

- Realizing that the best way to prove the use of our DTS Rain guards was by trying them, we began IN HOUSE Trials in 2023 by identifying 200 trees and dividing them into a set of 100 trees for the installation of DTS and 100 trees without DTS. During the beginning of the trials in August, DTS that were leaking had to be repaired by increasing the pressure applied by their Velcro connector. 16 of the 100 trees in the trial with DTS will have to be repaired during the "dry season" when DTS are best installed and repaired as needed. There are therefore only 84 trees with effective DTS out of the original 100. The trials were officially started on September 14th, 2023. Prior training was required to keep the collection and weighing of the "Cup Lump" separate and accurate, in order to make sure tapping was done to both sets of trees on the same days and to establish good record keeping. The exact same days had to be scheduled to tap both sets of trees in order to have a valid comparison. The scheduled days were Monday Wednesday and Friday. The 84 trees with DTS were tapped on every scheduled tapping day. The 100 trees without DTS could not be tapped on every scheduled day due to rain on some scheduled days. During the month of October, the 84 trees with DTS produced 61% more latex than the 100 trees without DTS (see the chart below). It was observed in July and August, during our set-up and training period, that when both sets of trees were tapped only on days with no rain, the trees with DTS still produced about 10% more latex. This 10% increase was due to trees without DTS being laden with water that drained down from the leaves and branches long after it rained and thus diluting the latex. This loss of production is in addition to production losses due to no tapping days because of "rain fall" between 6:00 am and noon. Charts show % increases in pounds, due to the DTS, for three different in-house trials. A live Pay Back investment Calculator, as displayed on this website, is available on request. A recommended tappers incentive to tap in the rain is included in this calculator.
- The DTS can be relocated further down the tree during the dry season, to accommodate cup movement down the tree.