

## Socio-personal and socio-economic characteristics of sericulturists and their constraints from Karnataka State

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### ABSTRACT

Kolar district was selected purposefully for the study purpose as a representative for South Karnataka region. In all total 90 respondents were selected randomly from Chintamani Taluka of Kolar district. This study revealed that about 60.00 per cent belonged to the middle age group. About 35.60 per cent of the respondent sericulturists were educated between High School and PUC level. Nearly three fourth of the respondent sericulturists had medium size of family members. The important constraints faced by the respondent sericulturists were lack of timely availability of labour, timely availability of fertilizers in market. Major economic constraints faced by the respondent sericulturists were high cost of fertilizers.

**KEY WORDS :** Socio-personal, Socio-economic, Characteristics, Sericulturist

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### INTRODUCTION

India ranks second in area silk production. In India, Karnataka is the leading producer of mulberry silk followed by Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. In Karnataka, Kolar is the leading silk producing district. Mysore, Bengaluru and Mandya are the other traditional silk producing areas in Karnataka.

The objectives of the study are to study the selected personal, social, economic, situational, communication, managerial and psychological characteristics of the sericulturists and to study the constraints of sericulturists.

### METHODOLOGY

Kolar district was selected purposefully for the study as a representative for South Karnataka region. Kolar district comprises of 11 Tahsils. Out of these Tahsils, Chintamani Taluka was selected purposefully on the basis of highest area and production of raw mulberry silk. Sericulturists those who have already harvested a minimum of three crops of mulberry were selected randomly from the list. Thus, in all, total 90 respondents were selected randomly from Chintamani Taluka of Kolar district.

### OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows that about 60.00 per cent belonged to the middle age group. About 35.60 per cent of the respondent sericulturists were educated between High School and PUC level. Nearly three fourth (71.10 per cent) of the respondent sericulturists had medium size family (*i.e.* 6 to 10) members. Nearly 51.00 per cent respondents had medium experience about sericulture farming. About 83.0 per cent of the respondent sericulturists had medium income level.

Table 2 indicated that the important supply constraints faced by the respondent sericulturists were the lack of timely availability of labour (83.33 per cent), timely unavailability of fertilizers in market (66.70 per cent) and lack of availability of sufficient amount of FYM at their disposal (55.60 per cent).

Major economic constraints faced by the respondent sericulturists were high cost of fertilizers (83.30 per cent), high initial establishment cost (66.70 per cent) and high labour charges (55.60 per cent). Major marketing constraints faced by the sericulturists were fluctuations in market price (55.60 per cent) and lack of knowledge about malpractices in the market (57.80 per cent). Major

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