

techman / December 29, 2012 02:10PM

[\[BioTech\] Taiwan Researchers Develop Silk Protein Extraction Technique](#)

[BioTech] Taiwan Researchers Develop Silk Protein Extraction Technique ([Chinese Version](#))

CNA - Focus Taiwan (2012/12/26) Researchers at the Council of Agriculture's Miaoli District Agricultural Improvement Station said they have developed a technique for extracting protein from silk fibers for possible use in cosmetics and the field of biomedicine.

Teng-chen WU, a researcher at the station, said silk fibers are composed mainly of protein and its base amino acid.

The inner layer of a silk fiber is made of fibroin, a natural protein, while its outer layer is sericin, a gelatinous protein that allows both layers to stick together, WU said.

Sericin can preserve and maintain moisture, is anti-oxidant, and can prevent the penetration of ultraviolet rays, WU said.

Fibroin is also UV absorbing and anti-bacterial, he said.

Both proteins extracted from silk fibers can be used to make cosmetics, health products, synthetic fibers, and biomedical materials, according to researchers.

Reference:

[CNA - Focus Taiwan 2012/12/26](#)

---

[National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief](#)

---

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 12/29/2012 02:12PM by techman.

---