



**Identification and morphological characterisation of Silkworm *Bombyx mori* from the Region of Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, India**

Saleem Ahamad<sup>1</sup>, Rajneesh Tripathi<sup>1</sup>

Department Of Zoology

1. Jagdeesh Prasad Jhabarmal Tiberawala University, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India

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**Abstract:** The mulberry silkworm, *Bombyx mori* is the most important silk producing insect in India and exhibits wide diversity in morphological and biometric characters. Besides producing silk, it also has high nutritional value. *Bombyx mori* is a completely domesticated insect and is no longer found in nature. Silkworm belongs to the class Insecta, Phylum Arthropoda because the insect's body is divided into head, thorax and abdomen. For the study on identification and morphological characterization of mulberry silk worm, a total of 85 samples were collected from various sampling sites of District Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, India. These samples were identified with the help of standard taxonomic keys and various morphological characteristics recorded for morphometric analysis. After that these samples were preserved in 70% formalin solution for future reference. The samples collected during various seasons revealed that the morphological characters viz, larval length, width and weight of the silk worm *Bombyx mori* exhibits various growth patterns. The significant variations in the growth patterns were recorded in different seasons, which may be due to the altered seasons and availability of food material mulberry leaves. Results were presented as means  $\pm$  SD (P values  $<0.05$ ) were regarded as statistically significant. The present study provides the important information on the morphological variation in various forms of silkworm *Bombyx mori* in different seasons from the Amethi regions of Uttar Pradesh, India, which is an important parameter in racial investigation of this species of silkworm.

**Keywords:** Silkworm, *Bombyx mori*, identification, morphometric analysis, Amethi U.P.