

## EXTRACTION OF NATIVE RUBBER IN WESTERN AMAZONIA, BRASIL<sup>1</sup>

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The present study was based on primary data survey carried out in selected counties of the Western Amazonia (States of Acre, Amazonas and Rondônia), the region that most contributes to the Brazilian natural rubber production. The operational as well as the financial structure rubber extraction from native rubber tree stands are hereing analyzed at producer, mini-industry and rubber manufacturing industry levels. It was found that the technology adopted to stimulate latex production through the use of stimulating agents, mainly ETHREL, has restricted application while the CVP technology is still lacking of difusion. No difference in the commercialization price between rubber of types CVP, Péla and Qualha was verified. In relative terms, the smoked-leaf type process of rubber manufacturing appeared to be, technical and economically, the most efficient one.

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<sup>1</sup> A paper carried out with financial resources provided through a SUDHEVEA/EMBRAPA agreement.

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