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Research Paper

AN INNOVATIVE ECOFRIENDLY TECHNIQUE FOR ERI COCOON DEGUMMING

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ABSTRACT

A new device, the 'Eco-eri cocoon degumming machine' was developed in an attempt to degum the eri silk cocoons without using any chemicals. Existing methods of eri cocoon degumming in the industry involves the use of chemicals, such as soap, soda and hydrogen peroxide in open vessels at boiling temperature. This apart, they are lengthy processes that give way to environmental hazards due to the pollution load in the effluent. The new technique is proved economical and environment friendly; furthermore, saves water and energy which is an added advantage and enhance the productivity due to shorter processing time as well.

Key words: Degumming machine, eri cocoon, soap, soda.