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DETERMINANTS OF BIVOLTINE SERICULTURE TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION IN SERICULTURAL CLUSTERS OF SOUTHERN INDIA– AN ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

Though India is endowed with the production of all the four types of commercial silks, mulberry silk is considered to be qualitatively superior and many efforts have been made to popularize bivoltine sericulture in a larger scale. Central Silk Board in association with the Departments of Sericulture in various states has introduced the concept of Cluster Promotion Programme with an ambitious plan of producing 5000 MT of bivoltine silk annually by the end of XII five year plan of Government of India. Many studies conducted in this direction have indicated that the socio-economic conditions of sericulturists play an important role in adoption of bivoltine sericulture technology. The present study has made such an attempt with an objective of understanding the factors influencing adoption of bivoltine cocoon production by the farmers. For the purpose, a sample of 30 farmers each from the cluster areas of Kolar and Chikkaballapur district were interviewed personally using a structured schedule at random. The data were analysed using "Logit Model". The results indicated that the factors viz., contacts with extension personnel, participation in extension programmes, cash incentives and irrigation facility have influenced the adoption of bivoltine cocoon production in the study area apart from income obtained from sericulture. The study concluded on a note that, for enhancing the bivoltine silkworm rearing, extension efforts have to be strengthened in terms of technical support. Further, the new entrants into the field of bivoltine sericulture may be trained at farmers' level through farm schools and on the spot training by extension staff for efficient adoption and sustenance of bivoltine sericulture technology.

Key words: Adoption, bivoltine sericulture, Logit model, random sampling.