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Utilization of Grass Powder as an Ingredient of Artificial Diet for Silkworm, Bombyx mori L.

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The cost of artificial diets for silkworm is very expensive, so that it is essential to lower it in order to extend the period of silkworm rearing on artificial diets. In the present paper, the utilization of several kinds of grass powders was tried to use as an ingredient of artificial diet to reduce its production cost.

The value of grass powder as an ingredient of artificial diet was assessed on the base of ingestability and growth of silkworms. As a result it was found that they varied with the kinds and harvesting season of grasses. But it is appeared to be possible to use a grass powder as an ingredient for silkworm diet, when it contains $10\sim20\%$ of grasses. Moreover, to cut the cost of diet, it is recommanded that the diet containing grass powder could be applied to the polyphagous silkworm variety.