

# ADEQUACY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF SERICULTURE EXTENSION SERVICES

## RATIONALE

The extension services of the Sericulture Research and Development Institute (SRDI) are carried out by the Training and Technical Services Division (TTSD) which is tasked to implement appropriate and applicable technology packages and effective technology dissemination and utilization systems. The study was conducted to draw valuable insights on the adequacy and effectiveness of sericulture extension services which will serve as benchmark reference for SRDI policy makers in deriving useful program interventions and strategies for a more efficient and effective transfer of sericulture technologies.

## SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

The extension services were adequate and effective in terms of technology transfer and piloting. Extension services as to technical assistance were found to be adequate but ineffective. While extension services in terms of training were found to be both inadequate and ineffective.

Farming experience was significantly related to adequacy and effectiveness of the extension services as to technology transfer and piloting; while farm size was significantly related to the effectiveness of the extension services as to technology transfer and piloting.

Serious problems such as poor monitoring and evaluation, lack of farmers' participation in organizing cooperatives, high price of inputs and low price of produce, lack of funds to expand mulberry plantation, and occurrence of natural calamities were encountered.

There was a significant inverse relationship between the problems and the effectiveness of the extension services as to training and technical assistance.



Monitoring and Evaluation



Farmer's Meeting

## METHODOLOGY

Descriptive-correlational method of research was used. Nineteen (19) sericulture farmer-cooperators assisted by SRDI from different municipalities of La Union, Ilocos Sur, and Abra served as respondents. The main data gathering instrument used was the survey questionnaire. Data gathered were treated descriptively and inferentially using frequency counts, percentages, ranking, weighted mean, and correlation analysis.



Delivery of rotary cocooning frames



Delivery of 3<sup>rd</sup> instar larvae to farmers



Training on Mulberry Production



Training on Silkworm Rearing

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Trainings on efficient and effective farm management and integrated pests and disease management should be provided to the farmers.
- 2) Closer coordination between all stakeholders in sericulture. A regular monthly or quarterly farmers' and extension workers' meeting should be organized.
- 3) Farm size and farming experience should be included in the criteria for the recruitment of sericulture farmers.
- 4) A result-based and consistent monitoring and evaluation should be done before and after silkworm rearing period, and the M and E report should be readily available for review.
- 5) Farmers should be encouraged to organize cooperatives and trainings related to these should be undertaken.
- 6) Extension workers should attend trainings on extension approaches; extension communication; new skills of negotiations, conflict resolution; mobilizing and nurturing community organizations.

