

Sericulture for Rural Development and Livelihood Security

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Preface

Sericulture, the art and science of silk production, has long been recognized as a sustainable and livelihood-oriented rural enterprise. The book, *Sericulture for Rural Development and Livelihood Security*, is designed to highlight the significance of sericulture as an effective tool for economic empowerment, employment generation, and sustainable rural development.

In many developing regions, sericulture plays a crucial role in supporting small and marginal farmers, landless laborers, and women by providing year-round income opportunities. Its low initial investment, adaptability to diverse agro-climatic conditions, and integration with existing farming systems make it an attractive enterprise for rural communities. Moreover, sericulture contributes to ecological sustainability through mulberry cultivation, soil conservation, and biodiversity enhancement.

This volume brings together contributions from experts, researchers, and practitioners to present a comprehensive overview of sericulture practices and innovations. It covers key aspects such as mulberry cultivation, silkworm rearing, disease management, post-cocoon technology, value addition, and marketing strategies. Emphasis is also placed on capacity building, extension services, and policy support to strengthen the sericulture sector.

The book is intended for students, researchers, development professionals, policymakers, and farmers engaged in sericulture and rural development. By bridging scientific knowledge with field-level practices, it aims to enhance productivity, improve livelihoods, and promote sustainable rural economies.

The editors express their sincere gratitude to all contributors and reviewers for their valuable support. It is hoped that this book will serve as a useful reference and inspire continued growth and innovation in the field of sericulture.

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Dr. Rajesh Kumar
Ms. Birina Kaushiki
Dr. V. Ravinder Naik

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