhouseplants.com