Value Added for rearing and producing *Cricula trifenestrata*

Teerayuth Narkdang[1/], Sivilai Sirimungkararat[2/], Dusit Phochan[3/], and Mongkol Ta-aun[4/]

[1/]Horticulture Section, Department of Plant Science and Agricultural Resources, Faculty of Agriculture, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, 40002

[2/]Entomology Section, Department of Plant Science and Agricultural Resources, Faculty of Agriculture, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, 40002

[3/] Industrial Promotion Center Region 5 Khon Kaen , Khon Kaen Province, 40002

[4/] Land Resource and Environment Section, Department of Plant Science and Agricultural Resources, Faculty of Agriculture, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, 40002

Abstract

The objective of this study are to survey and study on growth of a wild silkworm (*Cricula trifenestrata*) towards the protein source of community. Survey and collection of *C. trifenestrata* including its food plants in the northeastern region of Thailand were carried out during 2010-2011. Larva and pupa of this wild silkworm were found and collected form Khon Kaen and Sri Saket. The principle food plant was cashew nut plant (*Anacardium occidentale* Linn.) found in all areas of studies. The life cycle of *C. trifenestrata* was investigated under near natural condition (laboratory, 14-32°C 55-70%RH.). From egg to adult lasted 75-91 days, egg (9-11 days), larva 5 instars (26-31 days), pupa (34-37 days) and adult (6-11 days). Outdoor cultivation using cashew nut leaves as food plant was succeeded, when started with late instar larva, which developed to pupa and adult. Average value of eggs/moth was 125.22. Hatching ability was 11.74%. Comparison of rearing ability on principle and alternative food plants was still not complete. However, the technique and rearing method are in development process.