

DISINFECTANTS

Disinfectants are the sources of destruction of the pathogens of silk worms. Destruction of disease causing pathogens is disinfection. Basically, disinfectants are of two types :

- (a) Physical and
- (b) Chemical

Physical disinfectants are as follows :

1. Heat
2. Steam
3. Sunlight etc.

The chemical disinfectants have more importance in sericulture as physical disinfections are comparatively less effective. The following are the important chemical disinfectants:

1. Bleaching powder
2. Formalin
3. Paraformaldehyde
4. Sodium hypochlorite
5. Lime
6. Lime and bleaching powder
7. Sodium hypochlorite and formalin mixture.
8. Bleaching powder solution and formalin lime mixture
9. R.K.O. and
10. Vijetha

Before starting rearing of silkworms, rearing equipments and rearing house should be disinfected by

certain disinfectants like, bleaching powder, formalin, para-formaldehyde etc. Most widely used disinfectant in sericulture is 2% formalin (range 2-5%) and 5% bleaching powder which is easily available in the market. The disinfection can protect the silkworms from several diseases. Rearing of silkworm should not be started immediately after disinfection. One should wait at least for 24 hr for the use of disinfected house/material.