

**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

# Managerial ability of Sericulturists in Amravati district

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**SUMMARY :** The present study on managerial ability of sericulturists in Amravati district was conducted in Dhamangaon Railway and Nandgaon Khandeshwar taluka of Amravati district. The 120 respondents were selected from 10 villages. The data were collected by personal interview method with the help of structured interview schedule. The data were tabulated, analyzed and interpreted. The study showed that the majority 43.33 per cent of respondents belonged to middle age group (36 to 50 years), 30.83 per cent of respondents were educated to high school level, 70.83 per cent of the respondents had medium level (4 to 6 ha) of farming experience, 57.50 per cent of the respondents had small (1.01 to 2.00 ha) land holding, 45.00 per cent of the respondents having low-medium annual income (Rs. 50,000 to 1,00,000), 90.00 per cent of the respondents had medium (0.29 to 0.64 ha) in area under mulberry cultivation. Related to material possession, it was observed that 68.33 per cent of respondents possessed rearing trays, 90.83 per cent of respondents possessed rearing stands, 93.33 per cent of respondents possessed rearing house, 90.00 per cent of respondents possessed leaf cutters. The 61.67 per cent had medium level of risk orientation, 75.83 per cent had occasional extension participation. Regarding to training received, it was observed that 80.83 per cent of respondents had medium category, 70.00 per cent of respondents had medium access to market and majority of the respondents 72.50 per cent had medium net profit. Majority of the respondents 69.17 per cent had medium managerial ability in sericulture enterprise. The majority 81.66 per cent of sericulturists were in opinion that non-availability of input material with 1<sup>st</sup> rank. Correlation co-efficient of selected characteristics of respondents namely education, farming experience, annual income, material possession, extension participation, access to market and net profit were found the positive and highly significantly correlated with managerial ability at 0.01 level of probability whereas, the variable training received was found positive and significantly correlated with managerial ability at 0.05 level of probability. The variables age, land holding, area under mulberry and risk orientation showed non-significantly correlated with managerial ability.

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## **BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES**

Sericulture means cultivation of silk worms which finally produces silk the word

silk sounds luxury and class. Silk occupies a supreme position in the field of natural fibers since it has high export value and used for

manufacturing of many luxurious products like Saree, Silk carpets, Kurta, Salwar, interior decoration materials etc. Export earnings from silk during the year 2011-12 were 217819 crores and it provides employment to over 63 lakh people in India. For the first time sericulture was practiced commercially in China, later it spread to Japan, India and rest of the world. China ranks first in area and production 146000 MT. of silk produced annually. India ranks second in area and production with annual production of 28,708 MT. contributing 13.96 per cent of global silk production.

India is the only country that produces all the commercially known silk varieties, such as mulberry, muga and tsar. The mulberry silk alone shares about 90 per cent of total silk production and other silk varieties account for 10 per cent mulberry sericulture is being cultivated throughout year in southern part of India. Silk production is mostly confined to states like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, and Maharashtra. Among the mulberry silk producing states in India, Maharashtra occupies the seventh position.

#### Specific objectives of the study :

- To study the personal socio-economic, psychological characters of sericulturists.
- To study the managerial ability of sericulturists.
- To study the relationship between personal socio-economic, psychological character and managerial ability of sericulturist.

#### RESOURCES AND METHODS

The exploratory research design of social research was used for the present investigation. The present study was undertaken in Amravati district of Vidarbha in Maharashtra state. The farmers from two talukas Dhamangaon Railway and Nandgaon Khandeshwar, on the basis of having area under mulberry and cocoon production were selected purposively for the study. Total ten villages were selected. Data were collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of pretested and structured interview schedule. The data collected were tabulated and the statistical tools namely mean, standard deviation, percentage, frequency, correlation coefficient were employed for interpretation of the findings. Null hypothesis set for the study was tested for its acceptance or rejection. The respondents were selected by proportionate random sampling method

to constitute sample size of 120 respondents.

#### OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The results obtained from the present study as well as discussions have been summarized under following heads:

#### Independent variable :

Age is normally indicator of maturity, experience and depth of knowledge in case of farmers. Category 1 shows that majority of the respondents 43.33 per cent belonged to middle age group of 36 to 50 year. Education is observed that, it is on the basis of formal schooling. It is apparent from the category 2 that, majority of the respondents 30.83 per cent were of high school level. The data regarding the farming experience from category 3 indicated that, 70.83 per cent of sericulturists were having medium level of farming experience. As far as the distribution of the respondents on land holding is

**Table 1 : Distribution of sericulturists according to their personal socio- economic and psychological characteristic (n=120)**

Sr. No.	Category	Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	<b>Age</b>		
	Middle (36 to 50)	52	43.33
2.	<b>Education</b>		
	High School	37	30.83
3.	<b>Farming experience</b>		
	Medium	85	70.83
4.	<b>Land holding</b>		
	Small	69	57.50
5.	<b>Annual income</b>		
	Low medium	54	45.00
6.	<b>Area under mulberry</b>		
	Medium	108	90.00
7.	<b>Material possession</b>		
	Medium	70	58.33
8.	<b>Risk orientation</b>		
	Medium	74	61.67
9.	<b>Extension participation</b>		
	Occasionally	91	75.83
10.	<b>Training received</b>		
	Medium	97	80.83
11.	<b>Access to market</b>		
	Medium	84	70.00
12.	<b>Net profit</b>		
	Medium	87	72.50

concerned, it is evident from category 4, that maximum per cent of the respondents 57.50 per cent belonged to category of small (1.01 to 2.00 ha) land holding. The category 5 of annual income shows that majority of the respondents *i.e.* 45.00 per cent were from low medium category of annual income. The data regarding the area under mulberry from category 6 indicated that 90.00 per cent of sericulturists were having medium level of area under mulberry. The data regarding to material possession from category 7 indicated that the majority 58.33 per cent of sericulturists were having medium level of material possession. Category 8 indicated that 61.67 per cent of sericulturists were having medium level of risk orientation. Category 9 shows that majority of the respondents 75.83 per cent had medium level extension participation. Category 10 shows that majority of the respondents 80.83 per cent had received medium level of training. The data regarding access to market category 11 indicated that 70.00 per cent of sericulturists were having medium level of access to market. Category 12 indicated that 72.50 per cent of sericulturists were having medium level of net profit.

**Table 2 : Distribution of sericulturists according to overall managerial ability (n=120)**

Sr. No.	Overall managerial ability	Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low	26	21.67
2.	Medium	83	69.17
3.	High	11	9.17

#### Dependent variable :

The Table 2 indicated that 69.17 per cent of sericulturists had medium level overall managerial ability in their sericulture enterprise, followed by 21.67 per cent had low overall managerial ability and 9.17 per cent sericulturists were in high overall managerial ability.

Thus, study concluded that majority of the respondent had medium level of managerial ability.

#### Relational analysis :

Data in Table 3 revealed that among selected characteristics of respondent the variables *viz.*, education, farming experience, annual income, material possession, extension participation, access to market and net profit were found the positive and significant level of probability at 0.01 with managerial ability. The variable training received was found positive and significant at 0.05 level

**Table 3 : Co-efficient of correlation of personal, socio-economic and psychological characteristics of sericulturists with their managerial ability**

Sr. No.	Independent variable	Correlation co-efficient (r)	t-cal
1.	Age	0.1326 NS	1.4658
2.	Education	0.3500**	4.3316
3.	Farming experience	0.4254**	5.6405
4.	Land holding	0.1596 NS	1.7785
5.	Annual income	0.2854**	3.3742
6.	Area under mulberry	0.1228 NS	1.3540
7.	Material possession	0.3627**	4.5355
8.	Risk orientation	0.1365 NS	1.5105
9.	Extension participation	0.3088**	3.7070
10.	Training received	0.2149*	2.4468
11.	Access to market	0.3753**	4.7439
12.	Net profit	0.3225**	3.9089

\* and \*\* indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively  
NS=Non-significant

of probability with managerial ability.

The variables age, land holding, area under mulberry and risk orientation have shown non-significant relationship with managerial ability. Therefore, Null hypothesis for this variable has been accepted.

Reddy *et al.* (2006); Deepa and Sujathamma (2007); Bhargava *et al.* (2008); Ashiru and Durnin (2011); Patil (2013); Todmal *et al.* (2013) was observed that majority of respondent had medium level of managerial ability of sericulturists.

#### Conclusion :

In this study regarding the managerial ability, majority of the respondents had complete knowledge about management of mulberry plantation, rearing of silkworm and cocoon production, whereas very few respondents had less knowledge about management of mulberry plantation, rearing of silkworm and cocoon production.

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