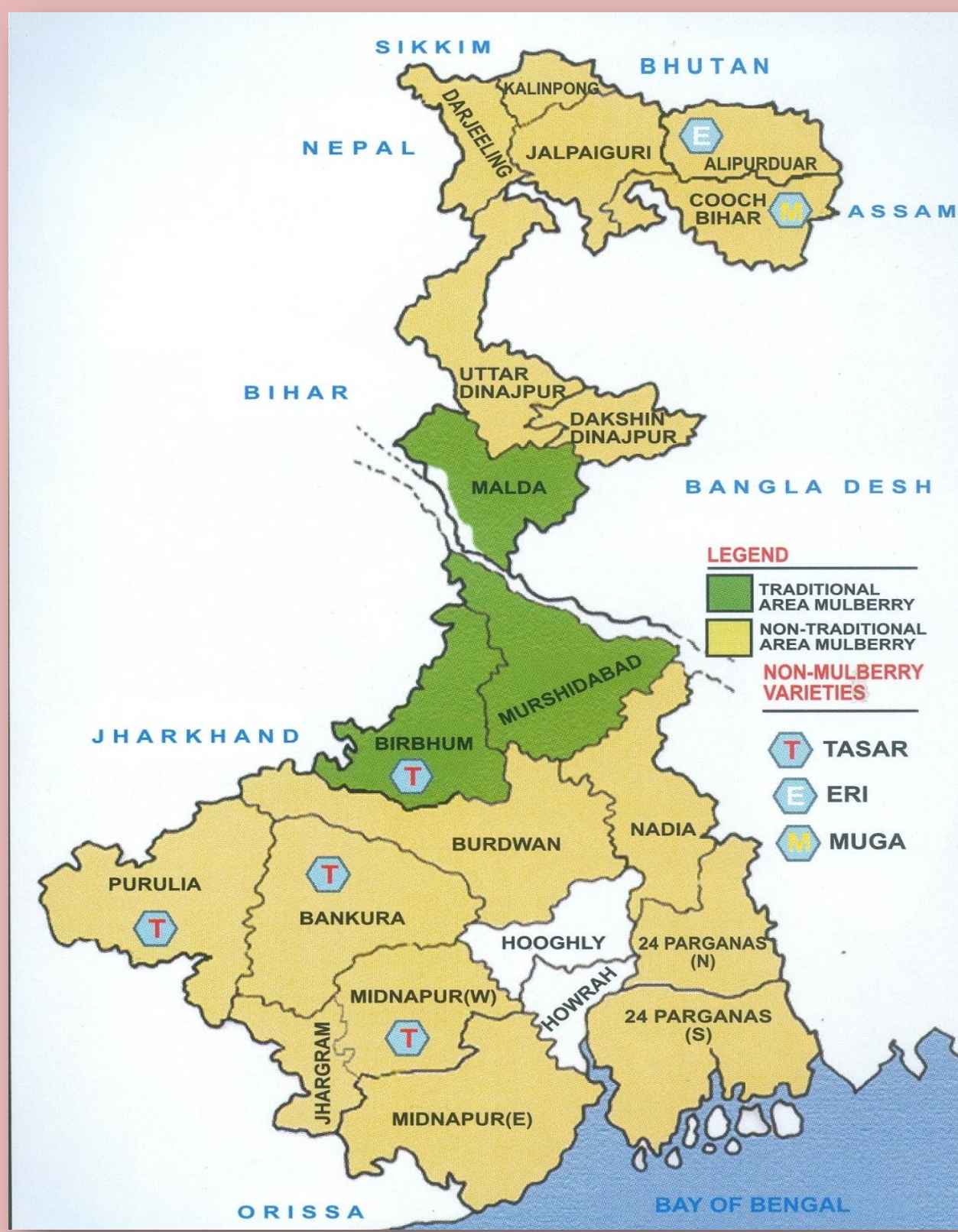


Economics of Mulberry Sericulture in West Bengal

(1 Acre or 3 Bigha/Year)



- ❖ West Bengal ranks 3rd in mulberry raw silk production [2365 MT @ 10%]
- ❖ Majority of farmer have marginal land holding (<7.5 Bigha)
- ❖ 2100 villages - 15,400 ha mulberry area (7%)
- ❖ Concentrated in Malda, Murshidabad & Birbhum
- ❖ Five Crop Seasons
 - Favourable: Aghrahani & Falguni
 - Unfavourable Seasons: High Temperature & High Humidity
- ❖ Mulberry Plantation: Local or S1 or S-1635 (C-2038)
- ❖ Predominantly multivoltine-based (Nistari) hybrids



Mulberry Production Cost (~16000 kg/acre)		
#	Items	Cost (Rs.)
Variable Cost (VC)	Bullock (5 pairs)	2500
	Labour Charges for (Garden Maintenance @ 145 MDs)	29000
	FYM (8 MT)	8000
	Fertilizer (2.4q Urea; 1.6q DAP & 0.75q MOP)	6401
	Irrigation Cost (12 times)	3840
	PPC & Others (Neem oil, Bavistin etc.)	1804
	Interest on Working Capital @ 12%/ annum	6185
	Total	57730
Fixed Cost (FC)	Land Revenue (Rs. 70/Bigha)	210
	Depreciation of Implements	500
	Interest on Estt. cost (@ 8 % per annum)	2084
	Apportioned on Estt. Cost (15 years)	1042
Total		3836
VC+FC		61566
Leaf Cost/kg		3.85

Mulberry Cocoon Production Cost (~710 dfls/acre)		
#	Items	Cost (Rs.)
Variable Cost (VC)	Leaf (11 MT)	42327
	Eggs (710 dfls)	3550
	Disinfectants/Chemicals	2800
	Labour (165 MDs)	33000
	Interest on Working Capital @ 12% per annum	4722
	Transportation, Marketing & Others	5000
	Total	91399
Fixed Cost (FC)		Depreciation on Building (25 yrs) & Equipments (10 yrs)
		11200
VC+FC		102599
Cocoon Cost/kg		299

Variable	M x M	M x B	B x B
Yield/ 100 DFLs (kg)	29.34	44.78	55.17
BCR	0.94 : 1	1.38 : 1	1.41 : 1
Cocoon Selling Price @ Rs.200 (M x M); Rs.250-350 (M x B & B x B)			

Economic Returns

- ~342 kg Total Cocoon Production
- 48.20 kg Average Cocoon Yield/100 dfls
- Rs. 300/- Cocoon Price/kg
- Rs. 5/- for Sale of Leaf/kg [~5 MT]
- **Total Returns: Rs. 1.28 lakhs**
- **Cost-Benefit Ratio: 1.24 : 1**