

NOTE ON BROWN BAST TREATMENT.

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IN connection with the treatment of brown bast advised in Rubber Research Scheme Bulletin No. 48 the question has naturally arisen whether the renewed bark was likely to be more readily affected by brown bast than normal bark. The writer has on several occasions expressed the view that such bark was probably no more susceptible to the disease than normal bark, but owing to the short space of time during which the treatment has been practised in Ceylon it was not possible to make a positive statement.

Recent evidence has, however, been obtained which suggests that this view is probably correct. The treated tree shown in Plate VII of Rubber Research Scheme Bulletin No. 48 has now been tapped for over two years on the third-day system and is continuing to give satisfactory yields and there are no indications of brown bast development.

The present photograph of this tree was taken after slight rain had fallen hence the overflow of latex on parts of the cut but it will be noted that the flow is normal. The superintendent of the estate on which this photograph was taken informs me that many other trees scraped in 1927 are being successfully tapped and that he anticipates that over one thousand treated trees will be in bearing during 1930.



Treated tree which has been tapped for two years since the renewal of the scraped surface.