

Rubber Tree

Ficus elastica 'Decora'

Most often seen as an indoor container plant, the rubber tree has large 3 ½ to 12-inch-long, thick, glossy evergreen leaves, multiple trunks, and a spreading, irregular canopy. Able to reach 100 feet in height in its native habitat in the jungle it is most often seen at about 35 to 45 feet in the landscape. Rubber tree will grow quickly in sun or partial shade on almost any well-drained soil.

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INFORMATION**

Type: perennial evergreen house plant

USDA hardiness zones: 10b through 11

Uses: shade; trained as a standard; indoors; screen; specimen; deck or patio; container or planter; espalier

Origin: not native to North America

Height: 35 to 45 feet **Spread:** 25 to 30 feet

Plant spacing: 25 to 30 feet

Light requirement: full sun to partial shade

Soil tolerances: clay; sand; loam; alkaline; acidic; occasionally wet; well-drained

Drought tolerance: high

Soil salt tolerances: moderate

Invasive potential: not considered a problem species

Pest resistance: no pests or diseases are of major concern



Photo: UF/IFAS