



Research Paper

INFLUENCE OF ENZYMATIC FINISHING ON TASAR SILK FABRICS

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ABSTRACT

Tasar silk is one of the most sought after wild silk for its natural fawn colour, unique rustic appearance and texture. Major drawback of tasar silk is its rough feel and low dimensional stability issues when subjected to normal washing, which restricts its mass utilization. Chemical treatments to overcome such shortfall have adverse effects on its natural color, surface properties, fabric strength and it even pollutes the environment. Hence, this article attempts to study the influence of eco-friendly protease enzymatic treatment on the dimensional stability, tensile strength, tear strength, bending, drape and comfort properties of tasar silk fabrics. It was obvious that the enzymatic finishing could impart improved aesthetic properties to tasar silk fabric such as fabric feel, drape and fabric bending properties along with decreased shrinkage.

Key words: Comfort properties, dimensional stability, enzyme finish, tasar silk.