

Assistance for installing disinfection and fogger cum cooling unit in sericulture under RKVY program in 2018-19 – Success story

Background/ Objectives:

Kolar Gold Fields in Bangarapete taluk of Kolar district is famous for its gold production. Although gold production is currently closed, the district is in forefront in the state and national level for its Bivoltine silk production. Farmers who have been cultivating traditional breeds today have adopted new technologies and are at the forefront in the production of cocoons of international standards.

Many farmers in the district have improved their livelihood financially by adopting silkworm rearing. Mrs. Lalita Suresh of Hosakote village of Kasaba Hobli, Bangarapete Taluk, is one among them.

Mrs. Lalita Suresh comes from a Joint family which is dependent on Sericulture for its livelihood. Earlier this family had taken up traditional way of sericulture. Later, when JICA Project was implemented, they started rearing Bivoltine silkworms by adopting new technologies. Mulberry with improved variety (v1) was planted in an extent of 2 acres area, constructed separate silkworm rearing house and 400-450K.g. good quality Bivoltine cocoons were produced in a month.

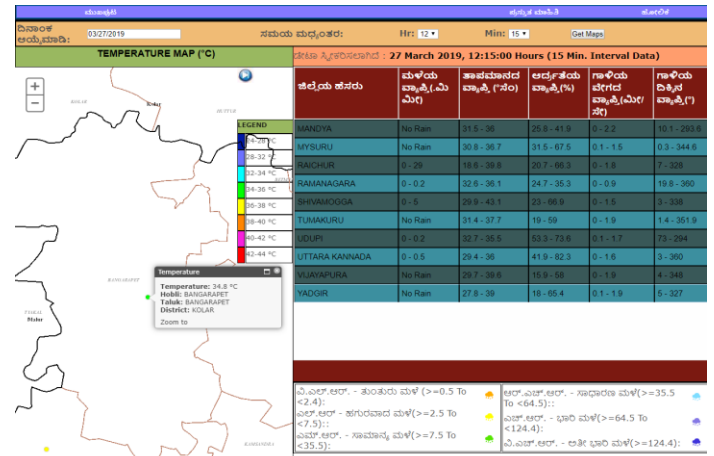
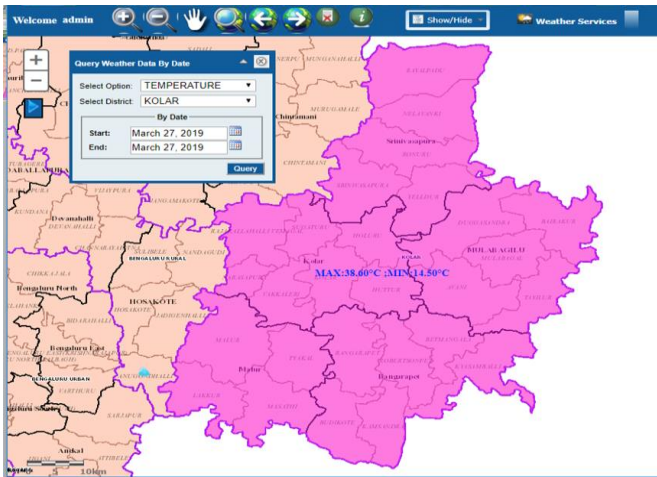
All members of the household started working unitedly with intention to make profit from sericulture. By expanding and improving mulberry garden, they have started rearing 1000 dfls and produced quality cocoons with high yield.

As they were producing good quality cocoons with well maintained mulberry garden, they were selected for rearing bivoltine seed cocoons by the State Sericulture Department officials. Later with the assistance by Central Silk Board, they, started producing good quality seed cocoons and became successful seed farmers.

With the success of sericulture, they were financially stable and in turn they have expanded the mulberry garden to 20 acres. They have constructed 2 separate rearing houses and are producing 2000 K.g., of quality seed cocoons.

Intervention:

Though Mrs. Lalita Suresh and family had adopted new technologies, it was difficult to undertake silkworm rearing during summer with high temperature and low humidity. The department officials and scientists were insisting them to provide optimum temperature and humidity in the rearing house to get good cocoon and quality silk.



Disinfection plays a major role in the production of quality cocoons in sericulture. The maintenance of optimum temperature and humidity also plays a vital role in sericulture. Mrs. Lalita Suresh and family were informed of subsidy being extended by the Department under RKVY programme for installation of “Disinfection cum Fogger and cooling” units which are helpful in maintaining optimum temperature and humidity.

The unit cost of the equipment: Rs.33500/-

Subsidy (50%) : Rs.16750/-

The Company empannelled by the Department for installation: M/s Megha Agro Tech Pvt.ltd, Bangalore.

At present Mrs. Lalita Suresh has installed the “Disinfection cum Fogger and



cooling” unit under the guidance of Department officials inside the rearing house. Influenced by this, other sericulturists have also installed the unit during 2018-19 under the guidance of Department officials.

Out come :

With this although room temperature is about 35-37 degrees Celsius, optimum temperature for getting quality seed cocoons could be maintained in the rearing house. The Bivoltine cocoon production in Bangarpet taluk during 2017-18 March is 44.527 M.tons and during 2018-19 March is 47.728 M.tons.



Mrs. Lolita Suresh has suggested other sericulturists to install this unit and to improve the quality and quantity of cocoons and in turn their financial status.