DROUGHT EFFECTS ON WATER RELATION AND GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF RUBBER

(*Hevea brasiliensis*)

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ABSTRACT

REVIEW ON THE EFFECT OF DROUGHT STRESS ON WATER RELATION AND GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF RUBBER CROP

(*Hevea braliensis)*

Rubber is tropical tree crop which is mainly grown for the industrial production of latex. The lack of available land and competition with other crop such as mainly oil palm, rubber plantations are being extended to drought-prone areas that provide sub-optimal growing conditions for rubber tree cultivation where there is along dry season. Although water is the most abundant molecule on the earth's surface, the availability of water is the factor that most strongly restricts terrestrial plant production on a global scale. Low water availability limits the productivity of many natural ecosystems, particularly in dry climates. The outcome of this study is to enhance knowledge about performance growth and response of rubber crop on drought stress. The review study conducted by the past research paper and other particular resources is necessary.

1. INTRODUCTION

Rubber is tropical tree crop is largely developed for the industrial production of latex. The global demand for natural rubber is likely to increase in the years to come (Noordin, 2011). Since then rubber has extended all over of South and Southeast Asia, the place it will be presently developed done nations for example Indonesia, India, Malaysia, China, Vietnam, Philippines, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Thailand (Devakumar *et al* (1998)) to link the gap between the demand and supply of natural rubber. In Malaysia, the first rubber plantations were established as early as 1890 (Verheye,W *et al.*, 2010).

The rubber tree is one of the most important contributors to the economy in Southeast Asia, trough the production of its latex production and timber. The importance usage and valued of rubber, the rubber tree has started to be moved to planting on low areas, such as dry areas. Because of the competiton with other crops and the lack of suitable field for planting, rubber plantations have been planted on an area of drought that be responsible for sub-optimal developing environments for rubber tree cultivation (Unakorn Silpi *et al.,* 2006) where there is along dry period and growth and latex production is restricted by water availability and climatic conditions (Manmuen *et al.*, 1993).