Common Name: Weeping Fig
Scientific Name: *Ficus benjamina*
Family: Moraceae

Native to India and South Eastern Asia; grows up to 15-20 tall; well adapted indoor tree; needs bright indirect lights; requires acclimatization before bringing into indoor condition; severe leaf drop occurs when water stressed; propagated by air-layering or stem cuttings; susceptible to mealybugs; *F. benjamina* ‘Variegata’ is the variegated form.
Ficus Leaf Drops

1. Lack of Acclimation
2. Lack of Water
3. Poor Root Aeration
4. Chilling Injury
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>% Leaf Drop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 FC</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 FC</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125 FC</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>% Leaf Drop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 FC</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 FC</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125 FC</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sun leaf

Greenhouse
(High light, High Humidity, High Fertilizer, Low Temp)

No acclimation

Sun leaf

Indoor
(Low light, Low humidity, Low fertilizer, Low temp)

Deteriorates
(Leaf Drop, Reduced Growth, Death)

Sun leaf

Acclimation
Gradually reduce: light, temp, fertilizer

Shade leaf

Acclimated leaf

Transfer to home

Acclimated leaf
Healthy

Responsibility of Growers, Shippers
Cross Section of the Leaf

Top – Sun leaf (control)
Middle – Acclimated
Bottom – Shade-grown
Acclimatization

1. Change sun-leaves to shade leaves by gradually changing high light (6,000 f.c.) to low light (150-200 f.c.).

2. Lower humidity gradually from 85-90% RH to 30-40% RH.

3. Gradually reduce watering frequency.

4. Remove Osmocote and use fertilizers in low concentration.
Severe leaf drop in *Ficus benjamina* caused by lack of soil moisture
This *Ficus benjamina* plant grown in a 40-gallon container suffered from lack of moisture due to insufficient amount of water applied each time irrigated.