

## **GrowthMin Aqua: Silk protein enriched aqua feed supplement**

The DBT's Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), New Delhi funded company Aspartika Biotech, Bengaluru manufactures silkworm pupa oil (enriched with Omega 3 fatty acids) through a clean and green technology. Silkworm pupa oil comprises of all the essential amino acids that satisfy the FAO/WHO recommendation. It is an affordable and accessible source of protein which can be used as a raw material for both aqua and poultry industries.

The product GrowthMin Aqua is enriched with the de-oiled pupa cake and combinations of vitamins, herbs and minerals which helps in accelerating healthy growth and improves the feed conversion ratio. It also prevents the mineral deficiencies in fishes and ensures healthy muscle growth. The addition of herbal mixture improves the immunity, body resistance and antioxidant activity.



The product is available for a price of approximately Rs. 70/kg. The innovativeness of this product lies in the fact that silk protein is completely sterile and much superior to the existing sources like soya protein in terms of amino acid profile and its quality.

The BIRAC supported start up Aspartika Biotech is a Bengaluru based company working on the development of value-added products such as nutraceuticals, poultry feed and aqua-feed from the wastes/by-products of palm oil mills and silk reeling industries. The major focus of the company is the development of omega-3 fatty acids for human and animal use. These products

are developed by amalgamation of *Traditional Indian knowledge* and *Latest Scientific Intervention* to meet the *International Quality Standards and Benchmarks*.

Silkworm Pupa is discarded as a waste from silk reeling industries. It is a rich source of protein which is consumed as a delicacy in Japan, China etc. It is also considered to have medicinal properties as per the traditional Chinese medicine.

**Contact details:**

Communication Team (BIRAC), New Delhi

Dr Shirshendu Mukherjee; E-mail: [mdpmubmgf@birac.nic.in](mailto:mdpmubmgf@birac.nic.in)

Dr Hafsa Ahmad; E-mail: [nbm9@birac.nic.in](mailto:nbm9@birac.nic.in)

Ms Ginny Bansal; E-mail: [pmubmgf6@birac.nic.in](mailto:pmubmgf6@birac.nic.in)