

# RC1

## A MULBERRY VARIETY FOR LOW INPUT CONDITIONS

Mulberry leaf productivity for sericulture wholly depends upon the adoption of recommended cultural practices and fertilizer applications. The expansion of sericulture to non-traditional areas among the resource poor farmers with limited land holdings necessitated the development of varieties suitable to resource constraint or low input conditions. In order to minimize the deterioration of leaf quality and yield under limited fertilizer input conditions, a new mulberry variety RC1 has been developed. The variety RC1 is recommended in those areas where irrigation is limited and the farmers are unable to spend on fertilizer due to socio-economic conditions. The variety is characterized by fast growth, medium branching, slightly spreading, pinkish branches with short internodes; large leaves, predominantly lobed, thick, cordate, glossy and green in colour. The variety is tolerant to low input conditions up to 50% of fertilizers and yields 23 – 25 mt/ha/ year.

### AGRONOMICAL DESCRIPTIONS:

Pedigree	Punjab local x Kosen
Leaf yield	23 – 25 mt/ha/year under resource constraint condition.
No. of shoot/plant	8 - 10
Total shoots length	1186 cm
Inter nodal distance	4.3 cm
Leaf size and shape	Leaf area- 197 cm <sup>2</sup> , entire, cordate; Length: 17 - 19 cm Breadth: 15 - 16 cm
Leaf surface	Smooth, glossy, green
Leaf thickness	165 µm
Weight of 100 leaves	360 g
Resistance to diseases	Tolerant to leaf spot, moderately resistant to leaf rust.
Regeneration	13 – 15 days after pruning during winter season. 9 – 10 days after pruning during other seasons.
Sprouting (at 30th day)	95%
Rooting (at 90 days)	85%

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Spacing	(150 + 90) 60 cm
Manure (FYM)	20 mt/ha/year
Chemical fertilizer (N:P:K) & irrigation	The variety yields 23 – 25 mt/ha/year at 50% of recommended dose of NPK (150:60:60 kg/ha/year) and 50% of irrigation.
No. of crops/year	Five

**Recommended for cultivation under sub-optimal conditions of chemical fertilizers and irrigation**

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**MULBERRY BREEDING & GENETICS LABORATORY**

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