

Study on the problems of tasar silk industries in Korba District (C.G.)

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ABSTRACT

Tasar culture is an important agro-forest based industry and is the good source of earning foreign exchange and providing gainful employment. In the present study, an attempt has been made to know the scope of introducing tasar culture and its problems in Korba districts. Accordingly, data were collected with regard to the economic status, occupational preferences and finance requirement, skill requirement by interviewing the farmers of the district as per standard statistical methods, the data were complied, analyzed and discussed. Depending on the intensity of the problems encountered by the sample farmers their perceptions were collected and ranked were presented and found it that the main problems of the district were pests and predators, diseases of silkworm and non-availability of egg was experienced by as many as 73.1%, 66.6% and 60% farmers, respectively.

KEY WORDS : Silk industries, Tasar culture, Agro-forestry

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INTRODUCTION

Tasar culture is an ideal forest based industry. In recent years, this tribal tradition has assumed the importance and attention at the national level and now has acquired a status of viable and vital industry of great potentials (Akai, 2005).

In Korba district, farmers have more than 22 cocoons / dfl which are very less (Mathur, 2005). The farmers engaged in tasar cocoon production have certain other problems in the operation of sericulture activity. Unless these problems are identified and necessary action taken, the programme of planned sericulture development may not succeed and target growth can not be achieved.

Chhatisgarh takes the second place in the country in contributing to the total raw silk production and Korba district share exceeds 50% of the total figures of the state. The annual income of farmer's engaged with tasar culture practices shows increase from Rs. 76.12 to 8176.92 and even more. Average / dfl cocoon production number is 21.43/hac. and income is Rs. 1268.73, /hac. Cocoon production number was 64905 during 2001-06 in Korba district (Soni and Sahu, 2007). Various workers have studied on problems on tasar culture viz., Agarwal (1987), Das and Vinod (1988), Nomani (1993), Babulal (2005), Rajaram (2001) and Bajpai (2004).

METHODOLOGY

Present study was conducted in Korba district of C.G. where both types of silk mulberry and tasar are cultivated. The primary data were collected from the sampled respondents following the personal interview method using structured interview schedule with the help of 300 respondent, 22 respondents from each village. The information was collected from sample respondents in the selected objectives and the data were analyzed and discussed.

OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Depending on the intensity of the problems encountered by the sample sericulturists their perceptions were collected, ranked and are presented in Table 1. It is evident that 73.1% farmer's reported the problem of pests and predators. According to the farmers 40-50% crop losses were caused by pests and predators and this problem ranked first. 66.6% of farmers reported the diseases of tasar silkworm. This problem ranked second. All of them were under the impression that frequent occurrence of diseases among the silkworm. 60% of farmers faced the problem of non-availability of eggs. 58.3% farmers faced the problem of climatic disturbances which upset the cocoon production. Next in order was that 56.6% farmers

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