

## Studies on the impact of selected sericultural technologies in Bangalore, India

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### ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in seven villages of Bangalore South district of Karnataka, covering a total of 127 farmers. Benchmark survey was conducted through personal interview by using structured proforma to resource the primary data to understand the existing practices and productivity levels, and for identifying the crucial factors. Further for intensive study, 30 among these 127 farmers were selected based on their willingness to adopt the suggested technologies. Regular interactions were held for two years on one-to-one basis with these farmers along with motivational efforts for technological interventions as were enlisted for respective farmers. Impact survey was carried out and crop performance data computed for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year, apart from compiling the information pertaining to the performance and suitability of the technologies and response of each of the farmers during the course of the study. The data revealed that cocoon yields increased by 8-13 kg with the adoption of identified technologies among the target farmers.

### INTRODUCTION

Sericulture technologies have major impact on raw silk production as evidenced by multifold development of sericulture in traditional and non-traditional areas in Karnataka and elsewhere in India. Development of new technologies and proper dissemination among the farmers lead to higher production (Sudhakar Rao *et al.*, 2002 and Chowdary, 2002).

A number of technologies made available in sericulture by research institutes find varied levels of adoption and acceptance in the field. This varied and low or partial adoption of improved technologies by farmers is one of the reasons for lower cocoon yields giving scope for further improvements. Important among these technologies, application of farmyard manure in required quantity, separate Chawki garden, separate Chawki rearing room, egg incubation, black boxing of eggs and using bed disinfectants in recent years are mainly contributed for increased cocoon yields. Present study was hence conducted to assess the adoption level of improved sericulture technology and its association with cocoon yields and to explore further strategies for better adoption towards improved yields.

### Key words :

New technologies, Adoption, Impact survey

### METHODOLOGY

For the purpose of initiating the study, seven villages namely, Karubele, Devagere, Thagachuguppe, H.Gollahalli, Gaviayanapalya, K. Gollahalli and Kamblipura covering 3 TSCs (Technical service centres) in Bangalore district of Karnataka were identified as the study area. Benchmark survey was conducted to identify the need based technologies for selected farmers (study farmers) for Bangalore district and crucial technologies responsible for the cocoon production among 127 farmers covering seven villages of the study area. Soil fertility management, maintenance of separate Chawki garden, effective disinfection of rearing house and equipments, incubation and black boxing of eggs, shelf method for late age silkworm rearing and the use of bed disinfectants were identified as crucial technological gaps among the study farmers. Soil samples from all the study farmers' gardens covering the seven villages were collected and analyzed to assess the soil fertility status in the study area. For the intensive study on the adoption of technologies, 30 farmers were selected (target farmers) among 127 farmers based on their willingness to adopt and to practice new technologies. The target farmers were grouped into High (H), Medium (M) and Low cocoon yield groups (with cocoon yields of >50 kg, 40-50 kg and 30-40 kg/100

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