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Association analysis of major nutrient and secondary nutrient status of leaves of selected castor genotypes and growth indices of eri silkworm

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The foliar constituents of castor genotypes *viz.*, major and secondary nutrients had marginal influence on growth indices showing positive trend with respect to improvement in the performance of eri silkworm. Major nutrient like nitrogen and secondary nutrient like calcium had significant relationship with growth indices, while the growth indices were non-significant with other major (phosphorus and potassium) and secondary nutrients (magnesium and sulphur). The growth indices *viz.*, silk index ($r=0.7707$), oviposition index ($r=0.7263$), leaf – silk conversion rate ($r=0.7096$), growth index by per cent pupation ($r=0.7281$) and net reproductive rate ($r=0.7386$) with nitrogen content of castor leaves showed significant positive relationship among them. Further, calcium content was found to have significantly positive correlation with larval weight index ($r=0.8969$), cocoon weight index ($r=0.9548$), silk index ($r=0.9688$), eclosion index ($r=0.8936$), oviposition index ($r=0.9425$), leaf-cocoon ratio ($r=0.8408$), leaf - egg ratio ($r=0.8672$), leaf – cocoon conversion rate ($r=0.8521$), leaf – silk conversion rate ($r=0.9323$), growth index by per cent pupation ($r=0.9815$), growth index by per cent moth emergence ($r=0.9609$) and net reproductive rate ($r=0.9492$), while the trend was reverse with larval duration index ($r=-0.9405$), pupal duration index ($r=-0.9293$) and larval-pupal duration index ($r=-0.9579$).

Biography

S Chandrashekhhar is working as Associate Professor at College of Sericulture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru and is involved in Teaching, Research and Extension activities since seventeen years. He organized and participated in many national and international conferences, workshops etc. and published more than 50 scientific publications including research articles, books etc. He is recipient of many State and University awards and served as PI and Co-PI for externally funded projects. He also served as NSS Programme Officer since 9 years and organized health camps, social environmental and national integration camps for the benefit of students and farming community.

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