

# SERICULTURE IN SHIVAMOGGA TALUK OF KARNATAKA: AN OVER VIEW

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**ABSTRACT-**Centuries have passed but agriculture retained its place at top. The modern life style changed the system of living and the modernization brought changes in civilization. In the modern days the everything is seen with different angle and linked with fashion. The agriculture the main supplier of food and clothing to living beings has been pressurized to produce according to new demands. In the modern and stylish era man consumes his food with forks and spoons but he consumes the same thing what was consumed centuries ago. Agriculture is a only sector which is affected more of frequent price fluctuations which in turn leads to uncertainty in farmers income.

Sericulture is one of the important agriculture based allied activity which can be practiced for increasing income of the agriculturists. On an average 13 persons can be provided with employment for a period of one year in one hectare of mulberry saplings. Rising of Mulberry Saplings and rearing of silk worms are the two different activities are involved in Sericulture.

In Shivamogga district about 459 sericulturists grow Mulberry 227.80 hectares in 186 villages. The trend of Mulberry cultivation in Shivamogga taluk is fluctuating. The paper aimed at highlighting the issues related to sericulture in Shivamogga taluk in Karnataka.

**KEY WORDS:** Consumption, fluctuations, mulberry modernization, Sericulture,

## INTRODUCTION

Centuries have passed but agriculture retained its place at top. The modern life style changed the system of living and the modernization brought changes in civilization. In the modern days the everything is seen with different angle and linked with fashion. The agriculture the main supplier of food and clothing to living beings has been pressurized to produce according to new demands. The advantages of food consumption, nevertheless the style of intake remained unchanged. In the modern and stylish era man consumes his food with forks and spoons but he consumes the same thing what was consumed centuries ago. Agriculture is a only sector which is affected more of frequent price fluctuations which in turn leads to uncertainty in farmers income. Income stability will bring happiness and peace among the farmers whereas uncertainty will through them in the sever problem and may cause for suicide. The stability in the income cannot be assured because of frequent fluctuations in the price level compared with industrial goods due to the reason of durability. The proper farm management, diversified cropping, engaging in profitable allied activities may reduce the extent of loss of farmers and may prevent farmers suicide. In this view sericulture may become shock absorber in the life of agriculturists.

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## TRENDS IN AREA UNDER MULBERRY CULTIVATION IN SHIVAMOGGA TALUK

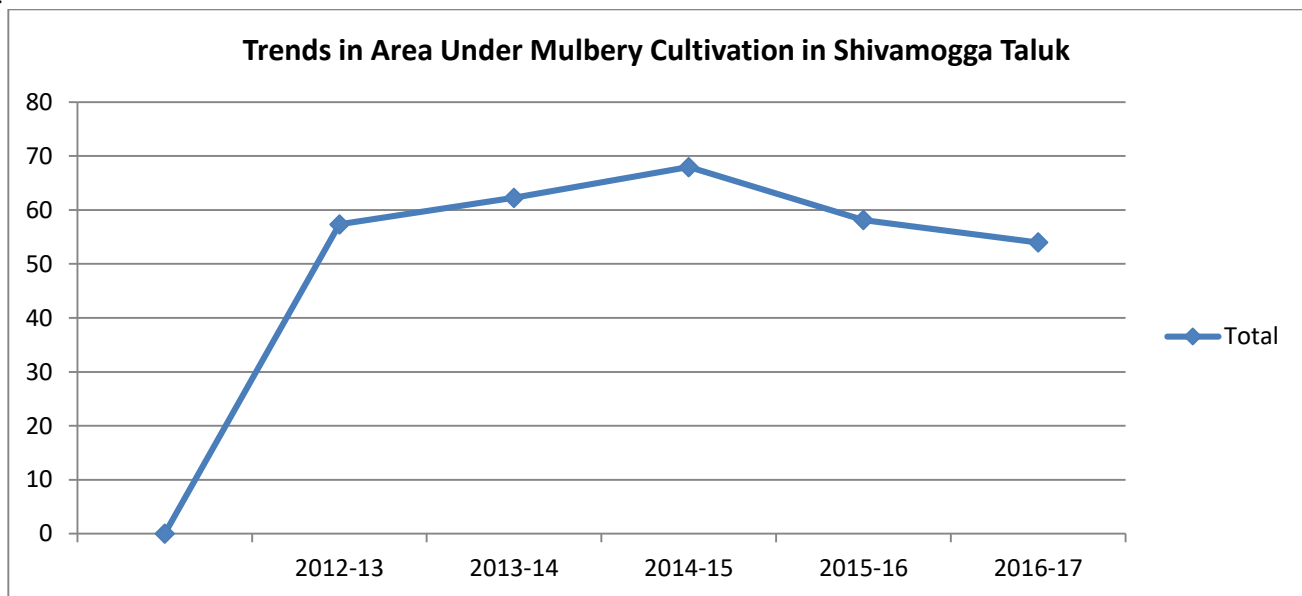
In Shivamogga taluk mostly mulberry is grown in irrigated areas. The trends in area under mulberry cultivation in Shivamogga taluk is given in the following table.

**Table. No. 1. Trends in area under mulberry cultivation in Shivamogga taluk**

Year	Mulberry Cultivation Area (in hectares)		Total
	Irrigated	Rainfall	
2012-13	55.05	2.30	57.35 (hectares)
2013-14	59.95	2.30	62.25 (hectares)
2014-15	65.65	2.30	67.95 (hectares)
2015-16	58.15	-	58.15 (hectares)
2016-17	54.00	-	54.00 (hectares)

Source: Statistics of Sericulture Department, Shivamogga

The above table witnesses that, the area under cultivation of mulberry was fluctuating between 54 hectares to 67.95 hectares which was 57.35 in the year 2012-13 increased to 62.25 hectares to 67.95 hectares in 2013-14 and showed increasing trend and 2014-15. It showed decreasing trend from 58.15 to 54.00 hectares in 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Most of the mulberry cultivation was done in irrigated land which varied between 54.00 (lowest) and 65.65 (highest) from 2012-13 to 2016-17.



#### TRENDS IN COCOON PRODUCTION AND PRICE IN SHIVAMOGGA TALUK

The trend in Cocoon production fluctuated between 25.083 (MT) and 17.865 (MT). Cocoon production was maximum in the year 2013-14 and was minimum in 2015-16. It was 23.540 (MT) and 22.408 (MT) in the year 2012-13 and 2014-15 respectively. The annual growth rate was +1.543 in the year 2013-14 which decreased by -2.675 and by -4.543 in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively and again shown the up word trend by 3.802 in the year 2016-17. The average price per kg of cocoon increased from Rs. 397 in 2012-13 to Rs. 630 in 2013-14 decreased to Rs. 625 in 2014-15 and remained same for next year and again decreased to Rs. 600 in 2016-17. The following table gives the clear picture of trends in cocoon production and price in Shivamogga taluk from 2012-13 to 2016-17.

**Trends in Cocoon production and price in Shivamogga taluk from 2012-13 to 2016-17**

Sl. No.	Year	Cocoon Production (MT)	Annual Growth Rate	Average Price (Rs)/ kg
1.	2012-13	23.540	---	397.00
2.	2013-14	25.083	1.543	630.00
3.	2014-15	22.408	-2.675	625.00
4.	2015-16	17.865	-4.543	625.00
5.	2016-17	21.667	3.802	600.00

Source: Sericulture Department, Shivamogga

#### SERICULTURE IN SHIVAMOGGA TALUK

Sericulture activity can be undertaken by both male and female cultivators. This activity will provide additional employment as well as income to the agriculturist family. In Shivamogga taluk both male and female farmers have taken up sericulture as additional allied activity with regular farm activities. The following table gives details.

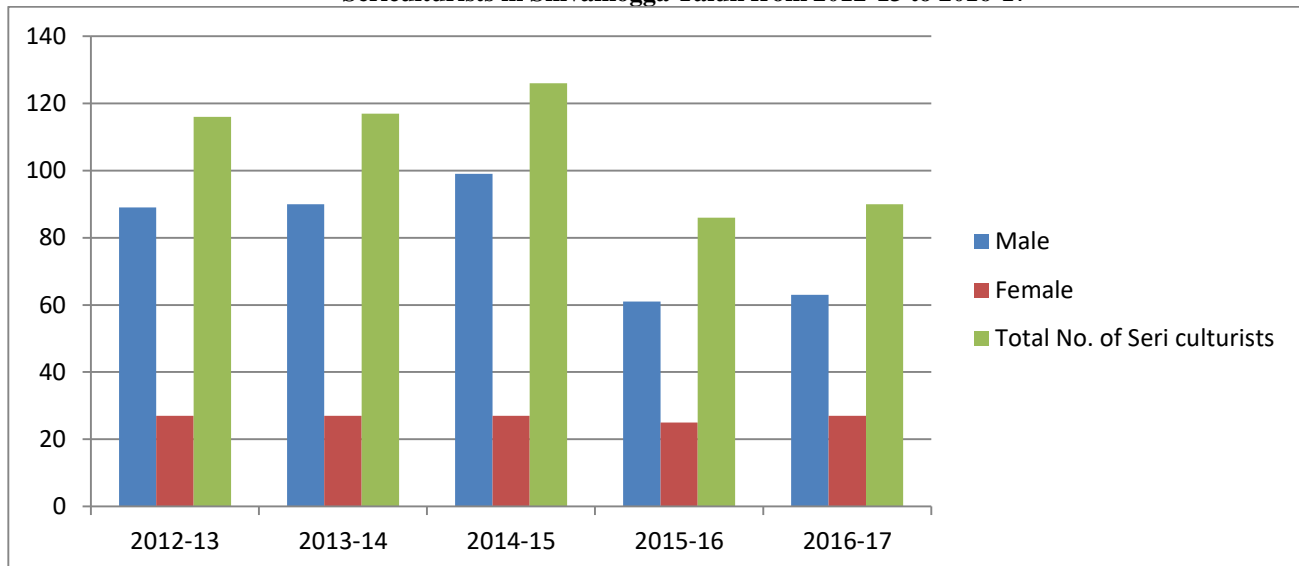
**Sericulturists in Shivamogga Taluk from 2012-13 to 2016-17**

Year	Male	Female	Total No. of Sericulturists
2012-13	89	27	116
2013-14	90	27	117
2014-15	99	27	126
2015-16	61	25	86
2016-17	63	27	90

Source : Sericulture Department, Shivamogga

The above table depicts about the male and female sericulturists in Shivamogga taluk from 2012-13 to 2016-17. The number of sericulturists was 116 of which 89 males and 27 females in 2012-13 increased to 117 of which 90 males and 27 females and to 126 of which 99 males and 27 females in 2013-14 and 2014-15 decreased to 86 of which 61 males and 25 females in 2015-16 again increased to 90 of which 63 males and 27 females in 2016-17. The same is shown in the following figure.

**Sericulturists in Shivamogga Taluk from 2012-13 to 2016-17**



Source : Sericulture Department, Shivamogga

**SILK WORM REARERS IN SHIVAMOGGA TALUK**

In Shivamogga taluk sericulture was followed by all the caste people and was not confined to specific group or community. The following table gives details about Caste-wise number of silk worm rearers in Shivamogga taluk during 2012 -13 to 2016-17.

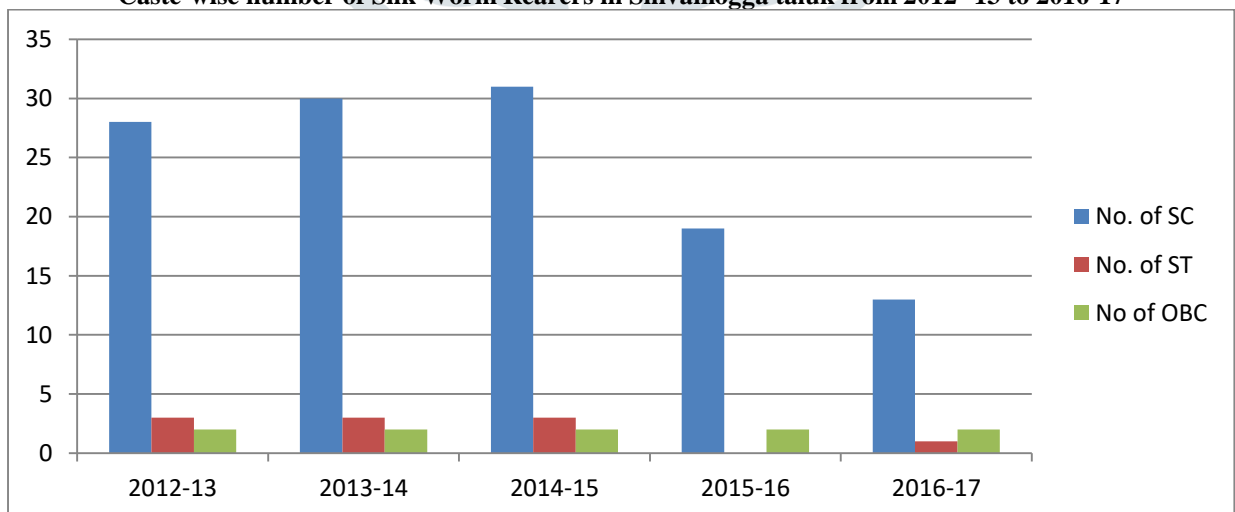
**Caste-wise number of Silk Worm Rearers in Shivamogga taluk from 2012 -13 to 2016-17**

Sl. No.	Year	No. of SC	No. of ST	No of OBC	Others	Total
1	2012-13	28	3	2	83	116
2	2013-14	30	3	2	82	117
3	2014-15	31	3	2	90	126
4	2015-16	19	-	2	65	86
5	2016-17	13	1	2	74	90

Source : Sericulture Department, Shivamogga

Out of 116 silk worm rears 28 were SCs, 3 STs, 2 OBCs and 83 others in 2012-13. In 2013-14 SC rearers were 30, in 2014-15, 31 in 2014-15 and 19 in 2015-16 and 13 in 2016-17. Others were 82, 90, 65 and 75 respectively in 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 respectively. The number of OBC rearers remained unchanged at 02 during the same period. Due to government schemes, facilities and provision of subsidies SC people were attracted towards silk worm rearing in Shivamogga taluk.

**Caste-wise number of Silk Worm Rearers in Shivamogga taluk from 2012 -13 to 2016-17**



Source : Sericulture Department, Shivamogga

**CONCLUSION**

Sericulture is one of the important agriculture based allied activity which can be practiced for increasing income of the agriculturists. On an average 13 persons can be provided with employment for a period of one year in one hectare of mulberry saplings. Raising of Mulberry Saplings and rearing of silk worms are the two different activities are involved in Sericulture.

In Shivamogga district about 459 sericulturists grow Mulberry 227.80 hectares in 186 villages. In Shivamogga taluk mostly mulberry is grown in irrigated areas. The trend of Mulberry cultivation in Shivamogga taluk is fluctuating. The area under cultivation of mulberry was fluctuating. Sericulture activity can be undertaken by both male and female cultivators. This activity will provide additional employment as well as income to the agriculturist family. In Shivamogga taluk sericulture was followed by all the caste people and was not confined to specific group or community.

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