

Analysis of utilization pattern of seri –byproducts among sericulturists in Kolar district

V.L. MADHU PRASAD, RAMAKRISHNA NAIKA, USHA RAVINDRA AND M.P. GOKUL RAJ

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in two taluks of Kolar district in Karnataka state. From each taluk three prominent sericulture villages were purposively selected. A sample of 120 sericulturists and from each village 20 sericulturists were selected by simple random technique. The findings revealed that the most utilized seri- byproducts namely, fodder (3 mean score), fuel (3), compost (2.73), biogas (1.83), timber wood (1.55), fruit (1.34), vermicompost (1.33) and mulberry tea (1.00) were in the order of preference. Fodder and fuel were most frequently utilized as seri-byproduct by cent per cent of the respondents followed by compost (84.17%). Correlation analysis between overall utilization pattern of seri-byproducts and various independent variables of the respondents exhibited positive and significant relationship with educational status, farm size, annual farm income, experience in seri-farming, silkworm rearing intensity, extension contact and livestock possession. Hence, various extension educational activities could be taken up by the extension agencies to educate the sericulturists about proper utilization of seri- byproducts which will in turn generate employment and additional income.

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

V.L.MADHU PRASAD
Directorate of
Extension, University
of Agricultural Sciences,
Hebbal, BANGALORE
(KARNATAKA),
INDIA

INTRODUCTION

Sericulture in India is a cottage industry and Karnataka leads the country with its mulberry raw silk production of 8.24 mts (Anonymous, 2008). Kolar is one of the traditional districts in sericulture covered in all most all the taluks. Sericulture industry comprises of 4 to 5 major activities from soil to fibre viz. mulberry cultivation, silkworm egg production, silkworm rearing, silk reeling and twisting, weaving, dyeing, printing and finishing of fibre. Each major activity results in a marketable product which forms the basic raw materials for the next activity in the series. Mulberry cultivation results in production of leaf and seed in eggs. Both of these put together in cocoons, the major marketable product for farmers. Cocoons purchased by reelers are reeled to produce silk yarn which is sold to weavers for profitable production. At the end of each activity, inevitably large amounts of byproducts are generated (Dandin and Rajan, 2005).

It has been estimated that while consuming 42 kg of leaves by 1000 larvae, only 22.5 kg is ingested by larvae and rest goes as waste and out of the ingested food about 13 kg is left unutilized and is excreted out as silkworm litter. Thus, in the whole cycle, a substantial quantity of residual mulberry leaves,

unwanted silkworm larvae, pupae moth and silk are available as byproducts utilization (Singhal *et al.*, 2005). Effective utilization of these products for value addition has enormous scope for generating additional income and employment in this silk based cottage industry. But the sericulturists have not utilized, these byproducts to the full extent. Hence, it is essential to study the utilization pattern of seri-byproducts which inturn helps to formulate appropriate extension methodologies and communication strategies for effective dissemination of scientific information about sericulture enterprise. With this background, the present study was designed with the following objectives: to know the extent of utilization pattern of seri-byproducts by sericulturists and to find out the relationship of seri-byproducts utilization pattern with personal and socio-economic characteristics of sericulturists.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in two taluks of Kolar district. From each taluk, three prominent sericulture villages were selected purposively. A sample of 120 respondents were selected and 20 from each village were drawn by simple random technique. The data were collected by personal interviews through

Key words :

Utilization pattern,
Seri-byproducts,
Sericulturists

Accepted :
March, 2010