Rubber trees Kidapawan

Rubber tree nursery – Kidapawan Mindanao

This rubber tree nursery is on the side of the road leading up to Mt. Apo. I had picked up a passenger near the hot springs in Agko that was involved with the project and he gave me a quick tour.

The *grafting* procedure is being explained. I might have it all wrong but I think that he was saying that they use root stock from one plant and another variety is grafted on to it.

We had a nice conversation coming down from the mountain. It is not common for foreigners to be riding around out here on a bike.
Apparently it takes about 25 years for a tree to reach its peak production of about a liter of milky sap per day. The caretaker has to use caution not to over do it when the grooves are cut into the tree’s trunk or the tree might not recover.

With proper care, a rubber tree is expected to have a life expectancy of well over 100 years.

When these trees are ready to be planted they do not go on Mount Apo because the elevation is too high for optimum growing conditions. This variety does well at an altitude of 700 feet above sea level.

It is interesting to see the vegetation change as you gain altitude. It gets damp and cool the higher you get.