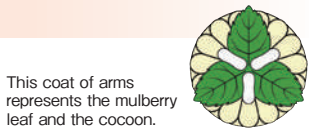


History of the Foundation

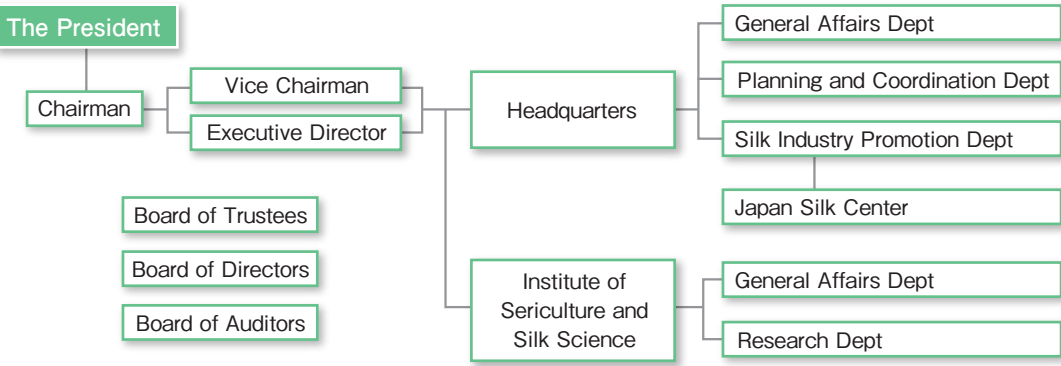
- April 1892** The Sericultural Association of Japan was established as a voluntary organization.
Purpose : Improvement and development of the silk industry
Task : Investigation, expansion of overseas sales-channels, communication among silk related companies, competitive exhibition, commendation, recommendation, publication, workshop, etc.
Organization: Membership system, establish prefectural branches
- August 1905** The Sericultural Association of Japan was approved as an incorporated association by the government with an honor to have reverential acceptance of His Imperial Highness Prince Fushiminomiya Sadanaru as the first president.
- March 1940** The Silk Science Research Institute was established by private donations and approved as foundation by the government. Under the change in the demand of silk due to the invention of nylon and the war, research on silk and silk products was strongly requested.
- May 1942** The new foundation, the Dainippon Silk Foundation was established by the organizational merger of the Sericultural Association of Japan and the Silk Science Research Institute. The new foundation took over the business of the Sericultural Association of Japan..
- July 1952** Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Ministry of Education were designated as supervising Ministries.
- April 1953** Start the Teimei commemorative project. The Kodaira Sericultural Site of Silk Science Research Institute was renamed the Kodaira Branch of the Research Institute.
- April 1974** The Kodaira Branch of the Research Institute was moved to Amimachi, Inashiki-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, and renamed the Institute of Silkworm Genetics and Breeding..
- April 1981** An honor to have reverential acceptance of His Imperial Highness Prince Masahito Hitachinomiya as the 6th President.
- April 1983** The headquarter building was rebuilt.
- July 1987** The building of the Silk Science Research Institute (Hyakunincho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo) was rebuilt and named "Sanken Building".
- April 1992** Commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Foundation.
- December 1999** The Institute of Silkworm Genetics and Breeding was renamed to the Institute of Sericulture with the expansion of research area.
- June 2005** An honor to have a royal visit of their Majesties the Emperor and Empress to the Silk Science Research Institute.
- April 2012** Commemorated the 120th anniversary of the Foundation.
- December 2012** Took over the business of the Japan Silk Industry Association upon its dissolution
- April 2014** Due to the reform of the public interest corporation system, the naming of the type of organization was changed to the general incorporated foundation (supervised by the Cabinet Office).
- April 2021** Created The Institute of Sericulture and Silk Science through the integration of the Institute of Sericulture and the Silk Science Research Institute.

Outline of the Foundation

- Name** The Dainippon Silk Foundation
<https://silk.or.jp>
- Establishment** Approved on March 16, 1940
- Purpose** The purpose of the Dainippon Silk Foundation is to conduct research and development of basic science and applied technology related to sericulture and silk, and to promote related science and technology, as well as to promote the improvement and development of the sericulture and silk industry, and thereby to contribute to the improvement and development of society and culture related to sericulture and silk.



Organization Chart



Address

Headquarters

6F, Sanshi-Kaikan, 1-9-4
Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
100-0006, Japan
Boardroom/ General Affairs Dept
TEL. 03-3214-3411
FAX. 03-3214-3415
Planning and Coordination Dept/
Sericulture and Silk Industry
Promotion
TEL. 03-3214-3500
FAX. 03-3214-3415



Institute of Sericulture and Silk Science

1053 Ikura, Amimachi,
Inashiki-gun, Ibaraki
300-0324, Japan
TEL.029-889-1771
FAX.029-889-2356



<https://silk.or.jp>

The Dainippon Silk Foundation
要覧

Overview of the tasks of headquarters

- Commendation for distinguished persons in the sericulture and silk industry**
Awards are given every fiscal year to those who have contributed to the promotion and development of the sericulture and silk industry.
- Research grants for science and technology of sericulture and silk**
Research topics on sericulture and silk are publicly solicited and subsidized every fiscal year.
- Support for sericulture and silk industry alliances**
Subsidies are given to tie-up groups in which all parties from upstream to downstream are involved and work together to produce purely domestic silk products.
- Dissemination and exchange of information on sericulture and silk**
Information on sericulture and silk is disseminated. In addition, the exchange meetings for the people involved in the use of sericulture and silk are held.
- Exhibition and promotion of silk at the Japan Silk Center**
The Japan Silk Center has been established for the promotion of silk and silk products. The silk products are sold and exhibited there.
- Management of the Purely Domestic Silk Mark**
The institute issues and manages the mark of purely domestic silk products made from raw silk reeled from domestic cocoons, woven and processed in Japan.
- Publication**
Bulletin and research reports related to sericulture and silk are published.
- Training and exchange for overseas sericultural technicians**
If requested and approved, trainees from overseas are accepted.
- Management of the Foundation**



Awards Ceremony for distinguished sericultural persons
(in the presence of His Imperial Highness the President)



Purely domestic
silk mark



Promotion of purely domestic silk products

Institute of sericulture and silk science

The Institute of Sericulture and Silk Science, established in 2021 through the integration of the Institute of Sericulture and the Silk Science Research Institute, is a unique private research institute which conducts research all through genetic resources, silkworm breeding, sericulture, mulberry cultivation, silk production, and silk materials, needed by the silk industry, with cooperation of public research institutes and universities as needed. As well as providing silkworm eggs, the Institute provides technical assistance to farmers and conducts requested tests on cocoon and silk quality.



Silkworm Rearing

The Institute has young silkworm rearing room and large-scale silkworm rearing room, which is capable of rearing up to 200 thousand silkworms in a single silkworm season (about one month). Three hectares of on-site mulberry field supply annually 40 tons of fresh mulberry leaves. Also, the sample garden of 144 mulberry varieties is located in the field.



Mulberry feeding to silkworms



Mounting using rotary cocooning frame

Tests on cocoon and silk quality

Evaluation of cocoon quality is essential for the selection of varieties that produce high quality cocoons and for the maintenance of their lines. In order to investigate whether the quality of cocoons of each variety stored at the Institute has been properly maintained over generations, the qualities of cocoons are evaluated using a silk reeling testing machine. Also, the properties of raw silk are tested with the specialized technology and equipment based on its own inspection procedure. Those tests are also provided to the public for a fee.



Cocoon quality survey



Model HR automatic reeling machine

Production of Silkworm Eggs

The Institute produces about 4 million eggs (160 boxes*) /year of silkworm breeds which are developed by its laboratory and Kanebo. Most of those eggs are the original strain of eggs and are supplied to the eggs production companies which supply eggs for the nationwide sericultural farmers and companies. Thus, the Institute plays an important part in developing the sericultural industry in Japan. Thorough mother-moth inspection is conducted in the production of these silkworm eggs.

*25,000 eggs per box.



Mating and egg raising



Silkworm moth egg-laying

Silkworm breed development and genetic resource conservation

The institute holds about 200 silkworm genetic resources as breeding materials for the development of new silkworm breeds. By combining genetic analysis of these silkworms with skillful breeding and selection techniques, it has developed unique silkworm breeds such as " Platina Boy," "Orihime," "Tama Koishi," and "Ryokken 2 gou" to meet various consumer needs not only in the garment industry but also in the medical and cosmetic fields. In addition, some of the company's genetic resources are rare and valuable strains. As a preservation method for such strains, it has developed a long-term cryopreservation method for ovaries and sperm using liquid nitrogen.



Rare type of silkworms



Various type of cocoons



Genetics preservation with liquid nitrogen

Technical Assistance and Training

To maintain the traditional sericultural techniques, the Institute actively provides technical assistance to sericultural farmers and training programs for newcomers in Japan. In order to meet the new bio-technologies, the Institute is accumulating technologies for rearing transgenic silkworms. In addition, it is also researching silk materials from the viewpoint of silk consumption science, thorough collaborative research with domestic science universities, and disseminating some of the results of this research to consumers through training programs.



Training for sericulture farmers



Breeding of transgenic silkworm

