

Mounting Density

- Crossbreed: 50 larvae/sq. ft (350 per mountage)
- Bivoltine: 40 larvae/sq. ft (300 per mountage)

Mounting Environment

- Temperature: 24-25°C
- Relative Humidity: 60-70%
- Cross ventilation in the mounting room

Cocoon Harvesting & Marketing

- ❖ Premature harvesting affects cocoon quality
 - Crossbreed: 5th-6th day of spinning
 - Bivoltine: 7th-8th day of spinning
- ❖ Defective cocoons (deformed, flimsy, double cocoons) to be removed and kept separately
- ❖ Defloss the harvested cocoons
- ❖ Preserve cocoons in a thin layer
- ❖ Pack the cocoons in crates/thin-aerated bags
- ❖ Transport the cocoons during cooler hours

Cleaning & Disinfection of Mountages

- Clean the plastic mountages from floss, dead/diseased larvae, melt cocoons
- Disinfect the plastic mountages by immersing in 2% bleaching powder solution for a day
- Sun-dry the mountages and fold properly as recommended and bundle them (10 or 12 Nos/bundle)
- Store the mountage bundles in a disinfected area



ADVANTAGES OF PLASTIC MOUNTAGES

- ✓ Easy handling
- ✓ Production of uniform quality cocoons
- ✓ Easy cocoon harvest
- ✓ Do not require additional mounting space
- ✓ Requires less storage space
- ✓ More durable
- ✓ Easy disinfection
- ✓ Convenient to maintain proper hygiene
- ✓ Saves time, labour
- ✓ Avoids drudgery
- ✓ Less defective cocoon formation
- ✓ Reduces cost of cocoon production

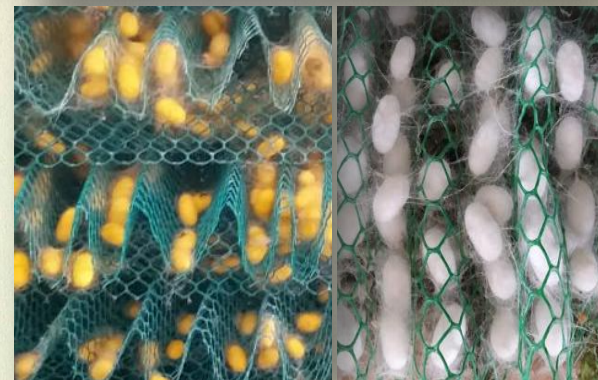


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Plastic Collapsible Mountages for Quality Cocoon Production



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Plastic Collapsible Mountages

for Quality Cocoon Production

Matured silkworms need a proper frame for spinning cocoons. The quality of cocoons depend on mountages utilized. Traditionally farmers use bamboo mountages (chandrikes) for this purpose. Bamboo mountages have certain disadvantages like

- less-uniform cocoons
- involvement of huge labour costs for mounting & harvest
- difficulty in maintenance and disinfection
- more chances for injuring mature larvae
- higher chances for melt cocoon formation
- more chances for double cocoon formation
- need large storage space
- low quality cocoons
- needs more labour
- needs to be protected against sunlight and rains



Quality cocoons lots are characterized by uniform size, shape, shell thickness, compactness, fine cocoon surface grains, high reelability, filament length, shell percentages and most importantly with less defective cocoons (<5%). Silkworms yield more quality cocoons with proper density and spinning conditions.



To obtain quality cocoons suitable mountages such as Plastic Collapsible Mountages needs to be utilized in all the commercial crop seasons. Mature silkworms need to be transferred onto the mountages at the right time for the quality cocoon formation. The quality cocoons fetch higher returns in the cocoon market.

Tray Rearing

- Plastic mountages should be placed on dalas or trays with newspaper at the bottom and kept ready for transferring mature larvae
- Mature silkworms are collected from the rearing tray or dala at the right time
- Mature silkworms need to be distributed (300-350) uniformly



Shelf Rearing

- When >50% silkworms are ripened, provide light feeding
- Place mountages on the larvae after half an hour for self mounting

- Cover the mountages by nylon net/straw/news paper for proper spinning
- Take-off news paper after three days, remove unspun/dead/diseased larvae, if any
- Turn the mountages in the shelf for better cocooning

