

## Natural Pest and Insect of Silkworm with Their Management (Natural Enemies of Silkworm)

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### Uzi fly – *Exorista sorbillans*

**Nature of damage** – The flies lay eggs on grown up larvae of silkworm. Presence of creamy white oval eggs on the skin of larvae in the initial stage. Silkworm larvae die before they reach the spinning stage. Pierced cocoon is noticed.



Uzi fly Attack



**Management** – prevent fly's access to silkworm by mechanical means. Fly proof room /doors/ventilators. Dusting of china clay@3g/100ml on spinning larvae before mounting.

### Beetles – *Dermestes cedevarinus*

**Nature of damage** – the adults and grubs are attracted to the smell of the cocoons. They eat the cocoons, enclosed pupae and often the silkworm. The female lays eggs in the crevices, organic matter and wooden boards. Grubs and adults bore into the cocoon and eat the dried pupae.

**Management** – closure of cracks and crevices. Store the pierced Cocoon in the separate room. Avoid long storage of pierced cocoon Sundry the pierced cocoon once in a week. Fumigation of rooms with methyl bromide.



Beetle



### Ants – Hymenoptera

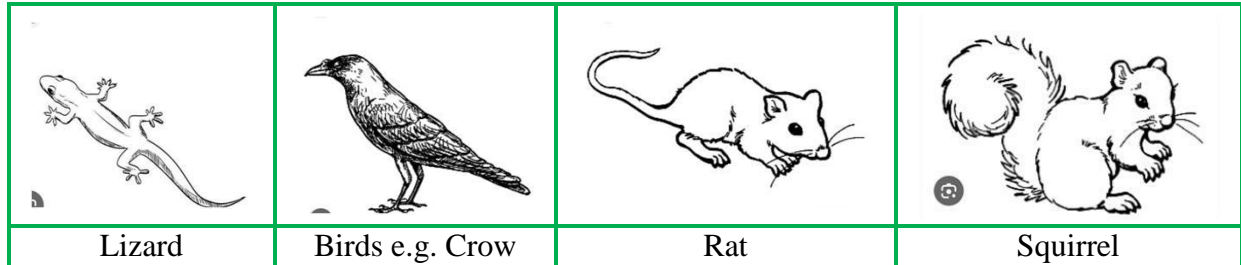
**Nature of damage** – the ants attacks silkworm in rearing trays.

**Management** – legs of rearing stand should be dipped in ant wells (water + kerosene). Use of

ash or kerosene at the handles of the mountages at the time of spinning.

### Lizard, bird, rats and squirrel

**Nature of damage** – they feed on silkworm. Mammals predate on pupae by biting open the cocoon.



**Management** - rearing room should be kept free from lizard. Setting of Traps for rat and squirrel control. Scaring of birds from vicinity.

### References

1. [www.agricon.in](http://www.agricon.in) , Book by Author 'Choudhary P.K.' (Management of beneficial insects)
2. B.Sc. Agriculture E-Books.
3. Images – [www.alamy.com](http://www.alamy.com)