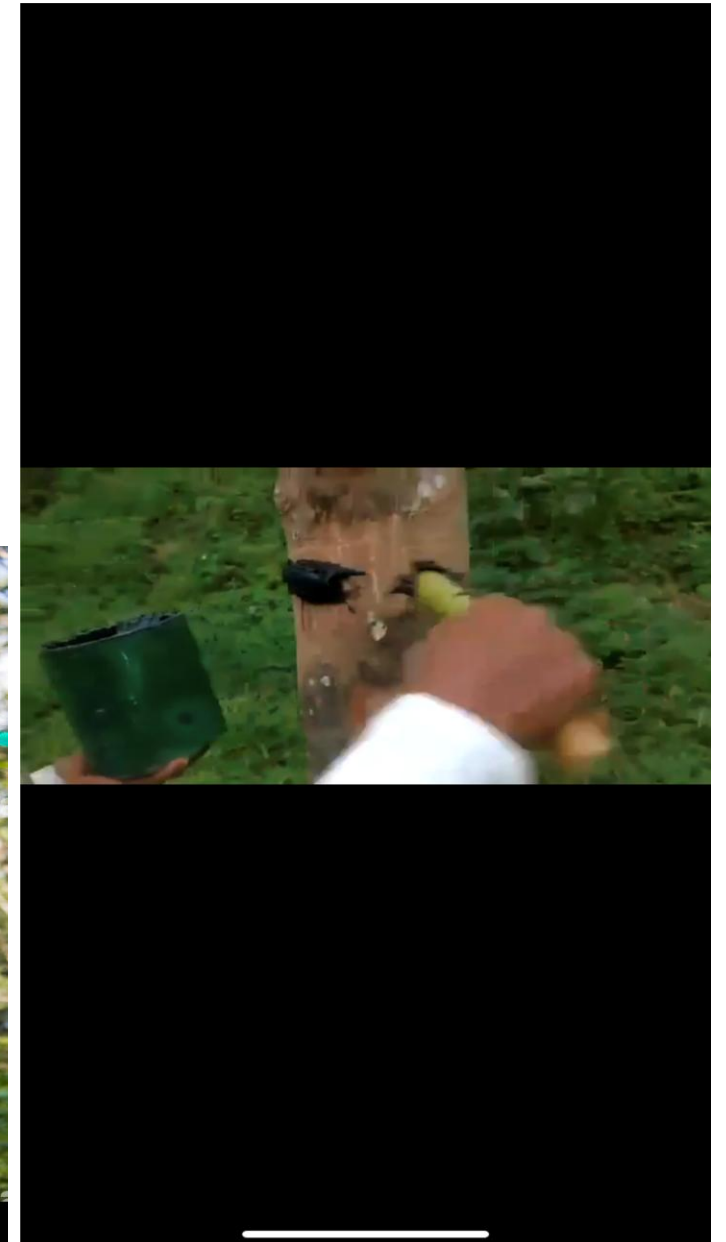


PRIOR ART SEALS FASTENED TO TREES USING BITUMEN OR STAPLES WITH EARLY SEAL DAMAGE AND PERMANENT TREE DAMAGE



1. Bitumous dries as light ends evaporate, becomes harden, cracks and leaks .
3. Requires staples which come loose as the tree girth expands causing seals to leak.
5. Pleating a skirt takes time. Video show 5 minutes to install and staple a Rain Guard.
7. The time required to use, refill and maintain a staple gun in this envioroment is prohibited.

2. Seals cannot be relocated to follow cup movement hence cups are exposed.
4. Hardened seals are fixed to the tree impeding tree growth and damaging tree and seal.
6. Rain Guards with an exposed cup will not prevent tropical rains from entering the cup.
8. Prior art Rain Guards are not feasible due to a short life and high installation costs.